

## **NOWTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 19 September 2018  
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 Jonathan Green  
Councillor - Mr Mike May  
Parish Clerk - Mrs Pauline Stoddart

Prior to the commencement of the meeting: 10 minutes Public Forum – one Parishioner was present, together with County Councillor Karen Soons and Borough Councillor Terry Clements.

Copies of Councillor Soons' report had been previously circulated: Councillor Soons advised that Highways had made significant progress in repairing road surfaces. However, whilst there may have been significant progress in other parts of the County, Councillors did not agree that there had been any repairs in and around Nowton, citing in particular already reported potholes and the lack of white road lines which had been worn out. Councillor Soons would follow up with the Highways Department and requested the report numbers which the Chairman would provide.

Councillor Flatt mentioned the overgrown hedge beside the road near Nowton Park; it was unclear whether this was the responsibility of Nowton Park or the Highways Department, the Chairman would check.

Councillor Soons continued her report by highlighting certain areas, including the rise in 'A' level and GCSE results; support for young people; the increase in tourist figures and employment within the tourist industry. Finally, Councillor Soons advised that the 'We are Listening' would be held in the Arc, Bury St Edmunds, on the 26 September from 2-4pm, the Leader of SCC would be there and she suggested it would be a good opportunity of raising issues such as potholes with the Leader directly. Councillor Soons was thanked by the Chairman for her report and left the meeting.

The Parishioner present wished to speak with Councillors concerning a planning application. Councillor May declared an interest and duly signed the Declarations of Interest book. Councillors noted the Parishioners concerns regarding the planning application.

Councillor Clements gave a brief report and was particularly concerned about the lack of suitable car parking in Bury St Edmunds which he would be raising at full Council. The Chairman thanked Councillor Clements for his report and he left the meeting, together with the Parishioner. The meeting proper commenced at 8 p.m.

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – none, all present.
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – Councillor May in relation to Item 7.
- 3. Approval of the draft Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 11 July 2018** – 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 the Parish Council meeting** – Councillor May commented that there had been a disappointing response to the request for Emergency Plan helpers.
5. **Finance** – Business Premium Account £4,833.32; Community Account £1,481.85.  
Total £6,315.17

Cheques approved and signed at the meeting:  
 100323 Clerk's salary July-Sept. £240.00  
 100324 HMRC Tax as above 60.00

A budget report was requested for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

6. **Emergency Plan** – The Clerk had produced ten copies of the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Emergency Plan which were given to the Chairman for safekeeping, to use in case of emergency.
7. **Planning** – DC/18/1796/OUT – Outline Planning Application for one dwelling with double garage on land adjacent to Benets, High Green, Nowton.

Councillors considered the application and were of the opinion that the proposal did not meet the criteria within the Joint Development Management Policies, specifically Policy DM27. They did not consider the area a close knit cluster of properties, but rather that existing dwellings were considerably spaced out along a very narrow rural road. Councillors felt strongly that building in this countryside space would undermine a visually important gap that contributes to the character and distinctiveness of the rural scene. Concern was also expressed from a road safety aspect re the position of the entrance on to the narrow road, and also the increase in traffic that would be generated. For these reasons the Council instructed the Clerk to draft a response to SEBC advising of its objection to the planning application. **Action: Clerk**

8. **Road Safety Crime/Public Nuisance** – Councillor May reported no crimes, although there had been fly tipping beside the Village Hall and despite the Chairman reporting it, it had remained for two weeks before being removed.
9. **Correspondence** - Clerks & Councils Direct magazine, together with a leaflet to be displayed warning of scam Post Office mail.

The Chairman reported that a poppy wreath, which would be free of charge, was available for communities if requested. Councillors agreed that a wreath should be placed on the village sign for Remembrance Day. The Chairman would collect the wreath from Bury St Edmunds. **Action: Chairman**

10. **Next meeting – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 7.30 p.m.** Expected attendees Andrew Tucker and PC Fox.

Future meetings in 2018: 5<sup>th</sup> December. All meeting dates are subject to change.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.15 p.m.

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Signed

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Date