

# NOWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016  
at 7.30 p.m. in Nowton Village Hall, Nowton

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

Prior to the meeting: 10 Minute Opportunity of Public Forum – no members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies for absence** – none, all present.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – None.
3. **Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016** – draft copies of the Minutes had been previously circulated and were taken as read. Proposed by Councillor May, seconded by Councillor Green, as a true and accurate record, duly signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters arising from the Minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016** –
  - 4.1 (9) Councillors reported some temporary improvement work had been undertaken by the Highways Department along Fox and Pin Lane, Cooper Lane and towards Sudbury Road.
  - 4.2 (4.1) A response had been received from S.C.C.'s Highways Department regarding the works Councillors believed were necessary to the roads listed above, which they considered were in a dangerous condition. The response highlighted the need for the Department to prioritise what funding it had, but that a higher frequency of inspection had been requested to ensure a quick reaction to any problems.
  - 4.3 (4.2) The Clerk confirmed that Consolidated Stock to the value of £38 had been compulsory purchased and funds received.
  - 4.4 (6.1) The Chairman reported on the S.E.B.C.'s planning meeting, at which she spoke on behalf of the Parish Council, re the Planning Application for the proposed nursing home at Nowton Court Residential Home. She advised that it was a very close decision (9:7 against) and that the applicant would be making an appeal within the next six months.
5. **Finance – including balances of Accounts and approval of any invoices for payment** -  
Current Account: £1,034.28 Deposit Account: £3,825.40 = £4,859.68.
  - 5.1 Notice of the annual review of accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. The Clerk advised that the external auditors, BDO, would require Nowton Parish Council's accounts no later than 11<sup>th</sup> July and that the accounts needed to be approved by the Parish Council no later than the 30<sup>th</sup> June. This item would be on the Agenda for the next meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> May.
  - 5.2 Local Audits – ratification of decision concerning Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments (SAAA) made at the last meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> March, item 5.4). Following further and differing information received from SAAA after the meeting, resulting in the Clerk seeking advice from SALC, it was agreed by Councillors that the decision by Nowton Parish Council to

opt-out of the SAAA Scheme should be rescinded, as it was now felt that the interests of the Parish Council would be best served if it remained opted-in. The appropriate notification of this decision to remain opted-in had been sent by the Clerk to SAAA and acknowledgement had been received.

5.3 Adoption of Financial Regulations – Copies of the model for consideration by the Council had been circulated at the previous meeting; the Clerk had modified some sections not applicable to the Council and highlighted areas that needed action in the future to comply with the regulations. It was agreed that Nowton Parish Council adopt The National Association of Local Councils model Financial Regulations.

**6. Planning – Planning Applications to hand at the time of the meeting:**

6.1 DC/16/0428/HH – Householder Planning Application – two-storey side extension (demolition of existing single storey side extensions) Rose Cottage, Bury Road, Nowton. Councillors examined the plans and discussed the application; NO OBJECTIONS.

**7. Road Safety/Crime/Public Nuisances –**

7.1 Councillor May reported that a brick wall surrounding a private property adjacent to Cooper Lane was leaning precariously towards the road, which he considered a possible danger. The Clerk was requested to write to the householder indicating the Council's concerns.

7.2 The Chairman relayed joint correspondence received from the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner and Suffolk Constabulary, advising that Police will not attend every Parish Council meeting, but would attend where there was a specific issue. Written reports would be prepared by the SNT every month.

**8. Correspondence – to include any correspondence to hand at the time of the Meeting –**

Letter from Magpas (The Emergency Medical Charity) requesting financial support; a grant was not approved. Letter from Jo Churchill MP requesting a poster to be displayed and asking the dates of Parish Council meetings, for the intention of attending one in the future. The Clerk was instructed to respond listing the July, September and October meeting dates.

**9. Dates of Next Meeting – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30 p.m. Annual Parish Council Meeting  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May, 8.15 p.m. Annual Parish Meeting**

Further dates for 2016: 6 July, 21 September, 26 October, 7 December.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8 p.m.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....