

Minutes of the virtual meeting of Barton Turf & Irstead Parish Council held on Tuesday 4th August.

Present on screen: G Neave, J Fletcher, H McFadyen, J Menges, S Maxwell and D Bradley

Also present on screen: G Mancini-Boyle North Norfolk District Council representative
2 parishioners

Apologies for absence: D Dean and M Mills

The Minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved, to be signed by the Chairman at the next full meeting in person.

Declarations of Councillors' interests - None declared

Matters Arising:

BA 24 hour mooring - valuations The Chairman had met with the Valuer and visited both Barton and Gaye's staithe. The valuation for Barton staithe is in progress and, once completed, the valuation of Gaye's staithe will follow.

New Victory Hall - The Hall opened on 26th July and already the gym has re-started. Bridge is to re-start on 21st August. The Farmer's Market is to be held on Saturday 8th August with appropriate social distancing and hand sanitising.

Highways - the Clerk reported that the potholes had been marked by Highways Department for their workmen, though one had been omitted and was again reported. The hedge at Hall Fen House had been cut back.

The Chairman reported that overhanging branches by the Common and at the top of Staithe Road had been caught by a boat being taken down to the Staithe. A tree surgeon is to inspect the trees for Barton Hall estate in September. The Clerk is to request Highways look at the trees at the top of Staithe Road.

Parish noticeboards - The Chairman proposed that a thank you letter is sent to the resident who varnished the noticeboard at the Common. All Councillors were in approval.

Community involvement during coronavirus pandemic. The Chairman had written a note to thank all parishioners involved in helping the vulnerable and elderly people within the community, which was placed in August NIB.

Boats abandoned on the river - The boats are not simply wild moored, they are unlicensed, uninhabited and usually in a poor state of repair. They are abandoned at various locations on the Broads, until they become a hazard to navigation, or the reed grows around them and they become lost from sight. As a Council, with this potentially becoming a problem locally, it was proposed and agreed that we should highlight this to as many as possible. All Councillors are asked to send an email relating to this issue to the Clerk so that a combined view is achieved, and we can bring this to the attention of all Parish Councils on the Broads, our District and County Councillors, MP and Broads Authority. Cllr Mancini-Boyle agreed to speak to the relevant District Council Officer to liaise with the Broads Authority.

Village Sign repair progress - The sign has been welded following damage when it hit the ground, and now is ready for re-painting. One person has responded regarding a quotation for the replacement of the oak post, at a cost of £850 plus VAT. It is hoped a better price can be found. It was suggested that the insurance Company should be contacted for financial assistance. The Clerk agreed to communicate with the relevant team.

Parish Council website - compliance. The website provider was invited to the meeting and was asked to get the website up to the relevant compliance by September as set . It was agreed that he would adhere to the regulations to the best of his ability by 1st September. If anything is missed then the issue would be adjusted accordingly.

Parking problem along Staithe Road, Barton Turf - Due to recent hot weather and the pandemic lockdown eased, there has been an explosion in the amount of canoes and kayaks and paddleboards being used. An increase in vehicles visiting and parking at the staithe has caused problems, with particular concern that it could prevent emergency services getting access through to the boat yard. The Council proposed that a request is made to Barton Turf Adventure Centre asking if they would allow parking on their first meadow, at a cost to the car user.

Report by Cllr G Mancini-Boyle - All business grants available from the Government finish on 28th August. New Discretionary grants are available by completing an application on NNDC website.

A 90 minute Covid test is now out and it is hoped these will be applied for as soon as possible.

There has been a lot of opposition at North Walsham following road closures around the market place. Since Monday the pavement outside Santander has been widened to allow for social distancing and the traffic has been allowed through the market place.

In Wroxham hand sanitisers have been put in place, and barriers outside the outlets close to the bridge. The barriers have been moved on occasions and the problem is being monitored by PC Gibbs. Cllr Fletcher stated there is no signage about parking for visitors, as they go over the bridge into the centre, so if erected perhaps this would prevent cars still parking at the fish and chip shop. People were reported not to be wearing masks in Roys, but were still able to buy goods. Cllr Mancini-Boyle would be taking the information to the local Parish Council.

Cllr Menges mentioned that the Prime Minister was encouraging cycling to lose weight. She stated that it was difficult to cycle to Stalham with large vehicles overtaking constantly. She asked Cllr Mancini-Boyle if the current footpath could be extended from Gunn's Corner and if it could be designated by NNDC as a cycle path. He would look into funding for it. He left the meeting.

Finance

Internal Audit - Since the last meeting the internal audit had been completed, and the relevant page of the AGAR was signed and completed by the internal auditor.

Approval of the 2019/20 Accounts. The AGAR documents were circulated to all Councillors, along with information of receipts and payments for 2019/20. The Council approved all documentation. The Chairman is to sign both the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement tomorrow. Once the Minutes have been completed, the Clerk will post the Notice of Public Rights and AGAR documentation on parish noticeboards and the Parish Council website, as required by the Auditors.

Payment made since last meeting:

Approval was given to the payment of £32.76 to Indigo Waste Services Ltd. Cheque No. 100856

The Clerk requested approval of payment to:

Three months' salary April to July of £457.18. The Council agreed and approved. Cheque No. 100857

An invoice received by the Clerk today, for £120.00 for grasscutting (three cuts) on Irstead Staithe. The Council agreed and approved. Cheque No. 100858

Planning:

BA/2020/0188 - Ice House, Irstead - Proposed replacement of temporary canopy with permanent canopy over existing boat dock. No comments made

BA/2020/0199 - Grove House, Irstead - Repair + convert stable outbuilding into ancillary accommodation. No objections, recommended digester if not already in use.

PF/20/0941 - Heather Bank, Barton Turf - Detached 2 bay cartshed to front; porch to front elevation. No objections to cartshed, but historically a building rule about front building line.

New - PF/20/1196 - Meadow Way, Berryhall Road - Erection of single storey cart lodge/garage.

No objections.

New - PF/20/1223 - Berry Hall, Berry Hall Road - use of land for siting of additional shepherd's hut, construction of 4 parking spaces and single track. The Council supported the application on the condition that no further applications for additional shepherd's huts would be made. Extra 4th parking space on the site would not be an issue.

Any Other Business

Pie seller at local staithes The couple moved from Neatishead recently to Cornwall, but have returned to the area selling pies from the back of their vehicle. Neatishead Parish Council are logging information about sightings locally.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting.
The next virtual Zoom meeting is on 15th September at 7pm