

Minutes of Barton Turf & Irstead Parish Council virtual meeting on  
Tuesday  
8<sup>th</sup> December 2020

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

Also Present: Norfolk County Council Representative Cllr R Price and North Norfolk District Council Representative Cllr G Mancini-Boyle

The Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated. The Council agreed they are a true record of the meeting.

Declarations of Councillors' interests: None declared.

Matters Arising:

BA 24 hour mooring lease/valuation progress - Since the last meeting, the Chairman had spoken to Broads Authority Planning Department regarding the 24 hour mooring spaces on the staithe to be used as permanent mooring and managed by the Parish Council. This would leave BA's Free 24 hour mooring spaces along Paddy's Lane (156m).

The small Committee had met since the last meeting and provided 4 options to the Council:

***Option 1** We allow BA to continue with the 24hr Free Mooring.*

*Pro's :- They will continue to maintain the quay heading and policing of it for a period of 50 yrs.*

*Con's:- We will have wasted £500 on a valuation which BA have refused outright, even though they have history in paying another parish for a 24hr Free Mooring with similar extra moorings locally, as in Paddy's Lane 24hr FM. We may also have extra cost in employing a solicitor to act on our behalf.*

***Option 2** We take back to the village the larger part of the mooring to be used as permanent mooring for cruisers ( at a cost of £25 -£35 a foot (to be decided later)) and allow BA to retain a much smaller part of the mooring as 24hr FM.*

*Pro's:- We partly capitalise on the value of this mooring whilst still maintaining a reasonable relationship with BA and allow limited 24hr FM.*

*Con's:- As in Option 1. Plus planning permission may be needed to change to permanent mooring rather than 24hr FM. We will also have some extra work in relation to the new permanent mooring.*

***Option 3** We take back the current 24hr FM and rent the whole area to a third party.*

*Pro's:- We capitalise on the potential income from this area.*

*Con's:- We lose control of the area very similar to BA but with an income. In addition we may need planning permission to change to permanent mooring rather than 24hr FM. Lost income from tap (approx. £1000 a year)*

***Option 4** The PC take back the 24hr FM area and rent it out, and to keep two small areas (one on the end near the Black Shed and a 4 metre space in front of the tap to*

allow for water and the ability to drop off and pick up passengers) on a maximum of 30 minute short stay basis.

*Pro's:- Maximum profit, allowing people to obtain water and pick up and drop off passengers. A surplus of money that could help with Black Shed repairs.*

*Con's:- Parish Council would have to maintain the quay heading (the valuer thought the quay heading looked good for 30 yrs) we would need to ring fence a percentage of income to create a maintenance fund solely for eventual repairs. There will be some work involved in setting it up, ensuring we have all paperwork correct. In addition, we may need planning permission to change to predominantly permanent mooring rather than 24hr FM.*

The Council unanimously agreed to Option 4. The Chairman is to have a meeting with Broads Authority Planning Department to discuss further.

Boats abandoned on the river - Mr Packman from the Broads Authority had responded to the Council's concerns, stating that The Broads Authority applies a standard process for assessing a vessels safety and the outward appearance is not part of that assessment. Wherever possible BA work with the registered owner or landowner to resolve the issues to move the abandoned boat before high costs are incurred by the Authority. When all avenues are exhausted the action to remove is undertaken. Again this may not be to the expectation of a third party, but these issues are often complicated and require sensitive and delicate handling. Cllr Mills stated that a few abandoned boats had been towed away recently from the river in Norwich. It is hoped that they will address the problem at a more local level.

New Victory Hall update - Since the lockdown changes in tiers, bookings had changed. A request had been made by Hoveton Village Hall to accommodate some of their bookings as their Hall had been booked for 6 months as a Covid vaccination hub. The Committee reported there was not much extra capacity for more regular groups, and with no bus route through Neatishead it had been suggested they use the Church Hall at Wroxham. The Committee were keen to protect the loyalty of the regular user groups. It was reported that the Hall was financially sound. The next event, a joint Saturday market and Christmas fayre, is to be held on December 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 12 noon.

### Highways

Staithe Road trees and flooding - The Chairman had a meeting with Broads Authority Matt Dane, and spoke to NCC Highways Justin Le-Hays about the flooding down Staithe Road, which was impacting on the Black Shed. NCC Highways acknowledged that as part of their remit, the gulley at Staithe Road, sump and pipe would be cleaned out.

A response from the arboriculturist is still awaited.

Potholes - A large number of potholes had been filled in. Cllr Menges reported that the side of the highway close to Irstead Manor had collapsed due to excess use by large delivery vehicles. The Clerk was asked to include a link in the next NIB which would enable anybody to report highway issues. Cllr Price confirmed that this was usual in most parishes. It was important that the exact location is specified, together with approximate depth, size etc.

Signposts - Some posts had been replaced by Highways since the last meeting. The Clerk had requested extra boardwalk signs from the Broads Authority, for visitors entering Irstead from King Street, Neatishead.

Village Sign repair progress - The Chairman advised that the new sign will be erected on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, by Conversion Green.

NCC Representative - Mr Richard Price

Highways have recently purchased 8 new more efficient gritters, which have been very busy on these recent frosty mornings. Covid cases stand at 720 in North Norfolk, but the rate has dropped from 85 to 69 per 100,000, with 3 more fatalities in North Norfolk. With the vaccine roll-out starting, it is still imperative that people are encouraged to wash hands, wear masks and keep socially distanced.

NNDC Representative - Mr Gerard Mancini-Boyle

MP Duncan Baker has helped greatly with the Covid vaccines being supplied to the region, with two hospitals out of 50 receiving them. NNDC is able to provide a card meter or small grants to those struggling with heating this winter. Bird flu has affected the region, particularly with the turkey farms. NNDC is rolling out a new fleet of dustcarts which will drastically increase collection rates and service to the communities.

Cllr Menges asked if the money for cycle paths, as promised by Prime Minister Boris Johnson, could be accessed by NNDC. Cllr Mancini-Boyle stated it was all down to funding.

Report from PC Gibbs

A report had been circulated to all Councillors since the last meeting. The Clerk read out a recent email stating that PC Gibbs reiterated that it was important for everybody to remain vigilant and report anything suspicious, particularly in light of the local burglary, and a recent fraud scam which was unsuccessful.

Correspondence received for discussion:

NCC Boundary Review. No comments were made by the Councillors, but Cllr Price advised that North Norfolk is the biggest area to be affected by the new recommendations. The update will mean Stalham will be joined up with all the rural parishes. It is to take effect in just over 4 years' time and will have a significant impact on residents' lives. It was important that Councillors and others make their views known to Norfolk County Council.

Finance:

Payments made since the last meeting:

C Barrett (grass cutting on the common for half year)	£544.00	Cheque No. 100862
D Bradley - salary July to October		£457.18 Cheque No. 100863
S Stone - grasscutting Irstead staithe	£120.00	Cheque No. 100864

Monies received since the last meeting:

Second half of precept from NNDC of £3,310

Clerk's salary - The Clerk requested the Council approve an increase in hours per week from 3.6 to 4, and in line with the National Joint Council of Local Governing Body the increase from 35.17 to £40.15 per week, to be backdated from 1<sup>st</sup> April, making an increase due, to 25<sup>th</sup> October, of £146.91. The Chairman stated that the increase in hours had been requested for work completed for Barton Turf Community Charities which has been so far unpaid. The Council voted unanimously in favour. Cheque No. 100865

Grasscutting on Common - A quotation from Mr C Barrett had been received for an increase from £1,088 to £1,200 for cutting the common. The Council approved. It was to be checked if this was fixed for a further three year term.

Following research since the last meeting, the Council discussed, voted and approved that payments be made to:

Barton Turf Parochial Church Council £250.00 Cheque No. 100868

Iinstead Parochial Church Council £200.00 Cheque No. 100867

#### Payment to New Victory Hall

After it was agreed at the last meeting that £450 of the £600, paid last year to the New Victory Hall to help with the salary of the caretaker, should remain in the Hall funds, it was proposed by Cllr Mills that a sum of only £300 is paid this year to the New Victory Hall to assist with the cost of a new access system. All Councillors voted in favour, with the option to review this if circumstances change at the New Victory Hall. Cheque No. 1008868

The Council agreed that the other sum of £300 should be paid towards the final cost of the new village sign. All Councillors voted in favour.

#### Planning:

PF/20/1425 - Berry Hall - replacement of existing windows and doors with new ones. Approved by NNDC.

PF/20/1687 - The Halt, The Street, Barton Turf - Roof work incorporating 4 dormer windows, 2 rooflights, erection of 1.5 storey front extension, 3 car parking spaces and installation of septic tank. No objections by the Parish Council.

BA/2020/0370/HOUSEH Tweenways, Callow Green - conversion of existing Stable Black in Amenity Rooms. The Parish Council proposed that, provided a suitable sewage system for increased waste is addressed, there are no objections.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting. The next virtual meeting is to be held on Tuesday January 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 7pm.

