

MARSHLAND ST JAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 8th March 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, Norman, Partridge, Redhead, Thorpe & Wilkinson

3 members of the public

Clerk – S Thorpe

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from County Councillor Humphrey.

2. Confirm Minutes of Meeting Held on 8th February 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

None.

4. Public Speaking

Resolved that meeting be adjourned for public speaking,

Prop: Cllr Gathercole 2nd: Cllr Norman

Agreed.

Meeting re-started.

5. Planning Matters

a. Applications received since last meeting:

- i. **21/00047/F Proposed side and rear extension to dwelling at Knightcott 151 Smeeth Road.** The PC had considered the application since the last meeting and agreed to OBJECT to the application as the extension was too near the neighbour's boundary line on the front right-hand corner which would affect their residential amenity and was therefore also poor planning. The curtilage of this property was not considered a small plot size and therefore the extension could be accommodated without encroaching near to the boundary; loss of privacy for the neighbour.

b. Planning decisions from the BC:

- i. **20/01920/F Change of use of agricultural field to paddocks and erection of stables at 38 Smeeth Road.** Application permitted.
- ii. **20/01807/F Proposed conversion of existing agricultural building to dwelling including the raising of the roof and associated works at Meadow View Farm, Rustons Road.** Application permitted.
- iii. **20/01845/F Proposed residential dwelling and associated works at Victoria House, 8 Bonnetts Lane.** Application permitted.
- iv. **20/01889/F Change of use of land to residential garden land at Rose Cottage, Rands Drove.** Application withdrawn.

6. Matters Arising

None.

7. Correspondence

NCC – Norwich Western Link project update; Norfolk ALC – newsletters, updates from the Wellbeing initiative, training update; Police – community updates, rural crime updates; BC – weekly Covid 19 updates; A47 Guyhirn junction project update.

8. Playing Field Management Partnership (PFMP)

The PFMP had asked the PC to approve a quotation for trimming and removal of tree branches at the boundary of the playing field with the bowling green and adjacent plot. The quotations were considered.

To approve the quotation from Mr Porter for £600 if a written quotation was provided and the quote was like for like with the other quotation. If this quotation was not appropriate to accept the quote from CGM for £990 plus VAT.

Prop: Cllr Norman 2nd: Cllr Gathercole

Agreed.

9. Damage to Highway caused when installing grips

Cllr Coleman had asked the PC to consider if any action was required following damage to the edge of the Highway when the grips were installed. The matter was discussed and it was agreed no action should be taken.

10. Highways issues

Highways had advised the following:

Smeeth Road (Trod between Trinity Road junction and St Johns Fen End) – Highways

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

had responded to the query regarding plastic posts being installed instead of the wooden post the PC had been expecting. They had advised that the difference in price was £322.11 for the area between No 90 and No 100, but they were confident that the plastic posts would be suitable. It was agreed to let Highways install the plastic posts. Hope Lane – pot holes had been repaired. *Action: Clerk to thanks Highways.*
 School Road/Black Drove junction – Pot holes had been programmed for repair.
 Bonnetts Lane (concrete blocks on verge) – these had been removed.
 School Road (opposite the School) – overhanging trees. Highways to contact landowner.

Smeeth Road (No 113 & No 153) – pot holes had been programmed for repair.

Outstanding issues to follow up and new issues to report:

Chapel Road (between Downham's and old chapel) – pot holes.

Walsoken Road (opposite Cooper's Transport) – road has slipped away into the dyke and temporary plastic posts had been installed.

11. Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2020/21

Mrs Christine Hurley from Fincham was willing to continue in the role for 2020/21.

To appoint Mrs Hurley as the Internal Auditor for 2020/21.

Prop: Cllr Norman

2nd: Cllr Askew

Agreed.

12. Insurance requirements and policy for 2021/22

Three quotations had been obtained for insurance policies for the coming year. The quotations were discussed. The Clerk agreed to query one of the figures quoted in the schedule of cover for the BHIB quote.

To accept the quote from BHIB Ltd for a three-year deal.

Prop: Cllr Norman

2nd: Cllr Partridge

Agreed.

13. Finance

a. *Accept accounts to 28th February 2021.*

Prop: Cllr Askew

2nd: Cllr Gathercole

Agreed.

b. The list of payments due for December:

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

Starboard Systems Ltd – accounts software license	£259.20
---	---------

Mr J Norman – Materials for repairs to seat outside church	£106.30
--	---------

Westcotec Ltd – street lighting maintenance	£135.00
---	---------

ICO – Data Protection fee	£35.00
---------------------------	--------

Miss S J Thorpe – Clerk's salary March	£575.20
--	---------

Haven Power – street lighting electric for March	£66.16
--	--------

BHIB Ltd – Annual insurance premium	£840.11
-------------------------------------	---------

Agree to approve payments.

Prop: Cllr Gathercole

2nd: Cllr Wilkinson

Agreed.

14. Public Speaking

Resolved that meeting be adjourned for public speaking.

Prop: Cllr Askew

2nd: Cllr Norman

Agreed.

Meeting re-started.

15. Councillors Concerns and Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

Items to remain on the agenda as agreed.

16. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting

Monday 12th April 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 8.04pm.