

HIGH KELLING PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the HIGH KELLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Tuesday
16th January 2024 at 7.00 pm at High Kelling Village Hall.**

Attendees: Cllr Peter Rutherford, Cllr Susan Rutherford, Cllr Janice Kemp, Cllr Philip Fejer, Cllr Maureen Pearman and Locum Parish Clerk Gemma Harrison.

North Norfolk District Cllr Martin Batey and County Cllr Eric Vardy were also present.

1. Administrative:

- a. A minute's silence was observed for Vic Carter who sadly passed away earlier this week.
- b. Cllr David Carter and Cllr Duncan Henderson gave their apologies.
- c. It was noted that Cllr Monkman did not receive the agenda and as such was unaware of the meeting taking place. Clerk to update the details held for Cllr Monkman and to contact Cllr Monkman with an update from the meeting. **GH**
- d. Cllr Peter Rutherford stated he was the Treasurer at High Kelling Village Hall.
- e. Cllr Pearman stated an interest in planning item Number 3. Cllrs AGREED that Cllr Pearman could remain in the meeting during the planning discussion but could not vote.
- f. The minutes of the full council meeting dated Tuesday 21st November 2023 were circulated prior to the meeting. The minutes were PROPOSED by Cllr S Rutherford and SECONDED by Cllr Kemp and AGREED by all.
- g. Matters arising
 - The dog bin at the post office is due to be installed shortly, highway consent has now been received.
 - The Clerk gave the plaques for the defib to Cllr P Rutherford who will arrange for them to be installed.
 - The budget meeting was agreed for Tuesday 20th February 2024. Clerk to bring finances to the meeting and share with the Internal Controller Cllr Fejer.

- Highways to review signage. Cllrs discussed whether a flashing highway sign would be appropriate on A148 to make the crossing safer. Additional lighting has been turned down by Highways. The Parish Council discussed illuminated signage and Cllr Vardy suggested that if approved by Highways he may be able to contribute to a sign from his budget.

2. To adjourn the meeting for Public Participation and to receive external reports.

- a. No Police Report received.
- b. County Cllr Eric Vardy gave his report which can be seen in full at Appendix A. Clerk to contact Steve White and ask if Eric Vardy's budget can be transferred over to 24/25 to cover the SAM2 costs. Cllr Vardy reminded the Parish Council to keep an eye on the Care Home site for future planning applications.
- c. District Cllr Martin Batey gave his report. Cllr Batey is the Digital Champion at NNDC and has been investigating the removal of landlines and 3G. Cllr Vardy stated that the County Council are also looking into these issues. Cllr Batey stated that the homelessness in North Norfolk is becoming a big pressure for NNDC and as such cuts from other services will have to be made. Residents without homes are having to be housed outside the district.
- d. Public participation – None.

3. Planning

- a. PF/23/2701 – 22 Pineheath Road, High Kelling, Holt was circulated prior to the meeting. High Kelling's response of *No Comment* was PROPOSED by Cllr Kemp and SECONDED by Cllr S Rutherford and AGREED by all. Clerk to respond to NNDC. GH

4. Items for decision/discussion by the Parish Council:

- a. Welcome Pack – Cllrs decided not to re-print the directory. Cllr S Rutherford suggested incorporating a few useful numbers in a separate booklet for residents. Cllr Pearman to send draft

questionnaire to Cllr S Rutherford who will share with Cllr Henderson to be included in the Welcome Pack. It was AGREED to share contact details with the residents of local groups rather than collect any personal data. **SR/DH**

- b. Noticeboards – Clerk provided posters for the Noticeboards displaying meeting dates and Cllr information, these were distributed to Cllrs to display.
- c. Village Gate –The village gate on the south side of the A148 and sign stating High Kelling have been damaged. Clerk to discuss the repair needed with Highways. **GH**.
- d. Funding Forum – Cllr Pearman shared a funding working group document with Cllrs. It was AGREED to defer the item to the Budget meeting to allow for Cllrs not present to be involved. Clerk to encourage Cllrs to come to the meeting with ideas. Cllr Pearman will approach Fr. Howard to ask how High Kelling can get involved with the centenary celebrations. Cllr Pearman and Cllr Susan Rutherford will also approach the Village Hall Committee for their input. Cllr Kemp to speak to Colin. **JK / SR/ MP/ GH**
- e. The Terms of Reference for the Personnel Committee was circulated prior to the meeting. Clerk to send training information to Susan Rutherford. The Terms of Reference was PROPOSED by Cllr Kemp and SECONDED BY Cllr Pearman and AGREED by all. **GH**

5. Transport and Representative Feedback

Members reported on meetings they have attended as a **Representatives** of the Parish Council as follows:

- a. High Kelling Village Hall Committee - Carol Service was well attended.
- b. Community Speedwatch – A meeting was held on 9th January with PC Peter Davison and PC Graham Gower-Smith. The group explored ideas about expanding Community Speedwatch. Robin has been coordinating Speedwatch for 15 years and he has suggested stepping down and becoming a

Deputy Coordinator at some point in the future. The group will be promoted in the High Kelling Chronicle and training will be arranged for the volunteers.

- c. SNAP – Cllr Peter Rutherford attended the meeting. Youth ASB has seen a significant drop. New policy is the ASB in Station Road area of Holt, the next meeting will take place on 29th February.
- d. Holt Area Patients Participation Group – Cllr Kemp has been accepted onto the group. The next meeting is in March.

6. Finance

- a. Payments of £4,794.73 for the year to date and receipts of £12,805 were circulated prior to the meeting. Payments since the last meeting totally £ 1313.98 were approved on PROPOSAL by Cllr Fejer and SECONDED by Cllr Kemp and AGREED by all.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Nothing to note.
- b. Purchasing a portrait of the King was discussed for displaying in the Village Hall. Cllr S Rutherford to look into purchasing the portrait. SR

8. To consider a resolution (Under the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960) to exclude members of the public to discuss item below which is a confidential personnel matter.

- a. Staffing – (Recruitment of new Clerk)

The Clerk stated that the advert was live with NPTS, NALC and on the Facebook North Norfolk Clerk group. It was AGREED for the job advert to go into the Holt Chronicle. Applications will go to Cllr P Rutherford. The Locum Clerk agreed to undertake the March meeting and complete end of year finances for High Kelling Parish Council.
- b. See redacted Appendix B

Meeting ended at 9pm

Appendix A – NCC Report

Twenty-seven brand new gritters to join Norfolk's fleet

Twenty-seven brand new gritters will be taking to the roads for the first time later this winter in a £3,238,000 boost to the annual push to help keep Norfolk moving safely during the winter months.

The news comes as crews completed their first gritting runs of the season at the weekend, treating routes in the west, inland north and south and east coast areas of the county.

Norfolk's fleet of 58 winter vehicles treat 2,200 miles of roads on each full 3-hour gritting run. All A and B-class roads and some C-class roads are treated with a focus on commuter and major bus routes and as far as is possible one route into all villages. Our salt domes are fully stocked, crews are ready to go, and our experienced highway team are keeping a close eye on weather sensors and detailed specialist forecasts that that help inform where and when gritting will be taking place.

To help keep people moving around safely this winter, however they choose to travel, we'll again be providing information and advice on social media with the hashtag #NorfolkWinter.

Find more information on our website here: www.norfolk.gov.uk/winter

SHORT BREAKS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Proposals to increase the range of short breaks for children with disabilities and open them up to siblings and other family members are to be discussed by councillors tomorrow.

Norfolk County Council wants to change how it supports children with disabilities, by funding short breaks that best meet children's needs, are closer to their homes and can support their wider family.

It follows consultation over the summer, which looked at moving from a model that assigns a specific budget to a family, based on a child's disability, to a new approach that would look at a child's needs and work with their family to find the right activities to help them flourish.

The budget for short breaks will continue to be £3.5m per year and the council has pledged that children will not have their activities reduced. The approach, which is also used by other local authorities, is much more focused on children's outcomes and interests, rather than their disability. It also means the council has greater flexibility to buy services for multiple children from some activity providers, meaning that more children could benefit from a break.

The council wants to expand the activities it buys for families, to offer more options and flexibility. This might mean changes in some of the funding parents receive to buy

activities directly, but the value of the package of breaks will remain the same, or increase.

Part of the council's strategy is also to support existing activity providers to support children with disabilities, where it is appropriate for the needs of the child, so that they can access fun inclusive activities in their own community alongside their peers. The proposals and the feedback from public consultation will be discussed by the council's People and Communities Select Committee when it meets on 17 November. Cllr Fran Whymark, Chairman of the People and Communities Select Committee, said: "Short breaks provide fun activities for children and respite for their families. We know that they are a real lifeline for families, which is why it's important that we get any changes to what we are offering right and why we consulted with families who use the service before implementing any changes.

"I welcome any proposal which focuses on looking at what is best for individual children, and their families, and which provides greater choice and more local activities, particularly given the rural nature of Norfolk."

Norfolk County Council ran a consultation with families between 27 June and 2 August and had more than 200 responses, 43% of people agreed or strongly agreed with a change in the assessment process and 31% disagreed or strongly disagreed. The remainder didn't answer, didn't agree or disagree, or didn't know. Eighty-two percent agreed or strongly agreed that activities should be opened up to family members, including siblings.

If agreed, the changes would apply to new children accessing short breaks from April 2024. Other children would move to the new model gradually, as their package comes up for review.

County Deal for Norfolk update for a directly elected Leader.

At a full council meeting on 12 December 2023, Councillors accepted a £600 million devolution deal for Norfolk. The deal will also mean that decisions can be taken in Norfolk, for Norfolk.

The council voted to accept a county deal devolution agreement with the Government to transfer significant funding, powers and decisions to Norfolk.

Government funding will start transferring to Norfolk next summer if councillors vote in July 2024 to stage the first election for a leader in May 2025.

The full council agreed the following recommendations:

Council:

- Recognises the work carried out during 2023 to consult with the public, inform Members and prepare plans in relation to the 'in-principle' County Deal brought to Council in January this year
- Commends the work undertaken by the Leader and Officers to secure additional benefits for the Norfolk County Deal and resolves that the Deal should be accepted
- Agrees that the election for the Directly Elected Leader should be held alongside the county council elections in May 2025 to enable the widest possible engagement with the electorate
- Agrees that the resolution adopting the new governance arrangements should be brought to the Full Council meeting on 23 July 2024 to facilitate that election date

Appendix B – Confidential Report
Not available in the public domain.