

Annual Parish Council Meeting held at Hardwick on 29th September 2021

Present: David Alexander (Chairman), Jeremy Alexander, Andrew Penn, Jeremy Styles, Mark Cann, and Josephine Murgatroyd (Clerk).

Apologies: Miles Moseley, Alison Thomas (County Councillor) and Michael Edney (District Councillor)

There was one Parishioner present.

1 Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th May 2021 were read, confirmed and signed.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Defibrillator

Unfortunately, a replacement cabinet was not offered by the manufacturer. However, as the defibrillator and cabinet were going to be fitted into a kiosk, then as the crack was only in one skin, there should be no issue over its use.

The Chairman confirmed that he was still waiting for the electrician to be available to complete the installation and would contact him further.

Shelton School

It was understood that the Diocese were considering using the building as an office. No further information was available at this stage.

Highways

Alison Thomas had contacted the Highways Department about the installation of hazard warning markers on Low Road, Shelton and the engineer had said he would look at the location and respond with what was possible. Nothing further had been heard, but the temporary marker posts installed in December when the road was flooded had to be removed. This was because, the verge was cut in the summer and the cutting had knocked over these metal rods. Unfortunately, there would appear to be no other solution due to the verge being very narrow along the edge of the ditch. It was suggested that if the Highways Department could provide spare hazard marker posts then these could be utilised if necessary.

FP4 Shelton

Alison Thomas had spoken to the Officer for an update and was informed that the damaged bridge would be repaired in early summer. The condition of the bridge had further deteriorated and the barriers put up to block the footpath had been removed. The Clerk had contacted the relevant officer and was informed that the work had not been done due to a delay in obtaining the required materials. Work had however been done to block off the access to the footpath.

County Broadband

An update had been received to the effect that only three more households need to sign up to make the scheme viable. It was understood that sufficient interest had been expressed in Fritton and Morningthorpe to enable the roll out of broadband to proceed.

Village Sign

This was still with Jeremy Alexander for safe keeping and will be placed back into position next year after the winter. It was anticipated that the post need repair work to ensure the sign did not fall off again.

Village Well

The Clerk had spoken to Gordon Wilson who was prepared to do the work next year.

3. Correspondence

The PC decided to accept the offer of a Plaque from the Lord Lieutenant delivered to all rural communities in Norfolk to mark the pandemic and the “communities’ care and thought for each other”. The Plaque is enameled aluminium with the words - “To commemorate our community’s resilience in the year of the pandemic 2020-2021”

Information had been received from South Norfolk Council about the sharing of services with Broadland District Council including a new website.

Regular updates were received from Norfolk Constabulary via Operation Randall newsletters, emails warning of scams and various meetings. Visits were made to all parishes over the summer including Hardwick and Shelton.

Regular newsletters were also received from NALC including one about ‘Digging Up Norfolk’. This was about the need for offshore wind farms to connect to the National Grid via cables laid from the coast across Norfolk. A number of Town and Parish Councils directly impacted have launched a campaign for the installation of Offshore Transmission Network and are asking for support from all Councils in Norfolk. The PC decided to add their support.

4. Planning

a) Erection of 25metre Lattice Mast, Hardwick

Andrew Penn informed the Parish Council that nothing further had been heard about the erection of the mast.

b) Barn behind Street Farm Barn, Hardwick

The application to extend the size of the previously approved development by making it two storey with a balcony, carport and a different vehicular access was granted by South Norfolk Council after it was called in to be considered by the Planning Committee.

c) Storage Pad, Anson’s Lane

An application to build a storage pad for agricultural use was approved by SNDC.

d) The Firs, Shelton

The application for a new agricultural barn was approved by South Norfolk Council following a reduction in the height by one metre.

e) The Laurels, Hardwick

Applications for listed building consent for a) the rebuilding of a damaged chimney stack, b) partial removal of fireplaces and installation of wood burning stoves and c) replacement of rotten timber frame and rendering in lime mortar were approved by the Parish Council and approved by South Norfolk Council.

f) The Beeches, Shelton Common

An application for a single storey extension and erection of a double garage was considered by the Parish Council and approved. A request for the removal of the metal container at the front of the property on the common would be made.

g) Long Stratton Bypass

Amended plans had been submitted with a bridge still proposed over Hall Road instead of a roundabout. An email had been circulated to all Councillors. No further comments were to be made in addition to those already made by the Parish Council.

h) South Norfolk Village Clusters – Housing Allocation Plan – The District Council had organised a number of village clusters. The Parish had been placed in a cluster with Hempnall, Fritton and Morningthorpe. Only landowners in Hempnall had put forward possible sites for housing. The PC decided not to comment on these sites put forward for consideration.

5. Accounts

The current balance was £1,332.42 which included the refund of VAT. The audit had been completed.

The current balance included the CIL payment of £175.46 which had been allocated to pay the electrician's invoice for the electrical work in respect of installing the defibrillator and cabinet into the kiosk.

The PC considered the precept for 2021-22 and it was proposed by the Clerk, seconded by the Chairman that the precept should be kept at £1,030. This was agreed by the Parish Council.

6. Meeting Suspended for Public Participation

There was none.

7. Any Other Business

There was none.

8.. Date of Next Meeting

This was fixed for 7th December 7.30pm

The Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Chairman
2021

Payments:- Village Hall Hire - £15.00