

Minutes of the Pentney Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14 November 2023 at 7.00pm at Pentney Village Hall

Present: Cllr R Littlehales (Chair) Cllr M Parker Cllr L Rons
Cllr P Wells Cllr K Harvey

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Also present: Clerk, Cllr Moriarty & 5 Members of the Public.

1. **To receive and consider apologies for absence:**
Apologies were received and accepted by Cllr C Dallas & Cllr Howlett.
- 2 **To receive Declarations of Interest**
Cllr Rons gave a prejudicial interest in planning permission 23/01888/F as it is her property.
3. **Adjournment of Meeting to allow for public questions. (10 mins max 3 mins per Speaker.)**

Noticeboard Locks

A Parishioner advised that he has had to change the locks on the noticeboards but because of not being able to get this type any more he will not be able to undertake again. The Clerk to get a quote for new noticeboard.

4. **Reports**

4.1 County Councillor. Cllr Moriarty had sent a report. (Please see attached). Cllr Moriarty advised that recycling centres are now more relaxed and will take more without charge. You cannot take more than one large item a week for four weeks though. He went on to explain regarding the Walking, Wheeling and Cycling for Wellbeing. NCC are due to have a meeting on the 4th December followed by a meeting on the 12th December regarding the devolution deal and a directly elected Mayor for Norfolk. Cllr Moriarty who had been against another level of government, was of the opinion that if it is not accepted then there will be no further/future deal.

4.2 Borough Councillor. Cllr Devulapa had sent her apologies and a report. (Please see attached). Cllr Moriarty advised regarding the local members fund if any groups needed some funds to please get them to contact Cllr Devulapa or himself. It needs to be spent by the end of March. The Leader of the Borough Council held a couple of meetings for Chairs which were well received and he undertook planning training which is always well attended. The Clerk advised that it was said that we should make comment on planning applications if we approve and well as object and the Borough Council were going to come up with some ideas for recommendations of approval but these had not been received as yet. Cllr Moriarty advised that he had seen and would make sure the Clerk got a copy.

4.3 Neighbourhood Plan Working Party. The Clerk advised that she had been informed by her day job that Groundworks are not allowing consultants to be paid more than £585. The Clerk agreed to look into it more as our current one is over this amount. **It was also resolved for the Clerk to seek information from the Consultant to agree more hours at a lower rate and to apply to groundworks for the additional amount.**

4.4 Speed Awareness Report.. The co-ordinator advised that the speed was recording lower this month as compared to last month. 85th centile was 30.4 this month but was 33.8 last month and 50th centile was 24.4 this month compared to 27.4 last month. The co-ordinator agreed to undertake a report with half yearly figures to give a better average. He would also like to move the SAM'2 to a new area on Pentney Lane where there is already a pole. The co-ordinator to send a map or photograph to show the possible and then the Clerk can check it out with the Highway Engineer. The Clerk advised that the Highway Engineer had not got back to her re the Parish Partnership scheme. **It was resolved for the Clerk to put in a bid for the Parish Partnership Scheme to assist in buying another new unit as the old unit was over 10 years and was not financially viable.** The Clerk also reported that she had not heard back from the Highway Engineer regarding the Articles of memorandum. **It was resolved for the Clerk to continue to seek the articles of memorandum update.**

5 To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting of 10 October 2023.

It was resolved for the minutes to be signed by the Chair and a true and accurate account of the meeting.

6. To consider matters arising from the minutes of 12 September 2023

a) Council to consider any matters arising from the minutes that are not on the agenda.

b) Council to review action points from the last meeting.

Chase portacabin removal The Clerk advised that she had chased, and they had tried to move it but realized that they would need a bigger vehicle to move it as the current vehicle was not adequate and would really destroy the area. **It was resolved for the Clerk to advise that it should be removed and not to worry about the area and to breakdown if necessary.** Cllr Rons advised that there were items inside it. **It was resolved for these to be removed also.**
Chase allotment payments outstanding The Clerk advised that she needed a contact number for one of the allotment holders and the other outstanding one had advised that he had paid. *Arrange the Electricity for the playing field site for the De-fib.* The Clerk advised that she would have to go back to the start and work with the other team again and she would start again on the process. She would also check if it might be better to get the unmetered supply in and then convert.

7. Finance

a) Monthly Accounts for Payment.

The Clerk had handed round the payment sheet. A donation is usually made to make the Royal British Legion £100.00. **It was resolved for these payments to be made.**

b) Money received.

The Clerk advised that a CIL payments of £1527.70 had been received. Cllr Rons advised about the one allotment had just paid an amount and this would make the accounts not be true to the invoices and they had paid into the wrong account. **It was resolved for the Clerk to speak with the Diocese again regarding taking this back and if not these should be made into agricultural licenses not allotment tenancies.**

c) Bank Rec October 2023.

The Clerk had sent these round prior to the meeting. Cllr Rons had checked them and agreed that everything was in order. She would arrange to undertake an unannounced Audit Trial at some point.

d) Asset Register

The Clerk had agreed to undertake a trial of a new system that Scribe were undertaking regarding the assets where using a smart phone or tablet to take a photograph would automatically put on the asset register and note what three words and a photograph. **It was resolved for the Clerk to agree to trial.**

8. Five Year Plan

It was resolved for agenda item 8 and 9 to be taken together.

9. Budget Setting

a) Council to look at budget for 24-25 Financial Year.

b) Precept Setting

It was resolved for this to be looked at with the budget and a meeting was set for Tuesday 5 December 2023 at 7.00pm.

10. Village Matters

a) Feedback on River Swan issues

Cllr Parker advised that there was no change and everything running well.

b) Weeds in the gutters

These had been achieved in places.

c) Wi-Fi for the Village Hall.

It was resolved for Cllr Wells to speak with the Village Hall Chair to ask if they would be happy for the Parish Council to provide wi-fi to the hall.

11. To discuss any planning applications or local developments.

Applications:

23/01794/F VARIATION OF CONDITION 12 OF PLANNING PERMISSION 17/00032/O: Outline, 3 dwellings and to upgrade North access directly onto A47 to use as permanent site entrance at Oakland Cottages Pentney Lane Pentney. **It was resolved to recommend approval.**

23/01978/F VARIATION OF CONDITION 1 OF PLANNING CONSENT 22/00322/F; Construction of a two storey log cabin at 52 Pentney Lakes Common Road Pentney. **It was resolved to recommend refusal on the grounds of overdevelopment.**

Cllr Rons left the room.

23/01888/F Retrospective application to regularise access, parking and turning area The Limes Pentney Lane Pentney. **It was resolved to recommend approval.**

Determinations:

23/01862/F Application Construction of an indoor swimming pool at 52 Pentney Lakes Common Road Pentney **Withdrawn**

12. Governance

a) Training.

None undertaken.

b) .gov emails/website

Cllr Rons advised that she was still not able to change her password. The Clerk advised that she would speak with IT and get it sorted. The Clerk advised that she had to come over to meet a playground company and would undertake Cllr Harvey and also look at Cllr Howlets again.

13 To receive an update on playing field equipment.

a) Playground Quotes

The Clerk advised that this was still ongoing. **It was resolved for the Clerk to obtain three quotes to get the work undertaken that can be used for grant purposes.**

**14. Correspondence
None received.**

15 Items for next Agenda

Budget Setting/Precept
Wi-Fi for the Village Hall
5-year plan
Falls Group
Pentney Lakes/Woods

**16 The date of the next Parish Council meeting
Tuesday 12 December 2023 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall.**

With no further business the meeting closed at 20:20pm.

Pentney Parish Council
PAYMENTS LIST

				Cheque No	Description	Supplier			
36	1110	Grasscutting	14/11/2023	Unity	Grass Cutting	CGM Group	S		
36	1100		14/11/2023	Unity	Grass Cutting	CGM Group	S		
36	1105		14/11/2023	Unity	Grass Cutting	CGM Group	S	180.00	36.00 216.00
37	1055	Allotment Rent	14/11/2023	Unity	Allotment Rent	The Church Of	X	1,532.50	1,532.50
38	1215	Grants	14/11/2023	Unity	Poppy Appeal	Royal British Legion	X	100.00	100.00
39	1060	Election Expenses	14/11/2023	Unity	Election Costs	Borough Council of	S	45.50	9.10 54.60
Total								1,858.00	45.10

1,903.10

Action List

Cllr Wells

- Speak with Village Hall Chair re Wi-Fi.

Clerk

- Obtain copy of Memorandum of use re Sam2
- Work on grant re Neighbourhood Plan with Consultant.
- Chase portacabin removal
- Playground Tenders
- Chase allotment contract with Diocese
- Put in bid for Parish Partnership Scheme re Sam2
- Passwords to Cllr Littlehailes/Parker
- Arrange the Electricity for the playing field site for full electricity use.
- Obtain 365 business.
- Check out bylaw re dogs on the playing field.
- Making Planning Comments to the Borough Council.

Cllr Moriarty's Report

DIY Waste at Recycling Centres

On Sunday 18 June Government set out its plans on how DIY waste at recycling centres is going to be addressed via '*changes that will be brought in to force this year*' (details here <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/council-diy-waste-charges-abolished> and here [Summary of responses and government response - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#))

Further clarity from Government is awaited on the implementation, detail and timing of its proposal, which importantly is not a ban on charging but is instead a limit on what should be accepted for free from householders.

The County Council has been charging for DIY waste at recycling centres for over 20 years and in 2018 removed a weekly free allowance of one 80 litre bag or one item a week from householders.

As it stands the new Government proposal is likely to specify that, in relation to small-scale projects undertaken by householders, there would be:

'free disposal of DIY waste up to two 50L rubble bags (or one bulky or fitted item no larger than 2,000mm by 750mm by 700mm, the approximate size of a bathtub or shower screen)'
'at a frequency of 4 visits per household over a 4-week period'

Government has clarified that new funding will not be provided to councils to deal with the extra costs of this change to legislation, with DLUHC deciding '*that local authorities that currently charge householders to dispose of DIY waste will be required to absorb any associated costs*'.

Have your say on our walking, wheeling and cycling strategy for Norfolk

Norfolk County Council has opened a public consultation on a draft walking, wheeling and cycling strategy for the county.

The strategy is an updated version of the previous walking and cycling strategy which was published in 2017. Since then, there has been a step change in national and local policy which has placed walking, wheeling and cycling at the heart of decision making.

The proposed new strategy brings together Norfolk's local transport, environmental and public health ambitions and aims to make walking, wheeling or cycling the natural choice for both travelling from A to B and for leisure.

The draft strategy has been created following policy reviews, evidence collation and engagement with district councils and Active Norfolk. Now the county council wants to hear from residents, stakeholders and organisations to get their thoughts on the proposed strategy.

The scale and pace of delivering the strategy will be dependent on the level of funding the County Council can secure. Having this strategy alongside our already approved local cycling and walking infrastructure plans for Norfolk helps us to present our ambition to central Government and give us more likelihood of securing funding in the future.

The consultation is available online at www.norfolk.gov.uk/walking-wheeling-cycling and will be open until Friday 24 November. For anybody unable to complete the consultation online paper copies can be requested by contacting haveyoursay@norfolk.gov.uk or customer services on 0344 800 8020.

Household Support Fund winter support

Norfolk County Council is offering extra support to households this winter.

Earlier this year, Norfolk County Council announced it would receive further funding from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to run the Household Support Fund until 31 March 2024.

The council is receiving £13.4m from central government and adding an additional £400,000 to make the total programme of support worth £13.8m. It is working closely with district, borough, and city councils, VCSE and public sector partners to identify and implement a range of support measures to meet the needs of vulnerable households.

Since the fund began (October 2021) the impact on Norfolk communities of the fund so far has been significant:

- We have supported over 130,000 households throughout the life of the fund.
- We continue to provide food vouchers for over 30,000 eligible school children.
- We have provided over 17,000 awards through our application-based Client Hardship Service (formally the Norfolk Assistance Scheme) ranging from food support through to providing white goods and winter essentials.
- We have made over 546,000 awards in total through use of the fund across all rounds to date.
- Support has also been provided through our libraries (grab and go bags), the Nourishing Norfolk food hubs (store credit), our district council partners with a range of both proactive and reactive support and by working with our local VCSE community to directly support the most vulnerable Norfolk families.

The DWP's upcoming Household Support Fund Awareness Week (16--22 October) also coincides with the launch date for our Norfolk libraries winter campaign.

Norfolk County Council is holding a Help for Households drop-in event at Great Yarmouth Library on Wednesday 18 October from 10.30 to 3.00pm.

At the library event, people will be able to get information about a range of support such as emergency funding for utility bills, food banks, how to apply for free school meals and cost of living vouchers, advice about managing money, and local support from Great Yarmouth Borough Council. There will be free hot drinks for everyone attending and for those with additional needs, free winter support items will be available.

As part of the Household Support Fund, all 47 of Norfolk's libraries will be offering free winter support items until the end of March 2024 (while stocks last).

Budget Consultation 2024/25

As in previous years NCC will be consulting Norfolk residents and stakeholders on council tax and budget proposals as part of the council's budget setting process. Norfolk County Council will set a new budget on 20 February 2024. Ahead of this, they will be asking for views on our proposed council tax level for 2024-25, including a proposal for the Adult Social Care precept.

To help NCC deal with our cost pressures and invest in vital services their current budget planning is based on an assumption to raise general council tax by 2.99% and 2% for the adult social care precept (a total of 4.99%) in 2024-25.

The consultation will run from 20 October to 1 December 2023.

NCC will promote the consultation using a variety of different channels in order to get a wide range of people's views and reach people who are likely to be affected. Members' involvement in promoting the consultation and encouraging residents to feed back their views is an important part of the consultation plan.

How can local people find out about the consultation and have their say?

- NCC will publicise the consultation using social media, such as Facebook and X, previously know as Twitter and in the local media.
- A press release will be sent out briefing local media on the consultation and its contents
- People will be able to read the proposals online at www.norfolk.gov.uk/budget and feed back their views using the online consultation.
- NCC will encourage members of the Norfolk Residents' Panel to participate in the consultation. The Panel currently comprises over 900 Norfolk residents.

Using NCC's online feedback form ensures there will be a clear record of people's response and that their views are accurately recorded. NCC will provide copies online of PDF documents so that people can download these themselves if they want a hard copy. There will also be Easy Read and large print versions available for download.

NCC appreciates that some residents may not have online access and people who are unable to respond online can send us their views in writing to: Freepost Plus RTCLXSTT-JZSK Norfolk County Council, Ground floor - south wing, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich NR1 2DH. Please note, arrangements have been made to scan in any post when it arrives at County Hall and email to the stakeholder and consultation team who will be analysing all the responses received via post and e-mail.

Residents can request the budget consultation in other formats, including paper form, by calling 0844 800 8020 or emailing HaveYourSay@norfolk.gov.uk in line with our standard practice. This will include Braille, audio etc.

Cllr Devulapalli Report

My report:

The borough council help with improvements to homes for heating is going well, and I would be grateful if it could be advertised locally.

I would also be interested to hear of people's experiences with the scheme, so could you share my email address with anyone who wishes to get in touch please.

We discussed the poor state of our sea water at a recent council meeting, and further investigations are planned to determine what could be causing this. Sea birds have been implicated in the bacterial contamination of the water among other reasons.

We have had an offer of free native wildflower seeds from a local volunteer group, so if the parish is interested, please let me know, and I will put you in touch.

I would like to donate a swift nest-box to the village, using my cllr grant fund, so if interested please let me know, and I will arrange for it to happen.

