

# Burnham Overy Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held virtually via Zoom on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 6.30 pm

Present:

Councillors: Katherine William-Powlett (Chair), Avril Edwards, Sarah Stevens, Pam Thompson, Jenny Gurney, Neil McCallum-Deighton, Cllr A Jamieson (County Councillor), James Wild MP, Clerk Sarah Raven, - Members of the Public 30

Welcome by Chair.

Agenda was reorganised.

7. Supporting Local Councils in their efforts to ensure fairness relating to business rates and holiday lets.

Cllr K William-Powlett explained the background regarding business rates and small business rate relief. It is not illegal but there is a loophole in the legislation. This is country wide problem. James Wild MP explained this is a loophole and a consultation from about two years ago has closed but has not moved forward since then. He had been working with Duncan Baker MP to try and get this moving again. He explained it might be because of wider issues. There is a bill of movement in Parliament to get proposals to take forward. In the consultation paper there are various proposals about whether people should let for a minimum number of days etc. He needs to have a conversation with the Ministers involved as to why it has stalled so far. No time frame at present. There is a lot of interest in this matter.

8. Flooding issues on the B1155 River Burn.

Cllr N McCallum-Deighton explained there are a range of agencies involved which relate to the flooding. There are plans which have been put forward by County Council to try to come up with a long-term plan. Pumping Station at Burnham Thorpe not been upgraded. Environment Agency seems to be moving responsibility onto property owners. Agencies need to be working together. James Wild MP explained the lack of joined up approach by agencies. Anglian Water had commented that there was a usual amount of rainfall this year. A Task Force has been put together and hopefully they can get the agencies involved. Anglian Water had now received a permit from Environment Agency to pump straight into the River Burn to help alleviate the short-term problems. Cllr Andrew Jamieson (Norfolk County Council) explained there are a lot of ambiguities involved in the agencies. Norfolk County Council is the Lead Local Flooding Authority and in January the Cabinet formed the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance which is a Task Force to bring together Anglian Water, Environment Agency, Internal Drainage Board, Highways and District Councils. They will meet on the 11<sup>th</sup> February at the first meeting. It will present what the statutory duties and responsibilities will be to water management. It will give a clear indication of what funding is. Proper and comprehensive plan of water course management and mitigation of flooding. Identify any other key challenges. Cllr N McCallum-Deighton explained about new dwellings effects on infrastructure. Cllr A Jamieson explained the minutes should be made public. Cllr McCullum Deighton agreed to keep himself informed on flooding issues so as to be able to report back to the Council.

5. Presentation by Josh Danziger (Wells Harbour Commissioner and Member of the Norfolk Coastal Futures).

Josh Danziger explained that the sea level has risen about 25 cm since 1880. The 50 year floods will become much more frequent. Might be more serious flooding. Will have to

adapt to cope with the changes. The official line on how to cope is in the Shore Management Plan prepared by Local Government. There is a much better way of thinking about the flooding. When a tidal surge occurs, the tide comes down the east coast of Britain into the channel so it comes down the North Sea and passes a series of harbour mouths. It then sends a lump of water up that harbour. The wall of water moves towards the village and the surge at sea moves on round the coast. A view to a tactical approach to sort this problem out. When the wall of water moves into the Staithe if it breaches the Sea Wall, provided there is no more water comes in behind the surge, the wall of water has in the past overtopped the sea wall and dispersed into the fields beyond. Wells is very open and is an area to make changes. Holkham did an experiment about tree planting in the dunes. Options should be thought about. He explained he is not here in his capacity of Wells Harbour Commissioner. He has become aware of modelling which has been completed of the seabed and land. It recreates the 2013 flood and looks at different scenarios if it was bigger or if anything was added to help elevate the flooding. He would like to do this modelling for Overy Staithe. People are asked to contact him direct regarding flood management in the village and if any donations could be offered. It is important to have people's views on this flood modelling. He has joined a group of Norfolk Coastal Futures and act as a knowledge bank and managing floods. Josh can be contacted directly by email - [josh@danziger.org.uk](mailto:josh@danziger.org.uk)

6. Public Participation:

- Modelling is a good idea. There was a model completed some years ago, but it has to fit in with any other Government/County plan.
- Flooding is a problem, but a solution needs to be found. Anglian Water and new properties need to be looked at. Nearly 20 years ago there was sewage coming up Staithe Lane flooding up, because of flash flooding. Would like to know what Anglian Water has done to upgrade the infrastructure.
- Who is in control of the sluices-people are very keen to have wetlands. Wondering if the sluices are being deliberately closed the River Burn has nowhere to go. Cllr A Jamieson explained that Environment Agency are in control.
- Understand that sluices were going to be opened fully as it was shut.
- In Burnham Market 162 furnished holiday lets, 84 have received the Covid grant.
- When the Strategic meeting takes place, it would be good not to hear "lessons will be learned". Need to ask the agencies what has been planned. Need to find a solution.
- Question to James Wild – will he be putting pressure on the Government for local businesses to open safely and trade and regain their livelihoods. James Wild explained he had a meeting with the Chancellor but keen to get the economy going again. Plan to be published at the end of February by the Prime Minister. Plan will set out a timeline and sectors in which order they will reopen. Any queries he can be contacted directly.
- 30 properties do not pay towards the precept, but the rest of the village is having to subsidise. James Wild explained this is loophole and needs to do something about it. He will ask the Treasury Team and Robert Jenrick.

1. Apologies for absence:

Cllr Sam Sandell (Borough Councillor)

2. Minutes of the last council meeting:

Minutes on the meeting for 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were circulated. Approved without amendment and will be signed by the Chair, Cllr K William-Powlett as a true copy.

3. Declarations of interests: -

None

4. Borough and County Councillors Reports:

Cllr S Sandell sent in a report from Borough Council. (Attached on website)

Cllr A Jamieson explained about the added tourism which will be coming for Easter to the County. It led to difficulty last year. There needs to be long term solution. In a paper by Cabinet before election to confirm money to be spent on a pilot scheme about transport to including 20 mph village speed limits etc. Could the Parish Council think about how to alleviate the parking problems for Easter in relation to Burnham Overy Staithe and problems of people driving through and blocking the A149. He will work with the Borough Council and using the Civil Enforcement Officers more to attend and the Police. Thanked everyone for highlighting the issues regarding business rates. Cllr K William-Powlett explained that the problems for parking is caused because of the high tides as the Hard is flooded.

9. To approve payments

All payments approved. Agreed

Payments		Receipts	
S Raven wages (Jan)	579.96	Burnham Norton Hire of Clerk	50.92
S Raven home allowance Oct to Jan	36.00		
S Raven Zoom Dec	14.39		
Steve Jackman (course)	22.50		
Currys Laptop Insurance	5.50		
Norfolk Parish Training Course SR	18.00		

10. New Accountant

Ladywell Accountant has retired. Quote by Ewings agreed. Approved.

11. Planning

a) REMOVAL OR VARIATION OF CONDITION 2 OF PLANNING PERMISSION

16/00771/F: Demolition of existing house and erection of new house. Existing garage to be retained at Larksfeld Gong Lane Burnham Overy Staithe King's Lynn Norfolk PE31 8JG ref: 21/00065/F – Plans had some omissions and are rectifying. No Observations either in favour or against - Agreed

b) Erection of ancillary buildings incidental to main house at Gun Hill Farm Wells Road Burnham Overy Staithe King's Lynn Norfolk PE31 8JJ Ref: 21/00055/LB – Discussion was raised in respect of the fence as to whether it was in keeping with the village and the AONB. Proposed by Cllr K William-Powlett proposed to make a comment querying the metal fence that it might not be in keeping with the AONB seconded Cllr S Stevens. 4 Agreed.

12. Grass Cutting contracts for Memorial Bench grass area and New Road.

Cllr A Edwards explained that the Parish Council pay for the grass cutting the verge near the Memorial Bench and New Road. Holkham own the grass verge where the memorial benches are. Asked to write to Holkham to see if they would contribute towards the grass cutting.

13. Dog Bins situated on the hard being the responsibility of the Parish Council:

Again, it was discussed that the two dog waste bins on the Hard are paid to be emptied by the Parish Council. Agreed to write to Holkham to see if they would contribute towards the dog waste bins.

14. CIL Grant Application from the Borough Council and projects in the Action Plan Applications can be made between £2,000 and £10,000 on infrastructure. Deadline at the end of April 2021. Discussed any projects that could warrant that application. Nothing at present.

15. Finances: -

a) Financial Statement for January 2021 – Approved

- b) Approve Parish Online fee – Approved.
  - c) Benefits of transferring the accounts to Unity Trust – Discussion with regards to online banking, interest and signatories. Cost £72 per year. Agreed to leave for the time being.
16. Update on planting of new trees/hedges:  
Cllr J Gurney explained about the free pack of trees from the Woodland Trust. Reply from Holkham to explore regarding the trees. However, would rather get leases sorted on the playing field and allotments. Clerk to chase. Cllr J Gurney explained it is better to plant trees in Autumn.
17. Gigabit broadband voucher scheme update:  
Cllr A Edwards had information regarding fibre to the premises. There is not much interest so will not be taken forward. Vouchers are still available if people wanted to do it themselves. Wells Road will be taking a community application forward to gain quotes and applications. 2 people in Gong Lane might be interested.
18. Playing Field:  
a) Inspection – Completed but nothing to raise.
19. Allotments:  
a) Inspections – Completed nothing to raise.
20. Tree works to be undertaken at New Road and Playing Field:  
Last works on the trees were October 2016. Need to have the trees surveyed again. Quotes needed and what works are needed to be done.
21. Meetings to be roughly held every six weeks.  
Agreed. Meetings to be held roughly every six weeks. Meeting dates 29<sup>th</sup> March 10<sup>th</sup> May, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 26<sup>th</sup> July. Review again at the July meeting. If planning applications, then hold extra meetings. Approved.
22. Reports from Councillors:
- Cllr K William-Powlett had attended a Chairman Course.
  - Cllr A Edwards had attended a meeting with Future Biogas. Egmore Energy held a consultation regarding traffic.
23. Correspondence:  
List attached no new correspondence.
24. Items for next Agenda –
- Phone box
  - Flooding update
25. Public Participation – *Members of the Public Views Only*
- Cllr A Jamieson explained that Norfolk County Council are giving trees away. Indigenous and local trees can be supplied. Cllr J Gurney would liaise with Cllr A Jamieson regarding this.
  - Suggest the Primary School is involved in planting trees for the future.
  - Trees need to be looked after when planted and watering of the trees necessary.
  - If trees are planted in the Autumn, there should be enough rainfall to water them.

Meeting Closed: 8.11 pm

Date and times of next meetings, Monday 29 March, 10 May, 21<sup>st</sup> June and 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021  
at **6.30pm** either by Zoom or in the Village Hall.

.....Chairman      Dated:

THESE MINUTES ARE UNCONFIRMED UNTIL APPROVED BY FULL COUNCIL  
AND SIGNED ABOVE BY CHAIRMAN.