

Minutes of Barton Turf & Irstead Annual Council Meeting held on Tuesday 25th May at 7pm in the Cricket Pavilion.

Present: G Neave, J Fletcher, M Mills, D Dean, S Maxwell, H McFadyen and D Bradley (Clerk)

Also present: P Read (Internal auditor), R Price (NCC Cllr) and PC Gibbs

Apologies from A Wilton and G Mancini-Boyle (NNDC Cllr)

The Clerk requested nominations for Chairman – G Neave was proposed by J Fletcher, seconded by D Dean. G Neave completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the chair for the meeting.

The following officers were nominated and approved:

Vice Chairman – G Neave proposed M Mills, seconded by S Maxwell

Responsible Financial Officer – Diane Bradley

New Victory Hall representative – J Fletcher

Gay's Staithe Committee – G Neave

Barton Turf Charity for Relief in Need – H McFadyen was proposed by G Neave as she is resident in Irstead, seconded by J Fletcher. Cllr McFadyen accepted the position, and agreed to attend when she was required.

PC Gibbs

The Chairman invited PC Gibbs to speak so that he could leave the meeting early. PC Gibbs apologised for not attending meetings regularly. There has been little crime in the area, but it was stressed that everybody should remain vigilant following a recent burglary in Horning. The Police will be busier with people stay-cationing and asked people to contact PC Gibbs with any issues. The liveaboard at Barton Staithe has moved his boat to beyond the 24 hour free mooring on Paddy's Lane. His car still has no MOT but local Officers are aware and waiting to see him on the highway. The chairman advised that following damage to the honesty box on Gay's staithe the Committee are looking to request payment online.

Review of Standing Orders

The Council agreed that there were no amendments required to the Standing Orders approved last year.

Minutes of last two meetings

Both Minutes had been circulated. The Council approved and agreed they were a true record of the meetings held. The Chairman agreed to sign all the Minutes, including those of the zoom virtual meetings held since March 2020, at the end of the meeting.

Declarations of Councillors' interests – None were declared.

Matters Arising:

BA 24 hour free mooring lease – Following the last meeting a revamped letter has been approved by all Councillors. It is to be sent separately to three top Executives at the Broads Authority. The Chairman was disappointed to report that Cllr Mancini-Boyle had spoken to the Legal Team at NNDC who advised they do not get involved with Parish Councils due to possible bias.

Black Shed – Following the last meeting Cllr Dean reported that contact was awaited from Mr P French. If he is prepared to be involved in the project a quote will be requested. A draft questionnaire is ready to be produced once a survey is completed.

New Victory Hall update – The hall was gradually reopening in line with Government regulations. It is hoped to be fully open from 21st June. Most groups are already back, dealing with the Covid restrictions.

Highways – Staithe Road street sign has been replaced.

The trees at the top of Staithe Road had been managed but the stump remains a trip hazard. The Clerk was asked to chase Highways and Cllr Price would take a look at the site after the meeting.

Sam 2 – Highways had asked for the exact positioning of the proposed sites. The Council discussed and agreed the positions within Barton Turf.

Gay's staithe signs – The Clerk had written to both Highways and Broads Authority regarding the correct spelling and requested the signs on the staithe be changed. The Chair of NIBCHG offered to write to hopefully encourage the signs to be changed, particularly following their research.

Wildlife East Group – Cllr Dean advised that the process begins with a survey/assessment of wildlife, plants etc. A request is to be placed in NIB magazine for local volunteers. Norfolk Wildlife Trust Community Officer has offered to help with the maintenance/conservation. Cllr Price advised that Highways budget has increased for capital, and now includes the environment, so could offer some support. All Councillors were in favour of going ahead with a survey.

Broads Local Network – nothing had been heard to date.

Parish Council website – Nothing had been updated for 2 years. The Chairman spoke to the website owner who was working on a very big project. It was agreed to monitor the updates.

Report from Cllr Price (Norfolk County Council representative) – To date there are a total of 3,058 cases in North Norfolk, an increase of 9 over last week. The infection rate is 5 per 100,000 today. It was stressed that encouragement should be to have both vaccinations done. Highways' budget is helping with electric charging points in the area.

Internal audit – Mr Read had carried out the internal audit, and advised that the Parish Council needs to appear more transparent. One point was that income from glass recycling was moved to Barton Turf Community Charities, with costs left with the Parish Council. It was proposed that all net income should be requested back from BTCC, and, when requested, to make a grant towards the cost of the Black Shed/cost of waste disposal to BTCC. The Council agreed to ask for the money back this year from BTCC relating to the monies given at the last two meetings, also requesting the charity take over payment of collections.

VAT had not been claimed, due to problems with computer online system which would provide the Council with approximately £600.

It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council pays the Clerk 4 hours per week, and is to claim back the 0.4 hours recently agreed from BTCC for work done.

With the above proposals agreed, the Internal Auditor signed the Internal Audit page of the AGAR.

The Council approved that the AGAR Certificate of Exemption be signed for 2020/21, by both the Chairman and Clerk.

The Clerk provided an expense claim for period July 2020 to May 25th 2021 of £28.61.

Council approved payment.

Cheque No. 100879

Monies paid since last meeting, approved by the Council:

Clerk's salary of £521.95

Cheque No. 100876

Countrystyle (formerly Indigo Waste) £14.40

Cheque No. 100877

BTCC glass recycling £217.29

Cheque No. 100878

Monies received since last meeting:

First half of precept which totals £3,500

Planning

PF/20/2368 – Long Road, Irstead – erection of agricultural building. Approved by BA

BA/2021/0130/FUL – Wherry Arch, Hall Rd, Irstead – Erection of a wooden landing stage for mooring a boat on the bank of the dyke.

No comments made by PC

BA/2021/0153/HOUSEH – Wyndale, Hall Rd, Barton Turf – Rear extension work 1st floor mezzanine in vaulted ceiling

No objections by PC

Any Other Business

The Clerk reported that the recycling company had changed it's name from Indigo Waste to Countrystyle.

The Chairman proposed that the Clerk contact Broadland Computers to sort out the Council laptop problem. The Council voted in favour.

There being nothing further to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting. The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 29th June at 7pm – venue to be arranged.