

MULBARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at

7.30pm on Monday 5th October 2015

Councillors present:-

Peter Leigh Bev Leek Richard Tucker John Joyce Steve Sewell Victoria Goff

First Public Session.**1.1 Police Report.**

PCSO Sore reported that between 7 September and midnight 4 October there had been two reported crimes: burglary from a dwelling and common assault. During the same time period there were no calls regarding noise, nuisance or antisocial behaviour. Cllr Leigh reported that the Parish Council would be reporting that the gate from the hardcourt area had been stolen. PCSO Sore reported that the Safer Neighbourhood Team had a new Inspector who would like to attend the next meeting to make a presentation and conduct a question and answer session.

1.2 District and County Councillors' Report.

County Councillor Foulger reported that NCC would shortly be having a meeting regarding unitary authority; there is an emergency full council meeting on Thursday that may be due to today's announcement that central support grants are being stopped and local councils will be receiving business rates liable in their areas. Cllr Foulger has received notification about new 20 mph restrictions; these will apply to most of village. Cllr Foulger reported he would follow up on reports of large delivery lorries being in the vicinity of school, and causing traffic problems, at the weekend.

District Councillor Legg reported that the Government Inspector had agreed the joint core strategy and SNC would be having a meeting on 19 October to ratify this, this will have a bearing on where development can take place. He reminded the meeting that there is no longer a five year land supply. Cllr Legg reported that along with Cllr Leek he had had a walk round with a representative from Saffron Housing to identify issues and problems which it is hoped will be addressed to help tidy up areas of the village.

1.3 Public Session

No members of the public wished to speak at this time.

2.0 To close the meeting to public participation.

Cllr Leigh closed the meeting to public participation and formally started the Parish Council meeting.

3.0 To receive and consider apologies for absence.

All Councillors were in attendance.

4.0 To receive declaration of interest on items on the agenda.

Cllrs Goff, Tucker and Joyce declared an interest in relation to agenda item 13.

5.0 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 7th September 2015.

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2015 were unanimously agreed as a true record of the meeting and duly signed after proposal by Cllr Leek and seconding by Cllr Goff.

6.0 Finance -To receive financial report and approve invoices for payment as per schedule.

A proposed schedule of payments was handed out for approval in addition to copies of the latest financial summary. Following proposal by Cllr Leek and seconding by Cllr Joyce all payments were duly passed. A copy of payments is attached to these minutes.

Cllr Joyce reported that he would like to discuss/review the Council's financial risk assessment at the next meeting and then the 2016/2017 budget at the December meeting prior to precept setting at the January meeting.

6.1 Work scope and quotes for tree surgeon.

Cllr Leigh reported that only one contractor had replied enclosing a quote and this was for completion of a survey with remedial work highlighted by the survey being priced and quoted for separately. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that Cllr Leigh should contact the tree surgeon that recently carried out work for the Rich's Trust, and within a £500 limit arrange to have the work completed.

7.0 Formal approval of the Mulbarton Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Joyce reported that Cllrs had received, prior to this evenings meeting, three documents for consideration:

i. Submission version of the MNP - which is effectively the version previously approved by MPC at its April meeting; ii. Independent Examiners Report - which is her review of the submission version; iii. Referendum version of the MNP - which is the proposed final report based on previous work and the Examiner's report.

Cllr Joyce stated that he would be asking MPC this evening to do three things: formally accept the Examiner's report, formally approve the Referendum version of the MNP and proceed to the next steps.

Cllr Joyce reported that the Examiner has made 20 changes to the submission version, to fit with the government's strong presumption in favour of development, particularly economic development. Most were minor changes to the wording, in some cases making no apparent material difference to the original intention. The three more significant changes relate to parts of the Plan where the

parish council decided to retain its proposals, which addressed particular concerns of residents, knowing they were always likely to conflict with the basic conditions.

The significant changes were:

To delete HOU 1 - which reduced the housing to be approved in the village to the minimum level in the Local Plan. Although disappointing, the village is no worse off than it is now.

Delete ECN 2 – The government’s presumption in favour of economic development prevents putting any significant restrictions on where new businesses can be placed.

Reword TRA 2 – the plan tried to quantify how much extra traffic could come through the heart of the village from new development. The precise quantification is not allowed under government rules. However, the Examiner’s wording retains the original sentiment but is less prescriptive than liked.

There are also four new typographical changes:

Page 3 - insert “virtually” before “no street lights” in penultimate line.

Page 12 – modify last paragraph of HOU1 to precisely match the Examiner’s requirement, even though it doesn’t change the sense of what is written

Page 17 – In making the changes the Plan has inadvertently “lost” the reference to preferring development which has direct access to the B1113. It cannot be included in a policy, but because of the strength of community feeling on the matter we propose to add a sentence to the penultimate paragraph: “Development proposals which have direct access to the B1113 will be particularly effective in addressing this issue.”

Page 29 – insert the word “flooding” at the end of the first sentence of ENV4.

Cllr Joyce stated that he would check again for any residual typographical errors/grammatical errors/punctuation and make any necessary minor changes.

Cllr Joyce continued that if MPC agreed to accept the Examiners report and the draft MNP, the next steps were that SNC would seek approval, from their Cabinet at its November meeting, of the Examiners report. SNC have asked that MPC formally accept the Examiner’s report before their Cabinet meets. Following this will be discussions with SNC about the next steps including: agree a date for the community referendum, which SNC will organise; commission some graphics work to improve presentation; print enough copies of the MNP to distribute to all residents in advance of the referendum.

Cllr Joyce concluded that, whilst the MNP does not fully meet all community aspirations, in his opinion the Examiner was generally sympathetic to what the NPT were seeking to achieve and has tried to retain all those aspirations, in a climate of government presumption in favour of development, using language which is consistent with the Basic Conditions. It’s not ideal but it’s a massive step forward.

Cllr Leigh wished it to go record that whilst recognising the effort that the MNP team had put in to the project to date it was disappointing that the final plan was not going to be what was really wanted.

Following discussion where it was clarified that HOU1 in the referendum version is that that was previously HOU2 and that although the plan may be seen as a watered down version of what parishioners wanted and the true test will be what happens if a future development is challenged, having the plan will bear some weight for developer to consider.

Cllr Joyce proposed that MPC accept the Examiners Report, this was seconded by Cllr Tuckers and was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Joyce proposed that MPC approve the Referendum Version of the MNP, subject to minor changes as previously discussed, and formally adopted it; this was seconded by Cllr Tucker and was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Joyce proposed that the MNP committee be given delegated authority to progress onto the next steps of the process, including any other minor typographical errors found; this was seconded by Cllr Tucker and was unanimously agreed.

8.0 MPC website update and proposal to purchase IT equipment.

Cllr Leigh reported that good progress was being made on the new MPC website, however it has been identified that the office computer is not suitable for maintaining the new web site due to its age and the fact that it uses Microsoft Vista. Following discussion and review of the cost analysis of new processors it was proposed by Cllr Leigh and seconded by Cllr Leek that a Zoostorm Home Media PC is purchased together with a separate backup hard drive be purchased with a budget limit of £450. This was unanimously agreed.

9.0 Proposal to erect a Village Christmas tree.

Cllr Sewell reported that he had made some preliminary enquiries about costs for a 12-15 foot tree and solar lights. Following discussion it was agreed Cllr Sewell would put together a cost plan/analysis together for the next meeting; he confirmed that there should be no issues from an insurance perspective if using solar lights and that permission would be needed from the land owner if it was to be placed on the Common. Cllr Sewell will also look at where it would be best sited following suggestions about locations.

10.0 Welcome booklet update.

Cllr Goff reported that from reviewing the current booklet there was nothing contained in it that wasn't already available on the village website or the soon to be MPC site. Cllr Goff suggested that the two websites should be promoted on the community group Facebook site as most of the answers to questions asked there could be found on either website. Cllr Goff reported that the residents she had spoken to hadn't received a copy. Following discussion it was agreed that a version of a welcome booklet would be put onto the MPC site with copies available for those not online and that the notice boards should be used to promote both websites when the MPC one is online, and that a printed copy of the booklet were available on request from the Clerk.

11.0 Bus café – lease agreement and terms,

Cllr Leigh reported that there had been interest from outside the village about the bus. Following discussion it was clarified that the bus would be green and that it is mobile as this was a condition of the planning application, which can be viewed online; it was also discussed that the lease would be granted by MPC who already have lease agreements with the Scouts, Football Club, EE and cricket club. Cllr Leigh proposed and was seconded by Cllr Leek that he is given delegated authority to arrange a draft lease and this would be presented to the full council before being signed, this was unanimously agreed.

12.0 Feasibility of a MUGA project.

Following review of provisional costings from a MUGA supplier and additional work that would be needed such as re-tarmacking the area, it was discussed if there was a proven need for such a facility, was there a local organisation that would lease the area and peruse the project. It was also discussed if there was no proven need should the area be refurbished; Cllr Joyce asked if this was something that should be reviewed when MPC look at the budget setting process. It was concluded that whatever action was ultimately proposed it would need someone to champion the project.

13.0 Proposal to make a grant to MVHMC towards toilet refurbishments.

Cllr Tucker reported that the MVHMC are not asking MPC for money as they anticipate getting enough funds from SNC through their grant application and at this stage all they are asking is for MPC to give support in principle to their plans and grant application. It was confirmed that MPC had given their support to the application although the final decision on any grant awarded would be made by SNC based on the information supplied by MVHMC. Following discussion it was agreed that that this matter would be put on hold until when or if MVHMC approached the Council for financial support at which time it would be considered in line with MPCs grant policy.

14.0 Proposal from Hare Close resident for grit bin.

Following discussion it was agreed that subject to Highways approval regarding a suitable site to position the bin on Hare Close one would be purchased. Cllr Leek to liaise with Highways. Following discussion it was agreed that although MPC would provide this bin any other requests would be considered based on their individual merits.

15.0 To review and update planning applications.

2015/2217 - 14 Wild Radish Close, NR14 8DB -First floor extention over lobby at front of dwelling. This application was received today. Cllr Sewell will review the application and ensure that any response is made by the return deadline of 21 October 2015.

16.0 Correspondence requiring consideration.

Email/letter from SNC, re local plan inspectors report – for information: South Norfolk Local Plan, site specific allocations and policies document, development management policies document and Wymondham area action plan; receipt of Inspectors report.

Letter from Mr Mickleburgh, re. bus/catering unit petition dated July – August 2015.

Email/letter from NCC, re delivering highway improvements in partnership with Town and Parish Councils 2016/17 addition of pothole repairs.

Email from trusts Officer at East Anglian Air Ambulance, re financial support. Following discussion Cllrs decided to decline financial assistance as MPC is already supporting the local First Responders Group.

Email from NCC, re 20mph speed limits in Mulbarton. For information: copy of order to be published 16 October 2015.

Email from Norfolk ALC, re Norfolk's older people's strategic partnership. For information: new three year strategy published.

17.0 Sub-committee/liaison officer reports.

Cllr Leigh reported: The new roundabout at the Meadows paly area should be completed tomorrow.

SNC have started work on the Ponds, Cllr Leigh has a meeting with SNC on 12 October to discuss the area between the Village Hall complex and the Church. Brambles along the B1113 and the main pond need cutting.

There are a few areas on the play area safety inspection report that still needed to be completed. Cllr Leigh asked all to report in anything obvious when walking around the village.

The Jubilee Garden needs some work, thanks to Mr Creasey who has previous maintained the area. Norse will be cutting the outer hedge during half term week. The idea of a volunteer day was mooted to tidy up the area for winter.

Cllr Tucker reported: MVHMC had their AGM on 24 September, following the election of officers there are no changes in personnel. Cllrs Tucker and Joyce have become trustees as has someone from Puddleducks and two from Peacocks children's group. Accounts up to 24 September show £17700 in the bank and a large reduction in running costs based on the previous year; it is anticipated that the next big expenditure will be the upgrading of the fire system.

Cllr Tucker reported that he had attended the Mulbarton Words Week's AGM; the organisers acknowledged receipt of MPC's support and are planning a similar event for next year.

18.0 To receive any items for inclusion in the next agenda.

- MNP: Resident's suggestions not covered by scope/brief of a Neighbourhood Plan.
- Presentation from Norfolk Constabulary, Safer Neighbourhood Team.

To adjourn the meeting for the 2nd public session.

Thanks were offered for MPC looking at feasibility of MUGA and that a local business owner was surveying interest in the local community.

A meeting with SNC re the toilet refurbishment is planned for Tuesday and although MPPC had not been asked for any financial support towards the project depending on the outcome of the grant there may be a request with regards to upgrading the disable toilet facilities.

In response to a question about the recycling bins being re-sited it was confirmed that their new location would not affect social club deliveries.

Two disable parking signs are on the wall either side of the hatched area by the main doors, if there is an issue with disable parking then MPC needs to be informed.

It was suggested that the village Christmas tree could be located by the village sign.

In response to a query about litter picking, Cllr Leek reported that she would liaise with SNC and plan in another community litter pick during half term week.

MALGA representative kindly offered their services to cut the inner hedge at the Jubilee Gardens, Cllr Leigh accepted and thanked those concerned for their support of this community asset.

In answer to a question relating to fly posting in the village, Cllr Leigh stated that SNC had informed MPC that members of the public have a right to remove fly posting that is on common land.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 2nd November 2015 at 7.30pm.

Payments for September 2015

Cheque Number	Recipient	Details	Net total	Vat	Amount £'s
151344	9 to 5 Supplies	Toner/drum unit	55.08	11.02	66.10
151345	9 to 5 Supplies	Toner	27.79	5.56	33.35
151346	Norse Eastern Ltd	Ground Maintenance	832.22	166.44	998.66
151347	MVHMC	Room Hire: July - Aug - Sept	45.00		45.00
151348	NCC	Car Park resurfacing	22992.79	4598.56	27591.35
151349	A Phillips	Expenses – 2 nd class stamps	12.96		12.96
151350	A Phillips	Salary	543.59		543.59
151351	HMRC	PAYE	137.67		137.67
151352	Small Fish	Consultancy Fees invoice 0601	300.00	60.00	360.00
		Total for month:	24947.10	4841.58	29788.68