

MARSHLAND ST JAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 8th February 2021

This meeting was held virtually in accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

Present

Councillors: Askew (Chair), Coleman, Didwell, Gathercole, Redhead, Thorpe & Wilkinson
Borough Councillor Long

5 members of the public

Clerk – S Thorpe

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Norman.

2. Confirm Minutes of Meeting Held on 11th January 2021

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

Cllr Coleman declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 5a(ii).

4. Public Speaking

Resolved that meeting be adjourned for public speaking,

Prop: Cllr Gathercole 2nd: Cllr Wilkinson

Agreed.

Meeting re-started.

5. Planning Matters

a. Applications received since last meeting:

i. **20/02106/O Outline application for one dwelling at Rose Villa, 314 Smeeth Road.**

The application was discussed. Following a proposal by Cllr Coleman, seconded by Cllr Gathercole it was agreed to OBJECT to the application as the site was outside the development boundary for the parish, therefore not sustainable development and the application referred to a single storey property which would not pass the sequential test for the parish flood zone.

ii. **21/00086/F Removal or variation of condition 6 & 7 of permission 17/01675/O: Outline application for the construction of 6 dwellings on vacant land at land between 135 and 145 Smeeth Road.**

The application was discussed. Following a proposal by Cllr Askew, seconded by Cllr Gathercole, it was agreed by all to OBJECT to the application as it was felt that the original conditions should remain and the work on the footpath should be carried out at the same time for the full length of the development. Cllr Coleman abstained from the vote.

b. Planning decisions from the BC. None

6. Matters Arising

None.

7. Correspondence

NCC – Temporary road closure on Hungate Road, Emneth from 22nd-25th February;
Norfolk ALC – newsletters, updates from the Wellbeing initiative, new board of directors, training news; Police – details of virtual SNAP meeting, rural crime updates, results from Christmas Drink & Drugs Drive Campaign, scheme to help victims of domestic violence, scam alerts, community updates; BC – weekly Covid 19 updates; CIL funding update; A47 Guyhirn junction project update.

8. Acknowledgement of orders for the skate ramp & MUGA project

Three acknowledgements of order had been received which required some additional information and then signing and returning. The Playing Field Management Partnership (PFMP) had considered the additional information and felt that there were no existing services in the area which was to be excavated for the new skate ramp; surplus soil could be deposited at the side of the site, where there was currently a bank of soil; and the Hall committee should be asked if the contractors could use the Hall amenity facilities whilst the work was being completed.

That the Clerk should make the enquiries as requested by PFMP and then sign and return the three acknowledgements of order.

Prop: Cllr Askew 2nd: Cllr Wilkinson

Agreed.

9. Playing Field Management Partnership (PFMP)

a. The PFMP had asked the PC to approve the quotation of £2684.27 plus VAT from Fenland Leisure Products for the repairs to the play equipment.

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

To approve the request Prop: Cllr Gathercole 2nd: Cllr Thorpe Agreed.

- b. The PFMP had asked the PC to authorise the Clerk to make enquiries from other PCs regarding an appropriate time for floodlighting to be used and then consult with the PFMP before responding to the questions raised by the BC Planning Department. The request was approved.

- c. The PFMP had asked the PC to authorise the cost for Cllr Gathercole to remove the bench next to the MUGA as it was in the same position as the new goals which would be installed when the MUGA was refurbished.

To approve the request Prop: Cllr Wilkinson 2nd: Cllr Askew Agreed.

10. **Highways issues**

Highways had advised the following:

Smeeth Road (Trodd between Trinity Road junction and St Johns Fen End) – Highways had responded to the queries regarding the poor condition of the trodd in two areas, they had advised that they were unable to give a timescale for the repairs to be carried out by their contractor but the work had been authorised. They also advised that wooden posts would not be installed as Cllr Humphrey had placed a limit on his funding and this only allowed for plastic posts. It was agreed that this was not appropriate as the plastic posts would only last a short time before they were knocked over. *Clerk to ask for the difference in price and then go back to Cllr Humphrey and ask if he would reconsider.*

Hope Lane – pot holes were scheduled for repair.

Smeeth Road (Trodd near to Trinity Road junction) – Highways were unsure of planning conditions placed on the developer, at this stage could not say who would be required to carry out the repairs which would be needed when the building work was completed.

School Road/Black Drove junction – Highways had been unable to locate. Cllr Gathercole advised the pot holes were not at the junction but were down Black Drove. *Clerk to advise Highways.*

Bonnetts Lane (damage to verge) – Highways felt this was cosmetic and that it would improve in the spring.

Middle Drove (passing place) – request from resident for Highways to install passing place sign. Highways would not fund such a sign which was likely to cost around £250. *Clerk to ask Cllr Humphrey if he would fund the sign.*

Smeeth Road (cleaning of village gateways) – The Chair and Vice-Chair had cleaned the gateways but they would need doing at least twice a year in future. *Clerk to obtain quotations for cleaning in future.*

The Chair encouraged residents to report all issues of fly-tipping. These could be reported on the Borough Council website and photos are helpful if possible.

Outstanding issues to follow up and new issues to report:

School Road (opposite the School) – overhanging trees. *Clerk to report.*

11. **Finance**

- a. *Accept accounts to 31st January 2021.*

Prop: Cllr Thorpe 2nd: Cllr Redhead Agreed.

- b. The list of payments due for December:

A list had been provided to members before the meeting, payments totalling as follows:

PWLB – loan repayment £2638.31

Miss S J Thorpe – Clerks salary February £575.20

Haven Power – street lighting electric for February £73.24

Agree to approve payments.

Prop: Cllr Askew 2nd: Cllr Gathercole Agreed.

12. **Public Speaking**

Resolved that meeting be adjourned for public speaking.

Prop: Cllr Askew 2nd: Cllr Didwell Agreed.

Meeting re-started.

13. **Councillors Concerns and Agenda Items for the Next Meeting**

Items to remain on the agenda as agreed.

14. **Date of Next Parish Council Meeting**

Monday 8th March 2021 at 7.00pm, for a Playing Field Management Partnership meeting followed by an Ordinary Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm; all meetings will be held virtually.

Meeting closed at 8.09pm.

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