

**Minutes of the Meeting of Witton and Ridlington Parish Council held on
Tuesday 16th March 2021 at 7pm remotely on Zoom**

Present: Clive Stockton (Chairman)
Richard Barker
Rebecca Barringer
Gillian Owles
Amanda Sands
Eric Seward
Lucy Shires
Catherine Moore, Parish Clerk

Also present: One member of the public was in attendance

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Public Forum

a) Public

A member of the public reported to the Council that an offer of funding of £500 towards a defibrillator had been offered by Witton Charity. The member of the public was thanked for informing the Council of this, as it would offer a great start to funding for the project. The Clerk noted that an annual support package would be £126.00 per annum, and this was useful as it gave the Council fixed ongoing costs. A volunteer would be required to carry out and log monthly checks.

b) District Councillor

Clive Stockton reported that there had been no rise in the Council Tax for North Norfolk District Council, although Norfolk County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner had seen increases.

Lucy Shires reported that the Healthier North Walsham initiative had launched on Monday, which was a partnership with the local surgery to offer social prescribing in consultation with key partners. This was on a trial basis, and Lucy would be pleased to hear from any community groups that could benefit from this.

County Councillor

Eric Seward reported that council tax bills had been sent out, and the budget setting process had not been easy for any council. The surplus at NNDC from this year had been carried over to next year.

Vattenfall had a lost a High Court case regarding the first Vanguard application, although it was understood that this was process-based. An appeal was expected. The second windfarm application was progressing. There had previously been anger at the concept of relay stations in Ridlington, however the electricity would now be pumped to Necton, where a larger relay station would be constructed. The Parish Council needed to watch the outcome of court cases to monitor any impact.

Discussion ensued regarding cabling works, compensation, and the impact on land. It was **agreed** that representatives of Vattenfall would be invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting as a guest speaker, and that an in-person meeting could be held in the summer. Lucy Shires noted that round table meetings were being considered.

ACTION: Clerk

3. Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda

Clive Stockton declared an interest in Item 9b as he had spoken with the tenant about the rental negotiations.

Rebecca Barringer declared an interest in item 8a as she designed the plans, and was the neighbour.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2021

The minutes of the meeting were considered. An additional line was requested on page 3, item (d) to add 'Rebecca Barringer offered to circulate a survey on the future use of Witton phone box'. With this amendment the minutes were **agreed** and would be signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

a) Dog Bins

The new dog bin had not yet been installed, the Clerk was asked to chase this up.

ACTION: Clerk

b) Noticeboards

Clive Stockton reported that he was still shielding and he would complete the maintenance works to the notice boards as soon as possible.

ACTION: CS

c) Witton Phone Box Survey

Rebecca Barringer reported that of the 20 surveys circulated to households, three were returned. All were happy to help with whatever future use was agreed, all were happy for £200 to be spent on maintenance, and all wanted to see it as a plant and veg swap. It was noted that this could be incorporated into similar community schemes such as the North Walsham Fridge and the Mundesley Larder. It was suggested that a letter is circulated to the 20 households outlining the proposal for it to be a plant and veg swap, to see whether there were objections.

ACTION: ReB

6. Finance

a) Financial Update

The financial update was noted, reporting that the Council had £9,511.95 in the bank as of 28th February 2021. Free funds were £3,921.95, plus a general reserve of £4,500.00.

b) Payments

It was **agreed** to pay the following:-

C Moore	Salary & Expenses	£316.89
HMRC	PAYE	£49.80
Savills (Honing Estate)	Playing Field Licence	£100.00

7. Correspondence

a) General Correspondence

None.

Rebecca Barringer was put into the waiting room for the next item.

8. Planning

PF/21/0392 Cornucopia, The Street, Ridlington: Single storey front extension.

The plans were considered and it was **agreed** to support approval. **ACTION: Clerk**

Rebecca Barringer returned to the meeting.

9. Other Matters

a) Vattenfall Update

Covered earlier in the agenda.

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) act 1960 it was **agreed** that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following matter, proposed by Clive Stockton, seconded by Lucy Shires, all in favour.

Members of the public were put into the waiting room for the next item.

b) Rented Land in Witton

Correspondence was received from the tenant and a response was agreed.

ACTION: Clerk

Members of the public returned to the meeting.

c) Sale of Witton Phone Box

Covered earlier in the agenda. The Clerk would look for further funding for a defibrillator.

ACTION: Clerk

d) Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk reported that the virtual meeting legislation would expire on Thursday 6th May, and was advising all her councils to hold this in April. It was **agreed** to hold the APM on Tuesday 20th April 2021 at 7pm on Zoom, and that North Norfolk District Council would be asked whether the offer of a mailshot to all households in the parish was still available. The Clerk was asked to draft a letter to residents noting the date of the meeting, the invitation to Vattenfall to attend as a guest speaker, highlighting work completed recently and plans for the future, and inviting applications for the position of Councillor.

ACTION: Clerk

10. Items Not Notified for the Agenda (for information only)

It was noted that two children had been riding mini motorbikes on the new playing field, and that signage may be required to prevent this in future. The Clerk was asked to check whether the owners would be happy with this.

ACTION: Clerk

The Clerk confirmed that the sign for the area of the village sign was being made.

ACTION: Clerk

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place on Tuesday 18th May 2021 at 7pm on Zoom. If the virtual meeting legislation was not extended, this would be moved to Tuesday 4th May 2021 at 8pm.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

CHAIRMAN

Confidential minutes follow