

Minutes of the virtual Barton Turf & Irstead Annual Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd June 2020

Present on screen: G Neave, M Mills, D Dean, J Fletcher, D Dean, H McFadyen, J Menges, S Maxwell and D Bradley, Parish Clerk.

Also present on screen: G Mancini-Boyle NNDC representative

Apologies for absence : PC Gibbs unable to join virtual meetings

The Clerk requested nominations for Chairman. J Menges proposed G Neave, seconded by D Dean. The Council approved. G Neave agreed to stand as Chairman.

Approval was given by the Council that all other Officers stand for another year.

Review of Standing Orders.

The Clerk provided additional wording in relation to virtual meetings, in light of the Coronavirus

- *Present includes through remote access, councillors and public should be able to “hear, and where practicable see, and be so heard and, where practicable, be seen”*
- *Place includes reference to more than one place including electronic, digital, or virtual locations*
- *The minutes of the previous meeting will be agreed at the next meeting, and signed by the Chairman at the next available meeting of the council in person.*
- *Voting will be by a show of hands or if everyone can't be seen by asking each councillor in turn to declare their vote.*

The Council approved and agreed the wording should be added as Paragraph 31.

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes had been circulated to Councillors. The Council approved them as a true record. The Chairman will sign them at the next full meeting in person.

Declarations of Councillors' interests

None declared.

Matters Arising:

BA 24 hour mooring lease - The Chairman had contacted another Parish Council with similar issues and was given names of a Valuer who had acted for them. The Valuer was prepared to do a valuation for both Gaye's staithe and Barton staithe for £140 per hour plus VAT. It could take three to four hours and he agreed he would cap the cost at £500 including VAT for each staithe. The Chairman also contacted a solicitor that had previously acted for another council, who would be happy to act on our behalf and believed that BA should be paying for the greater bulk and possibly all her costs. By obtaining the valuation it is possible the Broads Authority may pay the Parish Council for the ability to have 24 hour mooring. In light of the fact that the lease has been hanging around for several years now, all voted in favour to get a valuation of the quay heading as a mooring, and moving ahead with the solicitor after we have the valuation in place.

New Victory Hall update - Due to the pandemic the Hall is currently still closed. The flooring has now been renewed, and other cosmetic changes have been made. The Committee is considering opening the Hall for some groups.

Parish noticeboards - It was reported that the parish noticeboard at Irstead did not require any maintenance.

Highways - The Clerk reported two potholes close to the RAF station, and one opposite Squirrels Oak, Hall Road. Also the speed limit sign is broken and left on the bank on Hall Road. The newly erected Hall Road sign in Irstead has raised the question where Hall Road and Irstead Road end. Progress relating to the road sign at the junction of Long Road is still awaited, though it is considered the amendment should be deferred till works at Irstead Manor cease. The Clerk is to request information following Highways inspection of the bollards erected at the junction of Long Road. M Mills is to report on road signs which require attention or replacement in Barton Turf.

North Norfolk District Council representative - Mr G Mancini-Boyle

Approximately 94% of all businesses have been given grants of £25,000 or £10,000 from North Norfolk District Council since lockdown began. Mr Mancini-Boyle advised the amount in the Tranche from the Government for Discretionary Grant Scheme was £93,000 towards regeneration of major high streets. He is consulting with other Councillors to fight to get a fair share for the streets of Hoveton. More visitors using boats will be descending on the area after July 4th, so in particular for one way signs, labels on footpaths, barriers next to the outlets by the bridge, hand sanitisers, moving benches on Granary staithe and separating people to avoid narrow pathways.

Report from PC Gibbs

The Clerk read out from the report provided by PC Gibbs in his absence: Thanks was given to the community in both villages for their positive reporting of persons and vehicles seen either in suspicious circumstances or causing anti-social behaviour, predominantly at the village staithe. In light of the spate of burglary type offences not so long ago it is imperative that residents maintain this vigilance.

There were a significant number of reported Covid legislation breaches within the community, which primarily related to calls from persons concerned about the occupation of holiday properties and illegal social gatherings.

Across the district the Police are continuing to investigate reports of rural crime, including illegal shooting, and the theft of equipment from farms and from agricultural tractors in recent weeks. As always when reporting incidents or suspicions ensure as much information as possible is provided regarding vehicles used, times, and where it is taking place.

Correspondence received:

Anglian Water First Time Sewerage Appraisal - Notice of Decision

The assessment for mains foul public sewers to be installed in the village of Barton Turf is complete. Anglian Water intend to provide a public foul sewer to some

properties. The first time sewerage programme is delivered in five year blocks as determined by Ofwat. The business plan for submission to Ofwat will include Barton Turf in the next programme which will run from April 2025 until March 2030. However, they need to prioritise the first time sewerage schemes according to their environmental and amenity value, therefore the exact time for delivering Barton Turf cannot be determined until all other applications for the five year period have been processed. In 2025 it is anticipated a more definitive start date can then be provided.

Norfolk County Council Invitation to Bid for Parish Partnership 2021/22 for local highway. As the Parish Council is to provide 50% of the fund for improvements within the parishes it was agreed that no bids would be made.

Finance:

Appointment of Internal Auditor - the Clerk reported that Mr P Read had agreed to complete the annual internal audit. The Council voted in favour.

AGAR Exemption Certificate - As last year, the Parish Council meets the eligibility criteria to complete a Certificate of Exemption from a limited assurance review. The Council approved. The Chairman is to sign the form the day after this meeting. The account documents will be taken to Mr Read for audit.

The following payments had been made since the last meeting:

Clerk's three months' salary (Oct to Jan 20)	£457.18	Cheque No. 100849
Indigo Waste (recycling)	£14.40	100850
S Stone -Irstead staithe grasscutting (x3)	£120.00	100851

The Council approved all payments.

The Clerk requested approval of payment to:

Clerk's three months' salary (Jan to Apr)	£457.18	Cheque No. 100852
Clerk's expenses since Dec 2019 (£91.75)	£41.76)	Cheque No. 100853
Clerk's 1 yr Laptop Virus protection	£49.99)	
First Annual subscription to NPTS	£66.20	Cheque No. 100854
BTCC for recycling credit for 2018	£364.68	Cheque No. 100855
Payment by Direct Debit to Information Commissioner's Office re GDPR	£35.00	

The Council agreed and approved all payments.

The first half of the precept had been received direct for the amount of £3,310. The total of the recycling credit received for 2018 was £449.68, of which £85.00 was received for collections from Irstead staithe.

Planning:

PF/20/0945 - Erection of Agricultural Building - Long Road, Irstead

The Council objected to the position of the proposed building, with concerns about the road network in Irstead, particularly the two junctions at both ends of Long

Road being difficult for large agricultural vehicles to manoeuvre around. Long Road is too narrow for vehicles to pass, with too few passing bays.

Any Other Business

Tenancy Agreement between Barton Turf & Irstead Parish Council and Barton Turf Charity for Relief in Need - Mr G Neave explained to the new Councillors that since 2000 the Agreement has been renewed every seven years. It was brought about when the insurance for Irstead Staithe was costing the Charity as much as the money received from reed cutting. The Parish Council's policy includes Public Liability insurance, and the agreement is that the Parish Council, as Tenant, maintains Irstead staithe. The new Agreement was signed by the Chairman of both the Charity and the Parish Council for a further seven years, from 5th of January 2020 until 2027.

Community involvement during the Coronavirus pandemic. - The Chairman thanked Cllr McFadyen for the information about the Church rota opening for private prayer. The Parish Council agreed that the Chairman should write a note of thanks to all the volunteers within the two communities who have helped deliver food and medication to the vulnerable residents to date.

Boats abandoned on the rivers - Cllr Menges asked for Councillors to consider what action can be taken to remove the boats which have been abandoned on local rivers. Suggestions are to be discussed at the next meeting.

There being nothing further to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting. The next virtual meeting is to be on Tuesday August 4th at 7pm on Zoom.