

LONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Longham Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 17th January 2022 in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Susan Douglas (Chair)
Cllr Margaret Dye
Cllr Paul O'Brien
Cllr Roddy McLeod
Cllr Dawn Dewar
Cllr Clare Mitton

County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris
Four Members of the public
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received from Cllr Donna McLeod were approved.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were none declared.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15th November 2021.

Cllr Douglas proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Dye and unanimously agreed by Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

4. To receive a presentation by PC Gilluley re home safety.

PC Gilluley had sent her apologies and, accordingly, there was no presentation.

5. Meeting open for public participation.

Two members of the public were extremely disappointed that PC Gilluley was not in attendance as they were present for that very purpose. Following an arson attack on their home, they outlined the poor response received from the police, particularly as it had been a life-threatening incident and one of five arson attacks in Longham.

Council was supportive of their stance and agreed to send a letter to the Police & Crime Commissioner setting out the concerns.

6. To receive County and District Councillors reports.

C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris had submitted a written report and this is attached. There were no other issues raised.

In the absence of either District Councillor, there was no report from Breckland.

7. Planning issues.

a) Applications for consideration.

Council raised no objections to the following amendment:

- 3PL/2021/1460/F – Hoe Road, Meadow - change of use of land from Agricultural to residential, the erection of 1No. self-build home and provision of 1No. Self Build Plot with associated car parking and landscaping. – red line amended and elevations changed.

Members of the public were invited to speak regarding the following application and raised a number of concerns regarding privacy, noise, the boundary, drainage and the telegraph poles. Council agreed to support the privacy issue and submit objections on that basis.

- 3PL/2021/1684/D – Development Plot, Manor Cottage, Wending Road - reserved matters application for one dwelling following outline permission 3PL/2019/0121/O

b) Decisions to note.

The following planning decisions were noted:

- 3PL/2021/0894/F – Land adjacent to Southview, Hoe Road - the construction of a 1.5 storey, 3 bedroom timber framed dwelling (self build) - Red line amended and block plan amended - both in line with ecology advice – WITHDRAWN.
- Beeston with Bittering: Bittering Quarry (Plant Site), Reed Lane, Bittering: Use of land for the storage of inert processed secondary aggregate produced at new Spreadoak recycling facility until 31 December 2031 without compliance with conditions 1 (restoration date) and 2 (approved documents) and 3 (source of recycled aggregate) of permission reference FUL/2021/0004: McLeod Aggregates Ltd – APPROVED.
- Beeston with Bittering: Land Adjoining Longham Heath and Spreadoak Plantation, Bittering Quarry, Reed Lane, Bittering: Relocation of inert recycling facility from existing position within the Longham extraction area onto land designed to serve the Spreadoak extraction area: Raymond McLeod (Farms) Ltd – APPROVED.

c) To receive an update regarding Rural Exception Site Housing Scheme.

A meeting with Broadland Housing Association is will take place in the near future to take this matter forward.

8. Highway issues.

a) To receive updates on matters previously reported.

- Speed Limit request – Litcham Road – the C/Cllr requested that this item now be removed from the agenda as a case for the speed limit will be submitted once the funding for Breckland is released, which will be sometime before 2025.

b) To receive an update regarding the pull-in on Hoe Road.

The C/Cllr reported that he continued to await a report from the Highways Technician.

c) To receive an update regarding permissive pathway options.

The Chairman reported that she and Cllr Mitton will be meeting a local landowner to try and establish a safe walking route near the Rectory.

d) To consider any new highway issues.

Council noted that the groups on Wendling Road had been cleared and the groups on the Litcham Road will be reported to Highways.

9. To receive an update in respect of the Playing Field.

Council agreed that the moles active on the playing field should be dealt with.

10. To receive an update regarding the Clay Pits (a county wildlife site).

Cllr O'Brien reported that work will commence next week to plant 500 native hedge plants. The boardwalks will be installed towards the end of March/early April.

The Chairman thanked Cllr O'Brien for his work at the Clay Pits.

11. To receive an update regarding the Village Hall.

The Chairman reported that there had been some cancellations due to Covid but three regular groups continued.

12. To consider approval of a grass cutting contract for the village footpath.

Council considered a quote for the grass cutting and Cllr Dye proposed that the hedge be cut annually together with two cuts of the footpath, with any additional cuts as and when required, this was seconded by Cllr McLeod and unanimously agreed by Council.

13. Finance and Governance.

a) To receive a financial report for the year ending 31st March 2022.

The financial report (attached) was noted.

b) To note the retirement of the appointed internal auditor and to approve a replacement.

Council noted the retirement of the appointed internal auditor and thanked him for his service. Cllr Dye proposed that Mrs Dann be appointed as internal auditor at a cost of £35 for the year ending 31st March 2022, this was seconded by Cllr Dewar and unanimously agreed by Council.

c) To authorise financial payments as set out below.

Cllr Douglas proposed that the following payments be approved, this was seconded by Cllr O'Brien and unanimously agreed by Council.

• Clerk – Salary/Allowance (Dec/Jan) & HMRC Refund	£280.95
• Playing Field – Mole Removal	£327.00 (paid)
• TCV Volunteers (Clay Pit)	£720.00 (paid)
• TCV Volunteers (Clay Pit)	£3,000.00

14. Correspondence for circulation

The public consultation on Regional Transport Strategy was noted.

15. To receive any new items for the next agenda.

There were no new items received for the next agenda.

16. To note the meeting dates for 2022.

Council noted the meeting dates for 2022, as follows:

- Monday 17th January
- Monday 21st March
- Monday 16th May (annual meetings)
- Monday 18th July
- Monday 19th September
- Monday 21st November

17. To note the next meeting of the parish council will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 21st March 2022 in the Village Hall.

Council noted the date of the next parish council meeting and the meeting then closed at 8.10pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

LONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL							
YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022							
FINANCIAL REPORT - JANUARY 2022							
BUDGET UPDATE	Budget	To	%				
	2021/22	date	Spend				
PAYMENTS*							
Admin	1107	858	77%				
Salary	1600	1303	81%				
Open Spaces	500	367	73%				
Donations**	1925	4925	256%				
Defibrillator	0	28					
TOTAL	5132	7453	145%				
Clay Pit Reserve	4100	1390					
RECEIPTS							
Precept	6000	6000	100%				
Bank Interest	0	0					
Wayleaves	0	226					
HMRC	0	6					
Recycling	200	97	49%				
TOTAL	6200	6329	102%				
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	1068	-1123					
<i>*includes payments awaiting approval on this agenda.</i>							
<i>**includes £3000 Donation to Village Hall for football pitch resurfacing</i>							
				Balance at 01.04.2021	11,378.18		
				Plus Receipts at 31.12.2021	11,597.29		
				Less Payments at 31.12.2021	<u>8,933.91</u>		
				TOTAL	<u>14,041.56</u>		
				Bank Balance at 31.12.2021			
				Unity Trust Current Account	14,041.56		
				Unity Trust Instant Access	0.00		
					<u>14,041.56</u>		
				including:			
				Clay Pits Reserve	7,710.23		
				Village Hall Reserve	1,700.00		
				General Reserve	4,631.33		

County Councillor for Necton and Launditch Division Report January 2022

Budget:

The Council will set its budget for financial year 22/23 at a meeting to be held on 21st February. The Council consulted on a proposed council tax increase of 1.99% in the general rate and an increase of 1%, the consultation ended on the 30th December 2021. Cost pressure in the major demand led services of Adult Social Care and Children's Services is the main reason for having to increase the council tax. There are still some work which the government has not carried out (fairer funding review, NDR review, financing of adult social care etc) which will affect the Councils finances in future years.

Covid – Omicron:

We know that the Omicron variant of the Covid virus generally leads to milder illness. However, it still poses a significant risk to the unvaccinated or those who haven't had a booster or those with underlying conditions such as being immunosuppressed. The variant is also much more infectious and thus easily spread. The government has told NCC to expect unprecedented sickness rates over the coming weeks with an estimated 25% of staff being absent. Given the high infection rates our prime objective is to minimise staff infection and isolation to ensure we can deliver our critical services. We are doing this by avoiding bringing staff together unnecessarily (ie work from home) and concentrating our face to face presence on service delivery. If over the coming weeks you or any resident has difficulty accessing NCC services, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mark Kiddle-Morris.

Member for Necton and Launditch.

Norfolk County Council. mark.kiddle-morris.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk