

Minutes of the Meeting of Northrepps Parish Council held on 07 December 2021 at 7.00 pm at Northrepps Village Hall

Present:

Chairman Cllr. A. Mackay, Vice Chairman Cllr. L. Fish,
Cllr. M. Millman, Cllr. M. Renaud, Cllr. G. Smith

Clerk Mrs J. Warner PSLCC AICCM

County Cllr. Ed Maxfield (to item 8 incl)
District Cllr. Fitch Tillett (to item 8 incl)

1. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 October 2021

It was **AGREED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19 October 2021 be **APPROVED** as a true record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr. Callaghan (health), Cllr. Holloway (health) and Cllr. Buxton (work commitment).
Cllr. Penlington was absent.

3. Declarations of Interest & Dispensations in respect of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

5. Police matters

5.1 **Police Newsletters** – Noted

5.2 **Other police matters** – There were none to report.

6. District Council and County Council

6.1 County and District Councillor Reports.

District Cllr. Fitch -Tillet – Members were in receipt of written reports (attached). It was noted that the Shrublands Farm planning application will be considered by the Development Committee next week.

County Cllr. Maxfield – Members were in receipt of written reports (attached).

Both were thanked for their assistance with the recent flooding.

6.2 **Community Governance Review**

Cllr. Fitch-Tillett advised that an update is awaited.

It was agreed to reorder the agenda to consider the below item at this point of the meeting.

6.3 **FP08 between Northrepps and Overstrand**

Members were in receipt of emails in respect of a proposed upgrade to FP08. It was agreed to raise no objections. It was noted that vehicles have used this track for many many years and it forms a vital access route to the radar station. Members stressed the importance of the vehicular access to the radar station being retained from both the Northrepps and Overstrand ends of the track.

6.4 **Any other County and District Council matters** (for information only)

There were no other matters to report.

Cllr. Maxfield and Cllr. Fitch Tillett were thanked and left the meeting.

7. Planning

7.1 **Planning Applications and decisions**

Planning applications for consideration

PF/21/3122 – Manor Farm, Crossdale Street
Battery energy storage system comprising installation of four battery storage containers, two transformers, power conversion cabins, substation container and associated development including alteration of a section of fence.

No objections.

Planning applications considered under planning protocol

PF/21/2971 – Unit 1 (Roadkill Customs), Old Station Yard, Norwich Road
Change of use to dog day care facility (sui-generis); erection of 1.8m high fence, gate, planting and associated works

No objections in principle but concern in respect of the noise on nearby residences especially those on Whitehouse Estate which back on to the premises. Members assume that arrangements will be in place for the disposal of dog waste.

7.2 **Updates on live planning applications**

There were no updates to report.

7.3 **Broadland Housing Development at Broadgate Close**

There was no update to report.

7.4 **Other Planning Matters** (for information only)

There were no other planning matters to report.

8. Highways & Transportation

8.1 **Traffic Regulation Orders**

Any traffic orders had been circulated to members.

8.2 **BT Works**

It was noted that the works are mostly complete. There is some mud on the road which is yet to be cleared. Most residents were OK with how the works went.

8.3 **Other Highway Matters** (for information only and inclusion on the next agenda if appropriate)

There were no other highway matters to report.

9. Finance & Regulatory Matters

9.1 **Payments and Receipts & Financial Statement**

The financial matters were **APPROVED**, and the finance sheet was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk as Responsible Finance Officer (refer attached).

9.2 **Actuals Against Budget to date**

These were circulated and noted.

9.3 **Budget & Precept 2022/3**

Members were in receipt of the draft budget. It was **AGREED** to carry this item forward to the January meeting in the hope that the decision in respect of the Community Governance Review would be known.

9.4 **Community Right to Bid**

It was noted that the nomination form is yet to be completed.

9.5 **Allotment Rent**

It was noted that a tenant had sent notice to quit but this had not reached the Clerk. It was **AGREED** to waive the outstanding £9.80 rent.

9.6 **Incident at Playing Field**

It was noted that a child had been injured having been hit in the face by the nest swing. The Chairman immediately visited the playing field to check the equipment and could find no sharp edges. The incident has been reported to the Parish Council's insurers but the Chairman advised

that person reporting the incident did not want to make any claim, he just wanted to ensure that the equipment was safe.

9.7 **Any other financial and regulatory matters** (for information only)

There were no other financial or statutory matters to report.

10. Playing Field & Allotments

10.1 **Grounds Maintenance, Repairs & RoSPA Inspection**

Members were in receipt of a quotation to repair the wooden climber which is unstable due to the wooden posts rotting in the ground. It was **AGREED** to accept the quotation from NGF Play and also to order replacement chains for the nest swing from Proludic. The contractor will be asked to install the chains when the repairs to the climbing frame are carried out.

10.2 **New Play Equipment**

It was noted that this will be a big project and will take several years to fundraise unless any sources of grant funding are available. It was **AGREED** that a working group is set up in the new year to set a fundraising target and that in the meantime the Parish Council continue to maintain the existing equipment.

10.3 **Barrel Planters on Church Street**

It was noted that the Clerk is yet to source replacement barrels.

10.4 **Crossdale Street Bus Shelter**

The Chairman will check whether the repairs to the roof have been carried out.

It was noted that the Village Sign has been repaired and is looking good.

10.5 **Phone Kiosk**

It was **AGREED** to allow the Heritage Project proposed by Northrepps Village Trust to go ahead. The Clerk asked that any planning requirements are checked.

10.6 **Bookings for Playing Field**

There were no new bookings to report.

10.7 **Other playing field and allotment matters** (for information only)

There were no other matters to report.

11. Correspondence and other matters

11.1 Sally Bean's Bench

An update from the owner of the bench is still awaited.

11.2 Firework Event

It was noted that the event went very well and that £346.80 was raised towards the cost of the display

11.3 HM Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee

A budget for the event will be set at the next meeting as part of the annual budget setting process.

Cllr. Fish advised that the Royal British Legion will progress this event in the new year.

The Clerk advised that various webinars are being held and that she is attending one in January.

11.4 Defibrillator Training

It was **AGREED** to liaise with Cllr. Buxton to arrange a CPR and Defib training in the spring. This would be open to residents to attend.

11.5 Commemorative Token

It was noted that the token has been received and that a site needs to be agreed upon to display it. Suggestions were the Village Hall, the Church Street Bus Shelter and on the post of the Village Sign. This will be further considered at the January meeting.

11.6 Air Ambulance Night Training Flights

It was noted that a complaint has been made in respect of the night training flights operating out of Northrepps Airfield. Members **AGREED** to instruct the Clerk to reply to the email from EEAST to advise that they fully support the night flying training sessions. Members feel that this is vital training and have no objections to it.

11.7 Correspondence received since 19 October 2021 (list circulated)

Norfolk ALC

Newsletters

Remote Council meetings

*It was **AGREED** to instruct the Clerk to write to Duncan Baker MP to ask that Parish Councils are given the flexibility to decide how best to conduct their local meetings. The template letter provided by Norfolk ALC will be used.*

Norfolk County Council

Budget Consultation

Community Action Norfolk	Newsletters
Vattenfall	Community Benefit Fund
Offshore Transmission Network	Various emails
Various leaflets, newsletters and brochures	

All the above correspondence was noted and no comment made unless stated.

12. To receive items to be included on the next agenda and to consider any other business (for information only)

There were no other matters to report.

13. To note the date of the next meeting: 07:00pm 04 January 2022

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:10pm

Signed

Dated.....

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT November 2021

Cabinet Approvals:

Cabinet approved the following items: The Strategic Planning Polices should go forward for consultation and that the 5 Year Land Supply Statement should be published. There was the routine Budget Monitoring Report and a Review of The Corporate Plan – it's delivery and future priorities were agreed. The proposals for the regeneration of North Walsham's Town Centre were approved and finally the annual review and approval of the Council's regulatory powers were also agreed.

Full Council Decisions:

There was no Full Council in October

Coastal Portfolio News:

I hope as many of you as possible were able to log into our now "Norfolk" Coastal forum where we were able to welcome members and community representatives from both Gt Yarmouth Borough Council and Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council for the first time. We repeated some of the excellent presentations made to the Coast & Estuaries Conference as they were of such high quality we wanted to ensure everyone had the opportunity to receive them. The Regional Flood and Coastal Committee East met virtually last week and through them we have received significant funding from DEFRA towards Cromer 2 and Mundesley Coast Protections Schemes which are scheduled for next year. The storms of a couple of weeks ago caused no significant damage thankfully, however officers have walked the coast to check for any minor works that may be needed.

MacKinnons will start repair and maintenance works to Overstrand Prom, hopefully next week, which means parts of the prom will be closed to the public for short periods to allow vehicle access. We have timed this to avoid the main tourist season and I hope residents will be sympathetic and realise that the work has to be done. Officers are also monitoring the cliff slip at Clifton Way, the concern is that if they clear it, more of the cliff may come down. A further result of excess rainfall I'm afraid.

Ward Issues:

Properties in Bulls Row, Northrepps and one in Gallus Close were severely flooded caused by the torrential rain during October. A site visit from the County Council Flood team is being arranged with the help from Cllr Maxfield later this week.

The moving and adoption of the former telephone box as an information point in Mundesley Road, Overstrand is slowly but successfully working its way through approvals.

Residents still have concerns in respect of the camp site in Gimmingham Road, Trimmingham, it is extremely frustrating for all, the time it takes to follow the regulations in respect of planning enforcement taking human rights into consideration.

I am very much looking forward to the Guy Fawkes Fireworks celebrations in both Northrepps on the 5th and Overstrand on the 6th.

Cllr Angie Fitch-Tillett, Poppyland Ward, NNDC

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT December 2021

Cabinet Approvals:

Cabinet approved the following items: The Communications and Engagement Plan for the Draft Local Plan, The Public Convenience Investment Programme together with refurbishment costs for those at Sheringham and North Walsham. Accepted both the Performance Management Quarter 2 Report and the Treasury Management Half Yearly Report.

Full Council Decisions:

I was appointed as Vice Chairman of The Employment Appeals Committee and seconded the motion that Local Government should be allowed to attend and vote virtually. I also supported the motions a) That NNDC should encourage the provision of more skilled jobs in the District and provide more support to businesses and b) That Anglian Water should reduce sewage discharges into our sea and other waterways.

Coastal Portfolio News:

We have held community liaison meetings and Parish/Town Council briefings in respect of the Mundesley and Cromer Coast Protection Schemes. Katy Owen has been appointed interim Manager of The Norfolk Coast (AONB) Partnership and a successful introductory meeting was held with NNDC Officers this week.

Ward Issues:

More difficulties emerging with the site in Gimingham Road, Trimingham and Sidestrand residents are very upset in respect of the proposal to re-route the entrance to Sidestrand Hall School to the east of the church. NNDC only acts as a consultee to this as NCC is the Planning Authority. However our Tree Officer, our Conservation Officer and our Countryside officer have all raised objections.

**Cllr Angie Fitch-Tillett
Poppyland Ward, NNDC**

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT – November 2021

Electric Vehicle Charging Points

The County Council's Electric Vehicle Charging Point strategy was reviewed at the Council's Scrutiny Committee in October.

I'm a member of the committee and took the opportunity to raise a point made to me by a local resident about the complexity of the payment 'eco system' – there are a huge number of membership schemes and payment methods at the moment. The officers in charge of delivering the policy acknowledged the problem and said they expected the government to move things over to a system much closer to how we currently pay for petrol as the market and the infrastructure evolves.

The debate was interesting (I certainly don't say that about every meeting at County Hall!!) – especially as so many of us raised concerns relating to issues of relevance to rural areas. I also repeated a point that I have made before – that if the council is serious about reducing carbon outputs the best way to do it is to ensure that people living in rural areas have access to the services they need, education and jobs close to where they live so that they don't need to travel to access them.

The papers for the meeting are here: [Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](https://cmis.uk.com/Document.ashx) and include some links to other relevant documents too. Page 21 onwards.

£106m bid for better buses in Norfolk

The County Council has submitted a substantial bid to fund an improvement plan. Supported by all Norfolk's bus operators, over the next 5 years Norfolk's Bus Service Improvement Plan aims to simplify ticketing and journey information, cut fares for under 25s, bring in cleaner and greener buses, improve accessibility and bus stops, and make better and more frequent links between the places people live, work and shop.

To read the plan in full visit: www.norfolk.gov.uk/busstrategy

A budget after the Budget

The County Council will start work soon debating its budget for 2022/3. This follows on from the Government's budget. Reaction to the whole budget seems to have been 'sounds like they are spending a lot of money but when you look closely it's not clear if they are.' It's no different for local councils and I think there will be a good deal of close examination of what it means for services in the county.

I'll be keen to get answers to four questions in particular:

- Is the government going to fully fund the promised increases in public sector pay and the Minimum Wage?
- What is going to happen to adult social care?
- What does the promised new capital funding for Special Educational Needs mean in practice?
- What will happen with the government's planned new 'family hubs' given that the county council closed almost all of its Sure Start centres three years ago?

Ed Maxfield

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT – December 2021

Budget Consultation 2022/23

The County Council has launched a consultation on its budget for next year. The consultation will run until 30th December 2021. You can read the proposals at www.norfolk.gov.uk/budget and give your views online. Copies of the budget consultation in other formats, including paper, can be requested by calling 0844 800 8020 or emailing HaveYourSay@norfolk.gov.uk. This will include large print, Easy Read for people with learning disabilities, Braille, audio etc. Written responses can be sent by post to: Freepost Plus RTCLXSTT-JZSK Norfolk County Council, Ground floor - south wing, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich NR1 2DH.

At its meeting on 31st January 2022, the Council's Cabinet will review the results of the public consultation, the outcome of the local government settlement (how much money it will get from central government) and other risks to the Council's budget. It will agree final proposed budget savings (the cuts in spending to be made by each department). Cabinet will recommend a set of budget proposals to Full Council.

Full Council meets on 21st February 2021 to agree the Council's budget. At any point up to 21st February you are of course welcome to contact me with your views on the proposed budget.

In broad outline, the Council will still need to cut its annual spending by more than £30 million to balance the books. This is largely because of reductions in funding from central government. The ruling group at County Hall says it can do this without cuts to front line services. It also plans to increase the County Council share of Council Tax bills by 3% - the maximum it can do without triggering a referendum.

Timetable

8 November 2021	Cabinet met and reviewed the strategic and financial planning for 2020/21 and agreed the set of proposals that we will consult on
25 November 2021	The consultation begins
Date to be confirmed	Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement
30 December 2021	Consultation closes
31 January 2022	Cabinet considers the consultation feedback and proposes a budget to County Council
21 February 2022	County Council agrees a budget

November's Full Council meeting

A bad-tempered meeting of Norfolk County Council today where some important things were discussed in amongst the political point scoring.

Following serious flooding in places like Northrepps in October, I asked the council leader to look at expanding the council's grant scheme for people to protect their home from flooding. I didn't really get much of an answer but it is something I will continue to pursue. If you want to find out more about the support currently available to help residents protect their homes from flooding, there is information online here:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling-and-planning/flood-and-water-management/information-for-homeowners/property-protection>

I also asked the council leader if he regretted closing most of Norfolk's Children's Centres in 2019 given that the Chancellor has announced he will be spending £500 million on opening new 'Family Centres' which are the same in all but name.

I asked the Cabinet Member for Children's Services what his priorities are for investment in special school places after the Chancellor announced £2.6 billion of additional spending in his budget.

There was a debate on disposal of County Council property. I have often criticised the council for wanting only to sell assets simply to the highest bidder. Better by far to have a starting point which is that the council should be good neighbours in all it does. That means giving local communities a real say in what happens to council-owned property. Communities like Gimingham and Trimingham which fought hard to raise concerns about the disposal of former Youth and Community land between the two villages. There was an interesting revelation in the debate that the local County Councillor will now be involved in discussions about property disposals. I welcome this and it is a shame that it wasn't in place when the Trimingham property was sold. It is a step in the right direction but a bigger change in attitude is needed so that local people's concerns are genuinely addressed.

The council adopted a new high level strategy. In the debate I made the point that the ruling group should adopt a new approach to decision making that would devolve power and involve people at local level. That's a theme I will continue to pursue. You can read the strategy here: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/corporate/council-vision-and-strategy/together-for-norfolk>

Norfolk Household Support Fund

The Council has announced a package of support for the least well off families in the county. There are details here: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/news/2021/11/free-school-meals-to-continue-over-christmas-as-council-reveals-6-7m-household-support-fund>. It will include:

- £2.4m for free school meals - those eligible will receive £55 in vouchers for the Christmas period (a top-up on the usual £15 per week) and £15 for the February half-term break
- £1.2m for Norfolk Assistance Scheme (NAS) – an extension of the County Council's existing scheme to provide emergency financial help, essential household goods and advice and support
- £1.4m to district councils for community support
- £1m of support targeted to voluntary and community groups, via Norfolk Community Foundation. Norfolk's voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations, as well as town and parish councils and faith groups, who will be able to apply for £50 vouchers for groceries / household essentials to distribute to those in need
- £500,000 –for local support with food.

Ed Maxfield

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Financial Matters:**Payments to be approved at Dec meeting:**

102324	Mr Anderson – Allotment land lease	£ 50.00
102325	Secret Gardens – Maintenance (Nov)	£ 185.00
102326	Bus shelter cleaning	£ 213.26
102327	J Warner – Clerks salary & expenses (Nov)	£ 242.73
102328	Norfolk Pension Fund (Nov)	£ 83.21
102329	M J Ward – Pest Control works	£ 120.00

Direct debit payments:

12/11/2021	Eon – Street lighting for Oct	£ 49.40
30/11/2021	URM Glassbank for Oct	£ 37.20

Receipts since last meeting:

NCC Recycle credits	£ 229.42
Fireworks event	£ 346.80

Financial Statement:

Reconciled balances as at 26/11/21

Community Account		£ 32594.52
Business Premium Account		£ 4780.24
Business Premium Account		<u>£ 6321.36</u>
		£ 43696.12
Less uncleared cheques	102241	£ 1.00
	102271	£ 100.00
	102323	<u>£ 19.00</u>
		£ 43576.12

Signed
Chairman *Responsible Financial Officer*

Dated

NOTE: The original copy is signed and held in the accounts