

The Parish Council Meeting of Flitcham cum Appleton Parish Council

Monday 2nd September 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

held at The Community Centre, Flitcham

Present: Susan Allen - Chair Richard Gray
Terry Allen Ann Beasley
Cllr. S Dark
Gill Welham – Clerk

No Members of the Public were present.

02.09.01 Welcome from the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

02.09.02 To receive and consider apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr A. Beales.

02.09.03 To receive Declaration of interest in items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

02.09.04 To approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st July 2024

The minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

02.09.05 Matters arising from the minutes not already on the Agenda

01.07.09 RGray had not yet purchased the bulk supply of batteries for the defibrillator but would do so prior to the next meeting. **Action: RGray**

01.07.13 TAllen was to arrange for the cutting of the War Memorial Hedge by LA Landscapes. However before he was able to request this, the work had been carried out voluntarily by a villager John Blyth. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to JB. **Action: Clerk**

02.09.06 Public Question Time

No members of the public were present for this part of the meeting.

02.09.07 Reports from the councillors of NCC and BCKL&WN

Cllr Dark updated the meeting advising that nothing of great significance had occurred since the previous meeting due to it being the summer season. He had spoken with Highways regarding Abbey Road and the clearing of the ditch and drainage work had now been carried out. The 30 mph 'on road' markings was programmed and would be carried out in the near future, the cost of which was being met by SD from his budget. With regard to the erection of Village Gates, it was felt this would not work and Highways needed to re-think this.

He was due to meet with Highways again next week and would look at the issue with regard to Abbey Road being a single track road with no passing areas. It was discussed that Abbey Road had now become a Roadside Nature Reserve Designation which could possibly result in more traffic. There were concerns that with no passing bays, the roadside nature reserve could be damaged. Cllr Dark would take this up with Highways to look at options. **Action: Cllr Dark**

Budgets were being discussed at County and like everywhere, the problem with trying to balance the books was becoming increasingly difficult. It had been agreed that all Recycling Centres would remain Open but with reduced opening by one day per week. Also, the county had always been more generous with chronic and long term sick assistance than the minimum income guarantee set by Government. However this support will be reduced in line with the National Level.

With regard to the County Deal, Norfolk had negotiated a £20m grant to support the county which was a substantial amount of money. Now, with the change of Government, this opportunity has to be renegotiated. Also, this situation has affected the QE Hospital rebuild which is of great concern as the rebuild was due by 2030. Local MPs are actively lobbying the Government to resolve this matter urgently.

Cllr Dark reminded the PC that the Parish Partnership scheme was open for bids for local Highways improvements.

Cllr Beales tendered his apologies in advance of the meeting and also provided information requested from the previous meeting.

02.09.08 Income & Expenditure / Financial Matters

The 2 Risk Assessments had been issued prior to the meeting for review by the councillors. Following discussion they were approved by all and signed off by the Chair.

Finance

Approval of payments as follows:

Payments made between meetings not yet formally approved

12.07	BACS - LA Garden Maintenance (June)	£50.00
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12.07	BACS - LA Garden Maintenance (July)	£50.00
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Payments for approval at this meeting

01.07	BACS - G Welham (Clerk's Salary & expenses)	£267.04
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01.07	BACS - HMRC (Clerk Tax)	£66.80
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Total Expenditure	£433.84
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Balance in current account	£2,469.82
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Balance in business saver account	£2,392.09
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Total balance remaining	£4,861.91
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02.09.09 To Review the Playground/Defibrillator monthly Inspection Reports

TA had forwarded a Playground Inspection Report prior to the meeting. The ongoing issue with the Playground gate continually sticking had now been resolved. Fittings on the Tower Frame need to have caps fitted. It was agreed unanimously that TA should purchase caps and claim reimbursement for the cost.

There was a discussion regarding the digging out of the footings on the modular tower to fit additional steel feet which has not been carried out as no offers of help have come forward. Discussions took place regarding finding some paid help to carry out the labouring. Cllr Dark suggested he may be able to assist with part funding this. The Clerk was asked to investigate costs for getting paid help. **Action: Clerk**

RG had issued the monthly Defibrillator check lists to ensure it was always ready for use. It was noted that new replacement pads would be required by 28th October. As these would be to replace the 'Spares' it was agreed to hold off replacing them until the last minute. The Clerk had been given permission to purchase replacement pads in advance of the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

02.09.10 To Update re Sandringham Meeting

Councillors had met with Edward Parsons and Gary Marsden regarding the issues experienced with the 2023 Sandringham concerts. There is an upcoming RHS event where 80k visitors over 5 days are expected. It was pointed out that this sort of event was not expected to cause as much of an issue as the big concerts. They agreed there had been some key learnings regarding road closures resulting in rat runs and a complete review of traffic management would be held. There would be a further meeting in January which would involve all the local parishes in the hope that many of the issues experienced in 2023 could be avoided in 2025.

02.09.11 To Agree dates for Defibrillator Training

The Clerk advised 4 residents had expressed an interest in attending a Defibrillator training session. The Clerk was asked to arrange a date for either, Monday 21st, Tuesday 22nd, or Wednesday 23rd October commencing 7pm. Once the date is set, this would be advertised in the Newsletter and on the village FB page. Although the training is not chargeable, the parish would be expected to make a donation to the charity. **Action: Clerk**

02.09.12 To discuss attendance at Parish Update Meeting

The Borough have arranged Parish Update meetings for 12th and 19th September. However, following TA's attendance twice previously where the acoustics were so bad it was difficult to hear what was being said, it was agreed it would be a waste of time for anyone to attend. This point has been made to the Borough Council via email. As Cllr Dark was present, he was asked if he was aware of the issues. It is broadly known that the venue is unsuitable and the council are looking at trying to address this.

02.09.13 Correspondence

Email - BCKL&WN re planning application for cutting back trees at Abbey Road

Email - TRO Norfolk re emergency road closure

Adult Learning Norfolk CC re email request to send monthly newsletter. **Action: Clerk to respond to confirm**

Email - BCKL&WN re consultation of modification of the local planning act

Email - Norfolk CC re roadside Nature Reserve Designation
Email - BCKL&WN – Borough planning Parish Update sessions
Email – Rob Bailey re safety of Lithium batterie
Email - Joe Russell NARS re CPR training
Email - Norfolk CC Highways re invitation to bid for Parish Partnership scheme

02.09.14 Business Extra to the Agenda

There were no additional items for discussion

02.09.15 Date of next meeting: Monday 4th November 2024. Commencing 7:30pm

02.09.16 Action to be taken by the next meeting:

Clerk

- Write thank you letter to John Blyth
- Confirm dates for Defibrillator training
- Purchase spare defibrillator pads end October
- Accept adult learning Newsletter

R Gray

- Purchase AAA batteries for defibrillator cabinet

Cllr Dark

- Take up issue of single track on Abbey Road with Highways

Items for Next Meeting

The meeting closed at 8:50 pm.