

MARSHLAND ST JAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 10th February 2020

Present

Councillors: Askew (Chair), Coleman, Didwell, Gathercole, Partridge, Norman, Thorpe and Wilkinson

6 members of the public

Clerk – S Thorpe

1. **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies had been received from Cllr Redhead.
2. **Confirm Minutes of Meeting Held on 13th January 2020**
Having been circulated before the meeting the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record by all present at the meeting.
3. **Declarations of Interest**
None.
4. **Public Speaking**
Resolved that meeting be adjourned for public speaking,
Prop: Cllr Gathercole 2nd: Cllr Norman Agreed.
Meeting re-started.
5. **Matters Arising**
The contractor had provided a further update on the production of the new village sign. Openreach had responded to the complaint about parking across the trod on Smeeth Road when attending the green cabinet next to No 100; they advised they had referred the matter to the local manager who would ask engineers to park in a better location.
6. **Correspondence**
Circulated prior to meeting: Police – “Specials” recruitment event, rural crime newsletters, survey on service; NALC – newsletters, January update on Wellbeing initiative; NCC – early help services directory, bulletin and half term activities, temporary closure of Moyses Bank 17th – 21st February, Norwich Western Link update, Rangers visit, extended consultation on electoral review; Keep Britain Tidy – The Great British Spring Clean; BC – Mayors charity Jazz concert; Love West Norfolk Day – Friday 14th February.
7. **Playing Field Management Partnership (PFMP)**
Nothing to bring forward from the meeting.
8. **Legal advice regarding possible change to the lease with MDCSC**
The Chair of MDCSC had asked the PC to obtain advice from their solicitor on whether an amendment was needed to the lease with regard to the electric supply for the flood lighting as they had been unable to obtain free advice from their solicitor.
To make an initial enquiry with the PC solicitor to see if free advice could be provided on whether the lease needed to be amended.
Prop: Cllr Norman 2nd: Cllr Wilkinson Agreed.
9. **Neighbourhood Plan for the village**
The BC had now designated the whole of the parish as a Neighbourhood Plan area. The next stage was for Councillors who wanted to get involved to come forward to form a working party and then arrange an initial meeting. Councillors Askew, Didwell, Partridge and Thorpe volunteered to be on the working party. Clerk to also approach Cllr Redhead to see if he wished to be part of the group. Meeting to be arranged to discuss initial suggestions to be considered in the plan; then public meeting to be arranged to inform residents and call for members of the public to join a steering group.
10. **Dog fouling and additional signage**
The Clerk had spoken with the BC about additional signs and they had advised that the signs provided by them were enforcement signs whereas other signs would only be advisory. The BC remained the body who had authority on this issue and examples of dog fouling should be reported to them. If the PC wanted to install other signs a license would be needed from Highways and the cost of the signs would need to be covered by the PC. The Chair advised that as it was the BCs responsibility to deal with offences of dog fouling she felt that residents should contact their Borough Councillors to alert them to the problems being experienced. Further signs were given out as a resident had advised that the signs which had already been put up had been removed.
11. **Condition of the trod on Smeeth Road**
The Clerk had met with the Highways Engineer to examine the areas of damage. He

Chairman..... Date.....

had agreed that the solution was to scrape off the mud and install wooden posts to prevent further damage and then look at some resurfacing work in the summer. The cost of the posts was £1500 but there was no money in their current budget for this. Therefore, he had asked County Councillor Humphrey if he would pay for this from his Highways budget and this had been agreed. The work had therefore been ordered and would be completed as soon as possible.

12. Highways issues

New issues to be reported and old issues to be followed up with Highways:
Smeeth Road – vehicles parked on side of road on corner. Clerk had spoken to resident who had advised that they did not feel it was necessary to leave parking lights on as vehicle was visible due to reflective panels. BC to be informed of situation.
Smeeth Road (near No 120) – loose sewerage cover
School Road – overhanging hedges needed to be trimmed
Smeeth Road – white posts installed in highway verge
Smeeth Road – resident to be asked to inform customers to use parking lights
Walsoken Road (near duck farm) – pot hole had been reported

13. Finance

- a. *Accept accounts to 31st January 2020.*
Prop: Cllr Norman *2nd: Cllr Partridge* *Agreed.*
- b. The list of payments due as follows was read out:
CGM Ltd – grounds maintenance for playing field £69.60
Agree to sign cheques and approve payments.
Prop: Cllr Askew *2nd: Cllr Gathercole* *Agreed.*

14. Planning Matters

- a. Applications received since last meeting:
i. **20/00192/F Extension and alterations to existing dwelling at Poppy Tree Farm, Popylots Drove.** The application was considered.
To support the application.
Prop: Cllr Gathercole *2nd: Cllr Partridge* *Agreed by majority.*
- b. Planning decisions from the BC: the following applications had been permitted -
i. **19/01795/CU Retrospective change of use of land for the keeping of dogs at Nightingale House, 224 Smeeth Road.**
ii. **19/01907/O Outline application: Proposed residential development at Land NE of 36 School Road.**

15. Public Speaking

Resolved that meeting be adjourned for public speaking.
Prop: Cllr Didwell *2nd: Cllr Partridge* *Agreed.*
Meeting re-started.

16. Councillors Concerns and Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

Items to remain on agenda as already agreed.

17. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting

Monday 9th March 2020 at 7.15pm, for a Playing Field Management Partnership meeting followed by an Ordinary Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm; all meetings at Marshland Hall.

Cllrs Norman and Redhead to check accounts before March meeting.

Meeting closed 8.11pm.