



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF REEPHAM TOWN COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th OCTOBER 2021 AT 8.00pm at Stimpson's Piece Pavilion.

Present: Cllr P. Mitchell (Chair), M. Steel, A. Hazelwood, B. Douglas & S Morgan (from 8.02pm)

Town Clerk – Kirsty Cotgrove
District Councillor S. Beadle
County Councillor G. Peck
Police Representative PC Bailey
5 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Lester, Cllr Harding & Cllr Fisher.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None.

S. Morgan arr. 8:02pm.

3. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM ALISON SHAW (OULTON PARISH COUNCIL), REGARDING WINDFARM APPLICATIONS

A. Shaw outlined all upcoming windfarm projects, and advised to what extent the local area will be affected. It was noted that Oulton will be the construction depot for all of the projects. Vattenfall have confirmed previously that HGV traffic will not come through Reepham, but non HGV traffic may, and there will inevitably be temporary road closures close to the town. The cable crossover for two of the companies (Vattenfall and Orsted) will be at the Salle corner just outside Reepham, where there will be a potential output of 6 gigawatts. The working hours for the projects will be 12 hour days on Monday to Friday, with 10 hours allowed on Saturdays, and daily vehicle movements from the compound in Oulton of up to 424 HGVs per week. Due to the staggering of project start dates, the projects will run for 8-10 years. A group of Parishes have worked, together with the local MPs, to put pressure on the Government to approve an Offshore Transmission Network (OTN), which would hugely minimise the cabling corridors. An OTN would reduce cabling corridors to two in total, with all of the offshore projects linking into it offshore. Chris Monk (Cawston Parish Council) was also in attendance, and outlined how the projects will affect them. Cawston Parish Council have serious concerns about large numbers of HGVs travelling through the village on a daily basis, on narrow roads, with some footpath closures also necessary. The need for additional electricity due to a reduction of oil and gas production was addressed. Following discussion, it was **AGREED** that Reepham Town Council will add their name to the pressure group of Parishes.

Cllr Mitchell thanked A. Shaw & C. Monk for attending.

2 Members of the public left at 8:15pm.

4. TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO WORKING GROUPS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS

(a) Churchyard Wall / Cemetery Working Group – Cllr Harding has **AGREED** to join this working group.

(d) Whitwell Common Trust– It was **AGREED** to co-opt Cllr Morgan as Town Council representative.

5. TO APPOINT A COUNCILLOR FOR INTERNAL FINANCIAL CHECKS

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Steel will conduct internal audit checks.

6. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8th SEPTEMBER

2021

Minutes of the extraordinary Town Council Meeting held on 8th September 2021 had previously been circulated. The minutes were unanimously **AGREED**.

7. INFORMATION ON MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Cllr Mitchell, County Cllr Peck and Ben Rayner (Highways Engineer) recently met in Reepham to discuss Highways issues. B. Rayner has agreed to get posts installed outside the church wall, to prevent it being hit, and will arrange for a handrail to be installed along the steep section of Bircham Road. A sign to alert drivers to pedestrians on Norwich Road will be erected, and undergrowth will be cleared along Bircham Road. Since the meeting, B. Rayner has also agreed to clear the drainage channels on Norwich Road. No work has been carried out yet, so Cllr Peck will follow this up.

8. REPORTS FROM POLICE, DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Police – PC Bailey was in attendance and gave a brief verbal report . Speeding along Whitwell Road and Nowhere Lane has been a concern recently, however PC Bailey provided a report which shows that only one vehicle was logged as speeding over a one week period. It is considered that the issue is of perceived speeding, due to the narrow road, and 60mph speed limit. There have been reports of BT cable being stolen. Members of the public are asked to be aware of unmarked vehicles taking cable, and to call the police if they have any concerns. There has been some anti-social behaviour at Stimpsons Piece and outside the Co-Op. PC Bailey confirmed that he carries out regular patrols in these areas.

District Councillor – District Cllr Beadle discussed concerns about the planning department since the merger with South Norfolk District Council

County Councillor - County Cllr G. Peck gave a verbal report, including a Million Trees project, the budget setting at County Hall and the Western Link.

9. TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

A resident of Back Lane (the green lane running from Whitwell Station to the B1145) was in attendance, to talk about her concerns surrounding speeding vehicles along the green lane, environmental damage and her fence becoming damaged by the vehicles. She has requested the Town's Council's support in getting the road reclassified, to prohibit motorised vehicles.

A member of the public asked if there was an update on the nursery moving to the Town Hall, and made a number of observations about potential financial implications to the nursery, the Town Council and the Trust. It was noted that there are a number of issues surrounding any move and, although there are significant issues that might prevent the move, the Town Council are exploring possibilities.

PC Bailey left the meeting at 8:54pm.

The Green Lane was discussed further, with suggestions of bollards, reclassification and gates for winter months all explored.

10. FINANCE –

(a) To approve list of payments made / to be made

The list of payments was circulated prior to the meeting. It was unanimously **APPROVED**.

(b) To receive the income & expenditure report to 30th September 2021

The Income & Expenditure report was received.

(c) To approve the purchase of traffic cones and safety barriers.

It was **AGREED** to purchase 12 cones and barriers as necessary, with the funding coming from CIL money. Proposed by Cllr Steel, seconded by Cllr Hazelwood.

11. TO CONSIDER PROJECTS FOR S106 MONEYS

Following the Reepham Life article, a resident has requested that the Council purchase some outdoor gym equipment. The S106 money would only purchase a few items, and maintenance costs would need to be considered. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk will explore the costs to bring to the November meeting, and will also ask Broadland District Council if some of the money could be used to clear the old tennis court, to provide additional parking.

12. ALLOTMENTS – TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE ALLOTMENT WORKING GROUP

No report. The Clerk is due to meet with the Allotment Association.

13. CEMETERIES – TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON DRIVEWAY REPAIRS TO THE WHITWELL ROAD CEMETERY

It was AGREED to accept the quote for £600 to fill potholes in the driveway. Full resurfacing will be considered when a decision has been made on the Broomhill Lane development. A resident of Sunbarn Road has called the Council as they want to cut back a number of Leylandii trees bordering the cemetery. As they want carry out the work themselves, the Clerk has replied to state concerns about possible damage to grave stones, and to advise the residents to ensure their household insurance will cover them for third party liability.

14. CHURCHYARD WALL – TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM WORKING GROUP

This is still being looked into. The Ollands Road wall has been repaired.

15. MARKET PLACE – TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES

The Bircham Centre would like to revitalise the Market Place. The possibility of a farmers market has been discussed, and Cllr Mitchell has spoken with a local business that has previously enquired about this. They have not yet come back to the Council with any proposal.

16. OVERTON WAY PLAY AREA

All work arising from the playground inspection has now been carried out.

17. TOWN HALL – TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES

The Clerk is investigating a simpler AV system for hall users. This will be included on the November agenda.

18. WHITWELL COMMON – TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON DRAINAGE AND TREE MATTERS

Cllr Morgan will make contact with the Whitwell Common Trustees.

19. STIMPSON'S PIECE – TO RECEIVE A REPORT AND REQUESTS FROM THE TRUSTEES

(a) To approve payment for repairs to fire door

As this work is a health and safety matter, it was **AGREED** that the Town Council will award a grant for this work (proposed Cllr Harding, seconded Cllr Steel, all agreed).

20. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

(a) Update on Bircham Rd/Ollands Rd handrail

Already covered in matters arising (item 7).

(b) To consider further action relating to damage to Green Lane, from Whitwell Station to B1145

The possibility of installing gates at the ends of the Green Lane, to be closed over the wetter winter months was discussed. County Councillor Peck advised that this could be funded through the Parish Partnership scheme. It would be very expensive to change the classification as legal fees would need to be covered, and there is no guarantee that the application would be successful. It was **AGREED** that County Cllr Peck will explore the possibility of gates with the Highways Engineer.

(b) Any Other Highways Matters

None.

21. PLANNING

(a) APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

(i) 20211648. Red Lodge, Norwich Road, Reepham, NR10 4NH. Extensions, alterations and remodelling of dwelling. Alterations and remodelling of garage building.

The Town Council has no comment / objection to this application.

(ii) 20200847. Land West of Broomhill Lane, Reepham. Proposed residential development for 141 dwellings with associated open space, highway and landscaping works. Extension to existing Reepham Cemetery.

It was **AGREED** that the Town Council's previous objections and concerns remain. In addition, the Council

are disappointed to note that the second **drainage** basin appears to further reduce the recreational space, and would like clarification. They welcome the additional affordable houses, and note that they have been provided due to the potential increase in property value, but the developer could have reduced the number of properties in the overall development instead.

(iii) 20211745. Land off Wood Dalling Road, Reepham, NR10 4RZ. Erection of 7 single storey dwellings with site access (outline).

This application is outside of the development zone, but opposite existing houses and next to an industrial estate. It was agreed that the Council has no objection to this application, however, they do not want to see a precedent set for further applications outside the development zone, and that only single storey properties would be appropriate.

(iv) 20211756. Jordan House, Jordan Lane, Whitwell, NR10 4RQ. Detached single storey timber framed cart lodge.

The Town Council has no objection / comment for this application.

(v) 20211780. The Crown, 90 Ollands Road, Reepham, NR10 4EJ. Covered loggia to the front of existing public house.

The Town Council has no objection to this application, but request that the applications avoid permanent intense lighting which could cause light pollution in the surrounding area.

(b) APPLICATIONS DETERMINED

None.

(c) TO CONSIDER LATE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None.

22. TO AGREE ACTIONS FOR THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2022

A meeting took place with a number of community groups on 6th October, with approximately 12 people attending. Notes from this meeting were previously distributed. The next meeting will take place on 24th November 2021, at 7pm at Stimpson's Piece. It was agreed that the Town Council will take the lead on plans.

23. TO CONSIDER MAKING REPRESENTATION TO BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL REGARDING A CHANGE IN THEIR STREET NAMING POLICY

Broadland District Council's policy has always consulted Councils on street naming in new developments, whereas South Norfolk ask the developers who have the final say with Councils only being consulted if the developer fails to provide a street name. Since the merger between District Councils, South Norfolk's policy has been adopted. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk will write to Broadland District Council to object to the policy change, made without any consultation as this policy would mean that local views would not be taken into account when streets are named.

24. TO CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY (CEE) BILL

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** that the Town Council will write to support this bill.

25. TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE, ITEMS OF INFORMATION & REFER TO FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(a) Thank you from Rotary Club / Food Festival organisers - The organisers wrote to the Council to thank them for their continued support.

(b) The Royal British Legion have contacted the Council to request permission to gather in the Market Place to lay a wreath, should the event go ahead. Councillors have no objections to this.

(c) Broadland District Council Tree Warden AGM - Cllr Morgan will attend on behalf of the Town Council.

(d) The Sunshine Club have asked the Council if permits can be provided to allow people attending their events to park for longer than 90 minutes. It was also noted that there is no disabled parking in the Town currently. The Clerk will explore options.

26. TO CONFIRM THE DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – 10TH NOVEMBER 2021

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held on Wednesday 10th November at 8pm at Stimpson's Piece, or the Town Hall, depending on government guidance.

27. TO CLOSE THE MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm.

Minutes Agreed..... 10th November2021