**Trowse with newton Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Full Council, held on 20th February 2023 in The Manor Rooms, Trowse at 7.15pm.**

**PRESENT**

Cllr P. Greenizan (Chair for this meeting), Cllr A Greenizan, Cllr Long, Cllr Haynes, Cllr Barnes, Cllr Owen, Cllr Bowers (Via Teams link) Kate Leggett (Clerk) Cllr Neal (District), and PC Sneddon.

**087 (001) APOLOGIES**

Cllr King and Cllr Thomson.

**088 (002) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

Cllrs on the Manor Rooms Management Committee and Cllrs who are allotment holders.

**089 (003) MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on the 16th January 2023 were **AGREED and signed.**

**090 (004) PUBLIC FORUM**

**a)**

**District report –** at the end of these minutes - report added to website

**County report** – at the end of these minutes - report added to website. The clerk had received a copy of Cllr Thomson report ahead of the meeting.

Due to his time constraints PC Sneddon took the floor and gave an update on current issues in the village. This mainly centred on Anti-Social Behaviour Orders for drivers down Whitlingham Lane. PC Sneddon advised those present that the police have issued 12 Section 59 warning to drivers.

Some discussion took place around the May Gurney site and buildings. PC Sneddon stated that he could increase patrols when possible. Cllr Long commented that it was sad to see pockets of graffiti that had popped up of late in the village. A lot of this is centred on the May Gurney buildings.

**b) Public**

More discussions took place around the parking scheme with a resident that stated that she had not spoken to anyone in the village that supported the scheme. The Clerk informed those present that we are still waiting for dates as to when the final consultation will be held but the documents have now been received back by Highways from NPLaw.

**091 (005) MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (UPDATE FROM THE CLERK)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Decisions/Actions** | **Delegated to** |
| Block Hill/Whitlingham wicket gate repair | Clerk - Ongoing |
| Police article for newsletter | Clerk – Clerk spoke to PC Sneddon about this.  |
| Coronation Event details | Clerk – Clerk updated members about the plans for this event |
| SNT contact | Clerk advised that forms for Community Speedwatch had been sent out and that once everyone has completed them suitable locations will be found and training can begin.  |
| Cemetery bins | Clerk – Clerk to speak to Cllr Greenizan about what she thought was appropriate.  |

**092 (006) COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Open Spaces

* Cllr Own took councillors through the updates from the Open Spaces Committee as he chaired the meeting in Cllr Price’s absence.
* Playground repair has been booked in for the week commencing 6th March.
* Council will undertake a twice-yearly inspection of the benches on the common.
* Extra wildflower seeds are to be planted on the common to fill gaps left by those that did not survive the winter.

There followed a discussion around the new yellow and red Newton Close signs. Some people expressed their views and the reason behind the colour choice was discussed. Clerk to bring a selection of options to the next meeting.

Finance

* Cllr Haynes gave a brief update the Finance committee. Ongoing banking issues are slowly being sorted out.
* The updated Terms of Reference have been agreed and a new Disaster Recovery and Continuity Plan has been agreed by this committee. This shall go before Full Council for approval.

Personnel and Communications

* No meeting this month.

**093 (007) FINANCE**

a – Bank reconciliation had been sent to Cllrs in advance. **All agreed and Bank Reconciliation signed**

b – Agree payments/receipts for December 22. **All agreed and signed**

**094 (008) PLANNING**

The clerk gave a brief update on the situation regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. The Regulation 14 consultation has now closed and comments are being looked at by our consultants. The next NP steering group meeting will be on the 2nd March when the group will discuss the findings of the REG 14 consultations and make changes to the draft plan as appropriate.

**095 (009) OPEN SPACES**

**Common**

a – As previously mentioned the playground repairs will take place in the week beginning the 6th March

**Allotments**

b – Clerk gave Councillors an update on the allotment waiting list.

**Highways and Open Spaces**

c – Parking scheme. Still awaiting date from NCC legal department. See section 4 above.

**096 (010) EVENTS**

The clerk updated those present with details on the coronation event. All funds raised will go to a local charity as yet to be decided. As it stands:

**Food vendors will be:**

Rivergreen with a Vegan BBQ

Hog Roast by MickNics

African Kitchen with west African street food

Outside bar supplied by The Crown Point pub

Ronaldo’s ice cream cart

Activities:

* Pocket money traditional games such as hoopla, hook-a-duck, crazy golf, and soft archery
* Friends Of Trowse School arranging some activities for children
* Tombola with large and small prizes
* Craft stalls in the Manor Rooms and “have a go” sessions on the common.
* Plant stall run by the Allotment holders to raise funds for the chosen charities

The Clerk will be producing posters etc in the coming weeks.

**097 (011) POLICIES**

a – Bullying and Harassment Policy. **Policy had been read by all. all in favour. Bullying and Harassment Policy adopted.**

b – Complaints Policy. **Policy had been read by all. all in favour. Complaints Policy adopted.**

C – Vexatious Complaints Policy. **Policy had been read by all. all in favour. Vexatious Complaints Policy adopted.**

**098 (012) AOB**

Village history project. The Clerk gave an update of the progress of this project. Discussions were held about what format the overall project could have and how we could go about displaying this information. Cllr Barnes suggested that we have a designated page on the website.

Cllr A Greenizan informed people that £85.67 had been collected for the Norfolk Wildlife Trust at the Christmas Light Switch on.

Cllr Greenizan is also going to provide the clerk with an article for the next newsletter about pollinators and their importance in nature.

**099 (013) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting is **Monday 20th March 2023** at 7.15pm in The Manor Rooms. Cllrs A Greenizan and Haynes gave the clerk their apologies for this meeting.

**Meeting closed at 8.32pm.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Decisions/Actions** | **Delegated to** |
| Block Hill/Whitlingham wicket gate repair | Clerk |
| Cemetery bin signage | Clerk |

**District and County Reports**

**District Councillor Report – February 2023**



**Pub of the Year**

I had the pleasure of visiting three pubs in South Norfolk recently.

These were the three that had received the highest number of votes from the public to win the Pub of the Year award for 2023, and it’s worth knowing we received over 1000 nominations for this Award, so the three finalists are all winners.

Myself and two others had the job of judging out of these three who should be the winner and this will be announced at our Business Awards in March.

**Domain Migration**

It has been 19 months since our joint website went live and we are now approaching the final stages of the migration project to switch off the old domains. So, this means:

• All emails that go to our old email name @s-norfolk.gov.uk, will stop forwarding and will not be received and senders will get a generic email to say they have not been delivered.

• The old websites will also stop re-directing.

**Community Resilience Plan**



With Christmas a distant memory it's tempting to think that the worst Winter weather is behind us. However, some of our coldest weather and heaviest snow often occurs in February and early March.

It’s worth planning for severe weather and in particular how your community might be affected by loss of power, gas or water during a severe cold snap.

One of the best ways to do this is to produce a Community Emergency Response Plan, which details the resources, networks and contacts your community can use to respond to all kinds of emergencies.

Your community has lots of useful resources available, such as:

• People willing to check on vulnerable neighbours, pick up shopping and medicine or offer lifts.

• Equipment such as generators, portable lights and other tools.

• A convenient meeting place such as a village hall where people can come and get support and a hot drink.

• Detailed knowledge of local risks.

Having a plan in place makes it easier to tap into these resources

**Modern slavery**

Modern slavery and human trafficking are crimes in which people are exploited for other people’s personal gain. It takes place all over the world, including Norfolk.

The types of exploitation can include, but are not limited to:

* Sexual exploitation: sex work, escort work, pornography, massage parlours, brothels.
* Organ harvesting: removal of organs for black market sale, transplantation.
* Domestic servitude: nannies, cleaners, housemaids.
* Forced begging: forced labour, street begging, pickpocketing/stealing.
* Labour exploitation: construction, farming, textiles, car washes, nail bars, cannabis production

In Norfolk in 2021:

143 National Referral Mechanisms (NRM) were completed. The NRM is a framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support.

71% of reported modern slavery cases involved women and girls. Female victims made up most sexual exploitation cases with more than 50% being minors.

55% of confirmed victims of forced labour exploitation, were children.

The signs of exploitation are visible in plain sight, providing you know what to look for, and once you notice something, there is often anxiety about what to do next.

If you would like to know more please explore the Norfolk Anti-Slavery Network website: www.norfolkantislaverynetwork.

**Active Now** 

Active Norfolk and Waveney (NoW) is a co-ordination centre for physical activity referrals from the NHS. Commissioned by Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System, Active NoW will be a single point of triage for all physical activity opportunities across the county.

Clinicians can refer patients who would benefit from increased levels of activity who will then be contacted by Active NoW staff who will discuss the patient’s goals, capabilities and wider support needs before directing then to the most appropriate form of activity. This could be formal exercise referral programmes such as Broadly Active, or independent, general exercise options such as health walks, parkrun or community-based exercise classes, etc.

The Active NoW team will maintain contact with the patients to judge their progress over 12 weeks and plan a suitable exit route before reporting back to the referring clinician. Residents living in Broadland or South Norfolk and in need of wider support will be assisted by the appropriate service through the Help Hub.

South Norfolk and Broadland Councils have successfully been contracted to deliver this service across the county on a 12-month recurrent contract. The coordination centre started formally receiving referrals from 23/1/23. Both councils will continue to deliver the Broadly Active exercise referral programme to eligible residents within both districts, alongside a small amount of commissioned delivery in Norwich.

The Councils have also received funding through the Better Care Fund to test referrals to the programme from non-traditional sources such as Adult Social Care and Social prescribers.

**Yours Creatively**

Starting this month, we are running a project named Yours Creatively, which is included in residents’ Yours Sincerely newsletters. Yours Sincerely is posted to community groups and individual residents throughout South Norfolk who have registered to receive the free newsletter. It contains information regarding the Help Hub services available, engaging chat, recipes, wellbeing advice and information about other community events taking place. The aim of the newsletter is to reach out to those more socially isolated in communities so they can feel engaged and are aware of what help is available from the council.

Yours Creatively is an addition to this newsletter with the aim of promoting good mental health and wellbeing through a creative outlet. Working with local artists, five different art projects have been created that can be done at home/in a community group and recipients will also receive a small pack of art materials to enable them to take part. Each project has a theme to explore and includes different written exercises as well as a wide variety of different art techniques to learn and put into practice.

Residents have the option of sending back their work to us in a freepost envelope with a view to creating a public exhibition in the community this Summer.

If you’re aware of any community groups that would benefit from receiving the Yours Sincerely/Yours Creatively newsletter, please let them know about it, they can email communities@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk with their group name and address to be added to the mailing list. If you’re aware of any individuals, please get their consent before sending these details over to us.

**Mindful Towns and Villages**

We want to make South Norfolk a 'Mindful District' by offering community groups and small businesses two types of free mental health training and support from our Help Hub, we will support towns and villages to achieve 'Mindful Town' or 'Mindful Village' status, with the tools to develop a community-led network of Wellbeing Champions.

To be recognised as a 'Mindful Town or Village', several representatives from the local community need to commit to becoming Wellbeing Champions. These could be members from sports clubs, pubs, small local businesses, community organisations, the Town/Parish Council, or any other local community pillars.

These representatives will be offered free training, which will enable them to recognise mental health issues and provide low-level support to individuals in the community. Wellbeing Champions will also be given knowledge on the Councils’ Help Hub, local services and how to refer people to a specialist mental health support worker should a resident need further assistance.

When the required number of individuals have completed the training in the area, the Town/ Village will receive window stickers to make residents aware where they can seek support. These can be displayed to show that the place is a safe place to talk and has a Wellbeing Champion for support.

**Town and Parish Council Forum**

We recently held this month’s Town and Parish Council Forum this covered a number of topics one is District Direct where we are helping with patients getting discharged from hospital.

Delays in hospital discharges is creating a crisis due to a shortage of admission beds but South Norfolk and Broadland Councils now have a service in the NNUH working to ensure that discharges take place as soon as they can, this is called District Direct. Because the District Direct team can purchase goods and services immediately they can work quickly to remove impediments to discharge.

The hospital believes that referring a case to District Direct saves, on average, eight bed days.

The team work across the whole catchment area of the hospital, irrespective of the district in which the patient lives.

In the financial year to December District Direct have received 1000 referrals thus saving **8,000 bed days.**

**New Member of staff**

I’m pleased that we have hired a new Flood & Water Management Officer.

**Nathan Harris - Flood & Water Management Officer**

**01508 505254**

**07401 191197**

**nathan.harris@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk**

District members were keen for Officers to look after the needs of our local communities and felt the Council is perfectly placed to deliver a strong programme supporting local resilience and identifying actions to reduce flooding likelihood and impacts and they will actively encourage others to do the same.

Another role that I’m really pleased about is a Surface Water Drainage Officer ‘Ditch walker’.

New 12 months post

Practical role focussing on ‘walking ditches’ to inspect, investigate and resolve issues of land drainage, including advising landowners on their responsibilities to maintain water courses.

Emergency incident scheme which means a council representative can be on site in a flooding event, providing support as required

What they will be looking at:

* [Riparian issues](https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling-and-planning/flood-and-water-management/information-for-homeowners/living-next-to-a-watercourse)
* Blocked/Overgrown water courses
* Fly tipping within water courses
* External flooding to property
* Provide general flood prevention advice
* Provide advice on planning

What is the best way to get this information out to your residents and businesses?

If you have parish magazines or well used social media groups please let us know and we can make sure we reach as many people as possible.

**Public Sector Decarbonisation Bid**

We received some good news last week that we were successful with a bid both Councils put in for the Public Sector Decarbonisation Grant and we were awarded just over £2M. South Norfolk’s portion of the grant will be spent on:

Horizon Centre – replacement of boilers with air source heat pumps.

Diss Leisure Centre – replacement of boilers with air source heat pumps, insulation of external walls and roof and solar panels on the roof.

Kestral House (one of our temporary accommodation houses) – replacement of boilers with ground source heat pumps and solar panels on the roof.

**East Anglia Green Energy Enablement (GREEN) Project**

National Grid is proposing to reinforce the transmission network between the existing substations at Norwich Main in Norfolk, Bramford in Suffolk, Tilbury in Essex as well as connect new offshore wind generation. This would be achieved by the construction and operation of a new electricity transmission line over approximately 180km and a new connection substation.

The reinforcement would comprise of mostly overhead line (including pylons and conductors) and some of this will go through South Norfolk. It goes along the Mulbarton side of the A140 so although it doesn’t immediately affect you it will change the skyline with new pylons so I have attached a link to the website where you can read more about it if you want to.

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/east-anglia-green-our-proposals-south-norfolk>



**Greater Norwich Infrastructure Plan**

Norwich City Council, Broadland District Council and South Norfolk Council are the three authorities who make up the Greater Norwich area, and they pool a significant proportion of their CIL income to form a joint Infrastructure Investment Fund.

Each Council bids for funding for projects in the next five years and SNC were successful with a number of projects:

* £153,000 – access and car park improvements at the Caistor Roman Camp
* £133,000 – Queens Hill Community Park
* £468,000 – Cringleford Country Park
* £500,000 – Easton Community Centre
* £5M – Hethel Technology Park – roundabout and access road

**County**

The 2 biggest items at County are The Budget, going through Council now and The New County Deal going through this year.

The Budget

Council will debate the 23-24 budget on 21st February

We as a Local Authority we must have a “Balanced Budget”.

Our balanced figure for last year (22-23) was £1.637 billion

We have a revenue budget which includes spending on the day-to-day running of services, for example salaries, contracts for services and running expenses of buildings

A capital programme which includes expenditure on items that will be used by Norfolk County Council for more than one year: for example, land, buildings, vehicles and computers.

But it is the spending that creates the most discussion and amendments.

You can watch on the County’s You Tube.

A County Deal for Norfolk

There is a drop in at Forum on 21st February. 10 to noon and 4-6pm

“The aim is for decisions and funding previously controlled in Westminster to be agreed in Norfolk, for Norfolk. Devolution.

“Striking a deal will help us to boost our economy through jobs, training, housing and development, to improve our transport network and to support our environment.

“I’m delighted that Norfolk is well positioned to gain additional powers and money to improve people’s lives, thanks to the County Deal we have agreed in principle with the Government.

“Getting to this point shows that the Government sees Norfolk as a can-do county. I’m confident that we can make a success of this and that more powers and funding would follow.”

**Have your say**

Give us your views on A County Deal for Norfolk by [**taking part in our consultation**](https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/consultation/norfolkcountydeal).

We're holding a series of Community Drop-in events around Norfolk for you to find out more about the County Deal. [**See the list of dates and venues**](https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/corporate/county-deal/what-happens-next/community-drop-in-events).

Norfolk County Council and the Government have agreed, in principle, a new County Deal for Norfolk, to transfer funding and powers to this area – a process known as devolution.

Subject to reaching final agreement, it will enable us to invest in areas such as better transport, skills, job opportunities, housing and regeneration, tailored to the specific needs of local people.

Agreeing a County Deal for Norfolk would mean that, from 2024 onwards, we can:

* Have a Council Leader who is directly elected by the public, with the first election in May 2024
* Target funding and resources to Norfolk’s own priorities
* Attract and retain new and key businesses and sectors
* Invest in the skills we know we need
* Unlock housing and employment sites
* Raise our profile nationally, enabling our voice to be heard by Government and help shape future policies

The Deal makes it clear that the County Council and Government are "minded” to agree a deal and that further steps will be taken before a final decision.

### More money for Norfolk

Under a Deal, Norfolk would receive a £20 million investment fund, every year for 30 years. There would also be specific funding for integrated transport, brownfield development (£7 million), adult education, and infrastructure (£5.9 million for housing, regeneration and development, during this Spending Review period).

Experience from other areas such as Greater Manchester, that secured devolution deals a few years ago, show that initial deals can open the door to receiving further powers and money and influence.

### No extra costs

An elected County Council Leader would be supported by the County Council’s existing departments and officers. This contrasts with mayoral combined authorities in cities, which have their own staff and running costs, separate from the local council and creating another layer of local government.

### No changes to Norfolk’s councils

The Government is clear that County Deals are not about local government reorganisation and so the County Council will continue to work closely with Norfolk’s district, town and parish councils.

### Working with our partners

The County Council is committed to working closely with key partners such as district councils, businesses and other bodies, to make the most of any new powers and funding that come into Norfolk as a result of a deal.

Norfolk County Council has made continued progress in improving SEND services after feedback by OFSTED

Busgate paint job.

There was a gas leak in Mansfield Place and the Cadent traffic management company caused the issue and resolved it.

Norfolk to benefit from new Family Hubs and Start for Life funding

The government has announced that Norfolk County Council will be one of 75 local authorities receiving some of their new Family Hubs and Start for Life funding.

Norfolk will receive approximately £6m to further develop prevention and early help services for families with children and young people up to the age of 19 (25 if they have special educational needs and disabilities).

This is not about introducing a new service or opening new buildings but to allow the county to further develop support for families. Using a whole family approach, the Family Hubs network will give families a single access point to support services that are integrated across health (physical and mental health) and social care as well as voluntary and community organisations and education.

Whilst there will be at least seven physical Family Hub sites in existing community buildings, which families will be able to walk into, services will be delivered largely on an outreach basis. The Family Hub approach will bring together a wide range of services so that families can access support in the spaces and places that they live and visit, such as libraries and community buildings.

The Family Hubs network will provide simple access to ‘Start for Life’ services, providing the best support for babies in the first 1,001 critical days from conception to the age of two, setting them up to maximise their potential for lifelong emotional and physical wellbeing.