

## NOWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 23 October 2019

At 7.30 p.m. in Nowton Village Hall, Nowton

**Present:** Councillor - Mrs Carol Perry (Chairman)  
Councillor - Mr David Flatt  
Councillor - Mrs Renee Farrow  
Councillor - Mr Jon Green  
Councillor - Mr Mike May  
Parish Clerk - Mrs Pauline Stoddart

Prior to the meeting commencing, 10 Minute Public Forum – no members of the public were present. Cllrs. Terry Clements and Karen Soons presented their reports prior to the meeting commencing.

**Report from Cllr. Terry Clements:** Cllr. Clements highlighted the two Mind Wellbeing sessions held recently, contributions to which had been made from his Locality Budget; Cllr. Clements commented that one had been a disappointment, with few attendees, whilst the second had been a great success. The Chairman suggested that it might be appropriate for smaller Parishes to group together for a combined session. Cllr. Clements updated Councillors on the Rural Task Force and on the re-shuffle and changes in the Cabinet, advising that Cllr. Andrew Reid was now responsible for Highways, Transport and Rural Affairs succeeding Cllr. Mary Evans who remained Deputy-Chairman and was now responsible for Children's Services, Education and Skills. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Clements for his report and he left the meeting.

**Report from County Cllr. Karen Soons:** Cllr. Soons advised Councillors that Cllr. Reid would be contacting her before the end of the week in relation to the 375 bus service and that she was also looking into other options of transport services. The Chairman wished to express the Council's thanks to Cllr. Soons for all her help and support in relation to this and Cllr. Soons said that MP's Matt Hancock and Jo Churchill had also been very supportive. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Soons for her report and she left the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – None, all present.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – none.
3. **Approval of the draft Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 18 September 2019** – approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Councillor May, seconded by Councillor Flatt and duly signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters arising from the Minutes of 18 September meeting** –
  - 4.1 It was agreed that an email be sent to Cllr. Reid to express the Council's concern regarding the adverse effect the withdrawal of the 375 bus route would have on Nowton's community. **Action: Clerk**
5. **Approval of the draft Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held 25 September** – The minutes were approved for this planning meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.
6. **Matters arising from the Minutes of 25 September meeting** - no matters arising.
7. **Finance** – Business Premium Account £5,493.24; Community Account £195.42  
Total: £5,688.66

The Clerk advised that an invoice was expected for £21.34 from West Suffolk Council in regards to uncontested election expenses. It was agreed that if the invoice arrived between meetings the cheque could be sent to the Chairman for appropriate signing and onward mailing. **Action: Clerk**

7.1 Q2 Budget report – a table showing budget v actual figures for the period to the end of September 2019 was tabled. Councillors were content that expenditure was presently below budget.

**8. Planning** – DC/19/1979/LB – Nowton Hall, Farm Lane, Nowton – Application for Listed Building Consent (i) omission of lean-to log store to rear of cartlodge (ii) black sawn treated softwood feather edge boarding on gable walls of garage and cartlodge and internal dividing wall.

Following examination and discussion of the plans Councillors had no objections and **supported** this application. **Action: Clerk**

**9. Road Safety, Crime/Public Nuisance** –

9.1 The Chairman informed that she had contacted Highways concerning the fence marking the 30MPH limit, which had been damaged when the verges were cut. It had not yet been inspected.

9.2 The Chairman advised that the Park Ranger is to be asked to cut back overhanging shrubs around the pond at Low Green.

9.3 Whilst not in Nowton, it was noted that the lead from the roof of the church in Hartest had been stolen and offertory boxes from other local churches had recently been taken.

**10. Correspondence** – the Chairman advised that information had been received from the Local Government Boundary Commission of England (LGBCE) regarding an electoral review.

10.1 The Chairman confirmed that a poppy wreath would again be placed beside the village sign; the wreath from last year was in good condition and would be used again, the Chairman would, therefore, advise Cllr. Soons that a new one this year was not necessary. **Action: Chairman**

**11. Next meeting – Wednesday 4 December 7.30 p.m.**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.05 p.m.

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Signed

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Date