

HIGH KELLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the High Kelling Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16 March 2022 at 7pm in the Village Hall

Attending: Cllr David Carter (Chairman), Cllr Patrick Kelly, Cllr John Mangan, Cllr Susan Rutherford, Cllr. P Kelly, District Cllr E Vardy, and Parish Clerk Jane Wisson.

Two members of the public attended for specific Agenda Items

1. Administrative

- a) Apologies from Cllr Gordon Lane (Vice-Chair), Cllr Duncan Henderson, Cllr J Kemp, Cllr M Pearman & Cllr. G Perry Warnes
- b) Declarations of interest, Cllr D Carter planning application on Avenue Road.
- c) The minutes of the last Parish Council dated 18th November 2021 proposed by Cllr S. Rutherford seconded by Cllr. J Mangan - **ALL AGREED.**
- d) Matters arising – covered on Agenda.

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

- a) Council received an update on the SAM 2 sign from County Cllr. S Aquerone regarding the current project, outline current understanding and associated activities. Three things for consideration:

- Review data to see if we can identify any improvements to speeding on the A148
- Access Sam 2 data
- Contribution towards costs of the project of £200. Currently the Parish Council has not contributed financially to the moving of the sign since the start of the project.
- Concerns were raised that the Parish Council were unaware that the SAM 2 would only be available to us for the duration of the project and once completed would be an asset for a specific Parish Council.
- Parish Council is considering the viability of either purchasing our own SAM 2 sign or to work in partnership with other parish/town councils to share costs.

Cllr. S Aquerone to meet with other Parishes involved in the project and will report back once a collective agreement received.

Cllr S Aquerone and Cllr. E Vardy to meet to review data and work in partnership to identify any improvements.

- b) An update was provided to the Council from the Village Hall Committee representative around the Big Plan regarding strategy for the village hall moving forward – 4 key themes have been identified

- Environment
- Beautiful and Useful
- Heart of the Community
- Financial security

Cllr D Carter reminded the village hall that we are the custodian trustee and would have liked to have been notified and included at an earlier stage but as a Parish Council we do support the work being undertaken.

Cllr P Kelly summarised the Green Village paper and a meeting to be arranged by Cllr P Kelly and Village Hall to discuss formalising a joint plan to define what a Green Village is and the actions that can be jointly worked upon.

Cllr. E Vardy has also support and suggested ECVP and setting of targets for the plan. Clerk suggested talking to NNDC Climate Officer.

Green Village paper in principle should be adopted – Cllr S Rutherford proposed, seconded by Cllr N Doran – **ALL AGREED**

- c) To receive the crime report from the Police and permit members of the public to raise matters relating to High Kelling – update emailed to all Councillors.
- d) Public Participation – nothing raised
- e) County Councillor Report – added as Appendix 1
- f) NNDC Councillor report – added as Appendix 2

3. Finance

- a. Cllr D Carter, Cllr G Lane and Clerk meeting Thursday to meet to discuss End Of Year accounts and will forward to all councillors.

4. Planning

- a. To ratify decisions made by email consultation and consider new applications since the last meeting – application number PF/22/0606 – Avenue Road Solar Panels – to support on environmental grounds.
- b. To receive and consider any late planning applications (received after publication of this agenda) – none received
- c. To receive any update from the clerk on planning decisions – AP/21/0034 – Penny Farthing - Appeal dismissed
- d. To receive and discuss other planning issues – Cllr. P Kelly highlighted concerns over the cost for pre application advice for applications that will have an environmental friend outcome. Clerk to draft letter and send to Cllr. D Carter to raise these concerns with NNDC.

5. Items for decision/discussion by the Parish Council

- a. Progress on the Engagement and Communication Work Plan – update and agree actions to be reviewed and amended and sent to Clerk by Cllr S Rutherford before Comms meeting. Clerk to review current format as this can demonstrate work achieved for Annual Parish Meeting.
- b. Annual Parish Meeting – Clerk provided an update on the two distinct meetings – one is the Annual Parish Meeting – which encourages us to engage with our residents – the other is the annual parish council meeting which elects the chair, vice-chair along with the representatives on various committees for e.g., the Village Hall, SNAP, Holt Area Participation Group etc.
Cllr D Carter raised concerns about the building in area of outstanding natural beauty and suggested that for this meeting we invite a member of the planning team to attend to discuss with residents.
Meeting to be arrange for a Saturday afternoon at the end of May – other activities could be a green village and village Hall stand to encourage ideas from residents, Queen Jubilee activities etc.
Clerk to email Village Hall booking secretary to see if we can have some dates.
- c. Dog Control – signs have been improved and no further issues.
- d. Green Village – discussed in conjunction with the Village Hall.
- e. Litter Pick – 20th March 2022 – Clerk confirmed bags can be left by dog bins for collection on the Monday – other works for some of the garden areas – clearing leaves etc could be included in the clean-up.
- f. Ukrainian Emergency – page has been added to the website – Clerk to contact Duncan Baker for a summary of the works undertaken at central government level.
Empty properties at both the Pineheath Care home and Kelling hospital could be utilised to house Ukrainian refugees – Clerk to draft a letter to both NNDC CEO and NCC with this suggestion.
- g. Planters/Planting – some areas are starting to see growth in readiness for spring – the area near the village sing it has been suggested to get and develop into a jubilee garden with roses and a miniature cherry tree. A sign from British Legion would support our Armed

forces covenant agreement and this can be incorporated into the garden. Clerk suggested that NNDC Climate change officer may be able to support the cherry tree allocation. Clerk will contact to ascertain availability. Proposed that £300 for developing the Jubilee Garden was proposed by Cllr P Kelly, seconded Cllr. N Doran – **ALL AGREED**

Bench purchase to be investigated and costed current allocation of £500 Cllr S Rutherford proposed, seconded by Cllr. P Kelly – **ALL AGREED**

- h. Lead Councillor for Events and Celebrations – update had been forwarded to all councillors. A small amount of funds was requested for smaller items and Cllr D Carter offered to provide but this is only with the agreement of council – this would be used to purchase sundry items – larger items are currently being costs and will come back to Council for agreement. Proposed by Cllr S Rutherford and seconded by Cllr, N Doran – **ALL AGREED**. Clerk will add a page to the website and design a poster for the notice boards.
- i. A148 – discussed as part of the SAM2 and rural speeding discussion.
- j. High Kelling Parish Chronicle – agreement to continue with the monthly provision of the High Kelling Chronicle whilst addition advertisers are sought, and discussion are held with other organisations. Proposed by Cllr. J Mangan, seconded by Cllr P Kelly – **ALL AGREED**
- k. Advance notice of Road Works in High Kelling – Clerk confirmed receipt of this information
- l. To discuss new code of conduct and agree timetable to update all policies – Clerk will recirculate and suggested that a small working group would be helpful to review and for policies then to be brought back to full council.
- m. Village Notice Board near Post Office – Cllr D Carter confirmed that we can continue to use this as a vehicle to share Council information.

6. Transport and Representative Feedback

- a. High Kelling Village Hall – General update provided; a new boiler had to be installed along with a structural survey had been undertaken due to beams causing some concerns. Road surface specification has been developed and provided to contractors – currently awaiting quotations before deciding on works.
- b. Community Speed watch – looking to start again in early April
- c. SNAP – nothing further to add
- d. Holt Area Patients Participation Group – Latest meeting had been cancelled due to the influx of work and they have recently moved into a new building. It was agreed that Holt Surgery can add information into the High Kelling Parish Chronicle giving patients updates on surgery activities free of charge.

7. Correspondence

- a. **NALC** – Various communications have been forwarded and noted.
- b. Cllr N Doran stated that the training the night before had been useful – but having two sessions and a Council meeting in a week is difficult – Clerk to note but is governed by the dates available. Consideration to changing the dates of the meeting to be looked at the next time.
- c. Trenches being dug – Clerk spoke to Bodham Clerk and County Councillor for that area to see if they were aware and Cllr J Mangan has emailed the Wind Turbine group to see if this work that they are undertaking for the cabling of the area.

Next Meeting to be Wednesday 17th May 2022 To be confirmed at 7pm at the Village Hall

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

Appendix 1 Norfolk County Councillor Report

This month's report is diverse to say the least. As someone who has suffered the impact of Covid, I can only implore you to continue to be as vigilant and careful as possible. We will all have to learn to live with Covid is the simple message.

Norfolk and Waveney COVID-19 booster and vaccinations

Vaccinations for all healthy 5–11-year-olds to launch from April 2022

Following a government announcement, which confirmed that all healthy 5–11-year-olds will soon be eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination, health leaders are asking that parents and carers be patient and do not contact the NHS to request a vaccine.

The guidance indicates that healthy children will be eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination sometime in April 2022.

At the moment, the Norfolk and Waveney health and care system is continuing to vaccinate clinically extremely vulnerable 5–11-year olds and will continue to do so in the weeks ahead.

Norfolk County Council Budget

Budget to “build back better” agreed.

The 2022-23 budget proposes significant investment, while addressing continuing severe pressure on services.

Plans for a balanced budget and a 2.99 per cent Council Tax rise were agreed by Norfolk County Council. The full council agreed:

- A 2.99 per cent rise in the county council's share of Council Tax, in April – not the maximum permissible 3.99 per cent

To give a little perspective on this a Band D dwelling will be paying less than a £1 per week extra.

- An increase in the 2022/23 net budget by £25 million compared to this year, to £464.123m

• A review of the Council and how it operates, to bridge a £60m budget gap predicted for 2023/24

New roles created to improve the link between county and local councils

A significant investment has been made into the relationship between Norfolk County Council and the rest of the county with £160,000 committed over the next 2 years.

The county council have funded the Norfolk Association of Local Councils (Norfolk ALC) to employ two members of staff who will be dedicated to improving the link between the county council and Norfolk's town and parish councils.

The new roles will help local councils stay up to date on key initiatives and policies that affect them, while ensuring that local voices are heard at a county level.

They will also work to raise the profile of Parish Councils across Norfolk and the work they do for their communities.

The funding will also aim to help local councils build their skills and get access to the right information. That might include help with developing a parish plan, writing a funding bid, or reaching a wider demographic in their area.

This help will be in addition to the support the Norfolk ALC already provides which has seen a range of initiatives co-ordinating the Parish and Town Councils in Norfolk.

Anyone interested in knowing more about the support available via the Norfolk Association of Local Councils can visit their website which holds information, advice and training on a wide range of subjects.

Hundreds of free activities available for children and young people this Easter

Bookings are now open for The Big Norfolk Holiday Fun, a programme of free activities that will run over the Easter holidays for 5–16-year-olds across Norfolk.

The scheme is provided as part of the government's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme and is being delivered by Norfolk County Council in partnership with Active Norfolk. There will be a range of activities available all over the county, aimed at various ages. These could include football, basketball, circus skills, arts and crafts, dance, music, cookery, film-making and much more.

The sessions offer children the chance to learn and develop new skills, alongside receiving a free healthy lunch each day. Booking is on a first-come-first-served basis, with limited spaces for many activities, so families should book soon to avoid disappointment.

Those who claim means-tested free school meals can claim free spaces on the activities, whilst paid spots are available on many activities for those who don't.

- North Norfolk District Council's 2022-23 budget was approved at February's Full Council meeting. After freezing Council Tax payments last year, a modest rise in the charges levied by NNDC was approved as part of the 2022-23 balanced budget. This equates to an annual rise of £4.95 to the charge for Band D rated domestic properties. NNDC charges one of the lowest Council Tax rates of district councils in England whilst maintaining and further investing in services. The majority of the money raised by charges to residents and businesses goes to Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Police, with NNDC collecting only around 8-9p from every pound paid.
- New measures are being introduced to ensure second home owners who abuse a tax loophole by claiming their often-empty properties are holiday lets will be forced to pay council tax. Currently some second homeowners avoid paying council tax and claim business rates relief instead by declaring an intention to let their property to holidaymakers. This can be used as a device to obtain relief when there is no intention to offer holiday letting. Under the new proposed rules holiday lets must be proved to be rented out for a minimum of 70 days a year to qualify for business rates relief. Business rates avoidance is estimated to cost £250 million per year in lost revenue.
- The Council have offered a year's free membership worth £150 for the Visit North Norfolk scheme to hospitality, leisure and accommodation businesses. The Government's Covid Additional Restrictions Grant will fund the initiative. The scheme provides businesses with access to promotional opportunities, all year marketing opportunities, networking events, national press coverage and an interactive booking website. This gives businesses an opportunity to increase their profile and access markets they would not reach individually.
- Once again the Environment Agency are set to announce that North Norfolk has high bathing water quality including the 6 Blue Flag beaches at Cromer, Sheringham, East Runton, Mundesley, Sea Palling and West Runton. We are determined to increase our Blue Flag beaches and are working towards a seventh by next year.
- The Council have reviewed car parking charges for the first time since 2016 and have decided to increase fees by reference to the Consumer Prices Index (CPI). Season ticket holders will not have to pay more than they currently pay.. Standard car parks will go from £1.00 to £1.20 for first 2 hrs, then from 70p to 80p per hour; Resort car parks (including Holt) go from £1.30 to £1.50 for 1 hour then £1.20 (up from £1.00) per hour. Coastal car parks will go up to £1.80 from £1.50 per hour. Increases will be effective from July.
- With regard to the Conservation Area appraisals, the Conservation and Design team are analysing hundreds of submissions and will be collating them in a report to the Planning Policy and Built Heritage Working Party in March or April. There is an opportunity to register to ask questions in writing or in person at the meeting via Zoom. You must give notice at least 24 hours before the date of the meeting (either 21 March or 25 April) and please contact Democratic Services 01263 516047 or email: matthew.strebrowicz@north-norfolk.gov.uk to register your interest.

Appendix 3 Green Village

How many conversations over the last 18 months or so have included “We’re so lucky to live here” We are surrounded by trees, can walk into woods on both sides of the main road and the network of footpaths beyond. We’re also close to the sea and the coastal path. Our natural environment has helped to sustain us during the lockdowns. We should aim to protect our countryside and, beyond this, connect with the broader context of sustainability and seek to address environmental issues related to the climate emergency.

We could have the goal of becoming a Green Village with a long term commitment to sustaining our natural environment and the people who live here

Starting points

- 1) This is not a new direction, much that we already do that could fall under a ‘Green Village’ heading , for example comments on the District Local Plan and Wind Farm proposals, some planning applications, village litter picks, verge planting and speed reduction measures
- 2) Build links with other organisations and individuals within the village. The Village Hall is developing a plan for the future which includes making the Hall carbon neutral and boosting biodiversity. There are many active people in the village with a diversity of experience, knowledge, skills and possibly time who may be willing to contribute. Consider setting up a cross village action group.
- 3) Build links with neighbouring parishes and the District Council. NNDC has a draft Environment Charter <https://modgov.north-norfolk.gov.uk/documents/s6351/Environment%20Charter%20Appendix%20One%20-%20OS%20Final%20Draft.pdf> The PC could invite a speaker from NNDC to find out more and see if we can be involved further - are there appropriate initiatives, projects, grants
- 4) Communication. The PC produces the Chronicle and we can provide some Green content e.g litter picking, single use plastics, energy saving, recycling, encouraging lift sharing, shopping for neighbours. We could promote activities or campaigns such as the Big Garden Birdwatch, and No Mow May. We could also have village life web area either as part of the the PC website or linked to the Village Hall website. This might provide space for specific or longer term items e.g to document bird/mammal species in the village, toad safety at Selbrigg Pond, advice on planting to encourage pollinating insects, a regular feature on favourite walks nearby.

What might this lead to

Being a Green Village would provide a clear focus for many issues and activities that we are interested in, either as a Parish Council or in collaboration with others. It becomes an umbrella for existing work such as our advocacy of an Offshore Transmission Network, our approach to the forthcoming Local Plan, and considering sustainability and biodiversity as part of the assessment of planning applications. It would also inform our response to future regional and national carbon reduction initiatives in relation to, for example, insulation, heat pumps, electric vehicles

In practical terms there are activities which will continue

- a review of the village planting and possible further action
- village litter picking in Spring and Autumn
- 1. follow up requests for additional Public Rights of Way with NNDC
- 2. speed reduction activities - SAM2 and Speedwatch

and we could start to build a list of other ideas to consider, for example:

- more information about public transport to encourage greater use
- exploration of car sharing schemes
- information about reducing single use plastic items,
- information about any grants for house insulation

- ways of promoting/supporting the Otty's veg stand in Avenue Road.
- ways of promoting/supporting the village shop.
- any locations for planting more trees in the village
- if plans for developing the old care home or nursery are submitted, seek safety measures e.g. a pavement and/or a cycle path along along the A148
- if there are other major planning applications seek footpaths through the woods from the village to Holt Avenue to avoid the narrow sections of the A148
- a bicycle left at the village hall for anyone to use (I can donate)

January 2022