

NOWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 15 January 2020

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

Present: Councillor - Mrs Carol Perry (Chairman)
Councillor - Mr David Flatt
Councillor - Mrs Renee Forrow
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. Written reports from Cllrs. Soons and Clements had been received by the Clerk and were circulated to those Councillors present.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr. Green was not present.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – none.
3. **Approval of the draft Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 4 December 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 4 December 2019 meeting** –
 - 4.1 Cllr. May was awaiting a response from the Highways Department as to whether the damaged grit bin would be replaced, or if the Parish Council would be required to purchase a new one.
 - 4.2 (4.1) The Chairman reported that the 375 bus route service had commenced that day and that the morning bus had appeared to be full of passengers. No information as to whether the public would be allowed to use the school bus had yet been received.
 - 4.3 (13) The recent Police presence near the Village Hall reported at the last meeting by Cllr. Forrow was clarified.
5. **Finance** –
 - 5.1 Balance of Accounts
Business Premium Account £4,495.98; Community Account £760.08 Total: £5,256.06
 - 5.2 Ratification of Precept 2020-2021
The Clerk highlighted an amended figure in the working of the precept figures which reduced the precept required by £260. The gross figure required was now £3,093 less £400 to be taken from reserves, leaving a net precept request of £2,693. The Chairman and Clerk signed the Application for Precept 2020/2021 form which the Clerk would submit before the 24 January to West Suffolk Council. **Action: Clerk**
 - 5.3 One cheque was approved for payment and signed by Cllrs. Forrow and May.
100351 C.A. Perry, repayment for purchase of new noticeboard £33.47
 - 5.4 The Assets Register, with the amendment showing a 20% reduction in the value of the Parish Council's laptop, was signed by the Chairman.
6. **Planning** – DC/18/1796/OUT Land at High Green, Nowton - Notice had been received that an appeal had been made to the Secretary of State.

7. Road Safety, Crime/Public Nuisance – Cllrs. Discussed the flooded roads within the village, particularly near the entrance to Nowton Park, and Fox and Pin Lane.

8. Correspondence – The magazine Clerks & Councils Direct had been received and would be circulated to Councillors.

8.1 It was noted that the new Community Engagement Office, who replaced PC Fox after his retirement, was no longer undertaking this role. It was hoped that a replacement would be appointed within the next couple of weeks. The Chairman highlighted the work undertaken by Andy Tucker in keeping everyone informed.

8.2 Suffolk’s Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore, confirmed that he is proposing to raise the policing element of the Council Tax and wants to hear the public’s views. The Clerk would respond on behalf of the Parish Council that it was in support of the small increase proposed.

9. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday 4th March, 7.30 p.m. Nowton Village Hall

Future 2020 Meeting dates –

8 April; 20 May (Annual Parish Council and Parish Assembly meetings); 8 July; 16 September; 21 October; 2 December. All dates are subject to change.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 7.50 p.m.

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Signed

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Date