

North Creake Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of North Creake held in the Village Hall, North Creake on Thursday 8th February 2024 at 6.30 pm.

Present: Councillors A Bunkle (Chair), J Brettingham Smith (Vice-Chair), S Sandell, S Baker, J Robinson, A. Culshaw, and L Fletcher (Clerk/RFO).
Member of Public: 1

Hardcopies of the councils standing orders were distributed to all Councillors at the start of the meeting.

1. The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were accepted from Cllr J. Rocklin
3. **Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items:** None Declared
4. The Minutes of the meetings held on 11th January 2023 were circulated before the meeting. It was agreed that they were a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman, Cllr A Bunkle.
5. **Parishioners Questions and Statements:** A parishioner attended and requested that the council arrange for the Willow tree on the village green to be tidied up as there are several dead limbs still present on the tree, the council agreed to liaise with the tree surgeon working for Althorp Estate (the freeholders of the land) to get this work done, however it would be when the tree was back in leaf in order to ascertain which branches were in fact dead rather than dormant. It was also noted that larger dead branches were important habitats for insects and under the Councils Bio-Diversity policy and obligations that these should be left, it was agreed that where possible the tree should be cut back for safety reasons only and not aesthetic reasons, Cllr Culshaw to advise on branches that should be left for insect habitats.
6. **Reports from County and Borough Councillor:**
Both Borough and County Councillors were unable to attend the meeting and sent their apologies, Cllr C. Morley sent a report which was read to the meeting and noted.
7. **Clerks Report / Matter arising from previous meeting.**
The Clerk went through the Clerks report and updated the Council on matters from the November and December meetings:
 - a. Proposed Footpath from Millenium Green to Abbey Lane. Althorp Estate have advised that they cannot currently grant access because they are entering into organic conversion in North Creake.
 - b. Replacement bin for playing field and removal of the two existing old bins. The new bin has arrived and G. Tooth contacted to quote for the work. Quote not yet received.
 - c. Dog bin behind village hall. KLWNBC have been contacted and form received to organise collection from proposed new dog bin. Village hall have given verbal permission for access for KLWNBC to service the bin, however written permission required which should be received soon. Dog mess bin will cost £192.01 + VAT, cost of collection is £2 + Vat per collection. It was Agreed to go ahead with this project and order the bin.
 - d. Repair to phone box glass – G Tooth has been contacted and requested to quote, he expects cost to below £100 so Clerks discretionary approval used to expediate the work.
 - e. Installation of shroud around light at end of Village Hall drive (light no 9021). Cozens have been contacted for quote, but none received prior to the meeting. Clerk to chase.
 - f. New electricity supplier. Indigo Swan (Energy Brokers) have been contacted and advise that they require a new letter of authority as the previous one has expired, they also advise that the cost is £175 per annum per supply, the council agreed to use them but only for the main supply for the streetlights as their charge for the Christmas lights supply exceeds the actual cost of supply.
 - g. Precept. Clerk advised that the precept figure agreed at the previous meeting was higher than required due to reserve funds covering some of the budget requirement. The amended figure is £16807, this was agreed.

8. Training – The Clerk advised that he is eligible to start CiLCA training with Norfolk ALC in the March intake due to previous experience, the course costs are £250 for the course and £450 for the portfolio submission. This was agreed by the council.
9. Councils / Clerks reference materials – The Clerk advised that the council should have copies of two books, The Clerks Manual 2023 and Local Council Administration 13th Edition, neither of which the council currently has. Both are available at a reduced rate for SLCC members, membership of the SLCC is currently £80 as it is based on the Clerks salary. The council Agreed to pay for the Clerk to join the SLCC and to order both books.

10. Open Spaces

- a. 1. SAM 2 Sign – the clerk advised that the sign on Wells Road had recorded 2506 vehicles, the average speed was 20mph with the 85th percentile being 26.9mph, the max speed recorded was 40mph. It was noted that these figures are probably less than usual due to the Anglian Water tankers pumping out water along Wells Road.
 - a. 2. Speeding offence update – Malcolm Fitzsimmons advises that he will have an operative back soon and that he has set up the new site as requested along West Street.
 - b. Play area inspection – Nothing to note other than the goal posts – see item 10 I
 - c. Wild Flowers – Cllr Culshaw reported back, it was agreed to approach the Village Hall to discuss the possibility of using the verges along the village hall drive as trial areas, Cllr Culshaw & Cllr Rocklin to discuss this with the Village hall committee. Clerk to contact Hunstanton Town council for advice on maintenance and sourcing of seed.
 - d. Trees on Old School Field – a small working party to be organised to carry out this work.
 - e. Millenium Green – It was noted that the tankers used by Anglian Water have caused serious damage to the Millenium Green, Clerk to raise the issue with Grant Tuffs the Regional Engagement Officer at Anglian Water
 - f. Land at Shammer – Costs to develop this as an income stream for the village are very high, it was therefore agreed to take no further action.
 - g. Flooding / River Burn – Feedback given from the open meeting held in Burnham Market on 6th Feb, it was noted that whilst it was interesting and informative it focused mainly on Burnham Market and South Creake. The main topic affecting North Creake was the sewers which were relined in 2023 and we were assured are suitable for the village and include capacity for any further development in the village, however one of the problems is water ingress into the system from pipes that are on private land and therefore outside of the control of Anglian Water.
 - h. Pumping of water from Creake House. The Council were advised that this no longer being pumped onto the highway.
 - i. Goal posts on village playing field – These need repair or replacement, the clerk advised that the cost of replacement varies greatly but the goals we have are made from steel so may be repairable, it was agreed for the clerk to contact Acton Engineering to get a quote for repair.
 - j. Village litter pick – it agreed to organise this for 24th March at 10am, meeting at the Bus Stop.
 - k. Damage to bench on village green – It was agreed to contact G. Tooth to get a quote for the repair work needed.
 - l. Site for new Litter bin on playing field – It was agreed to site the new bin between the playing area and the gate along the west fence of the field.
9. Footway lighting – No issues reported to the clerk prior to the meeting

11. Finance

- a. Payments under Late Payments Interest Act – None
 - b. Accounts for payment, the following payments were agreed.

Npower – Streetlighting	£704.76	
Glasdon – Litter Bin	£281.06	
Parish Online – Digital mapping and asset management		£24.30
 - c. Finances Received – None
 - d. The January 2024 Financial Statement was agreed.
12. Correspondence received – New planning rules press release from KLWNBC was distributed and noted by councillors.

13.

a. Planning applications received.

23/01996/F – Amendments to the Old Post Office application were noted however the council had no further comments to make.

APPEAL – Holkham View, 115 Burnham Market ref APP/V2635/W/23/3326108 Applicants decision to appeal the refusal of planning permission was noted, the council felt they had no further comments to make in addition to the ones made when the original application came before the council.

b. Applications approved/refused – None.

13. Date of next meeting – Thursday 14th March

14. Meeting closed: 8.25pm

.....Chairman

.....Dated

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