

Minutes of Barton Turf & Irstead Parish Council virtual meeting held on 23rd February 2021

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

Also present: G Mancini-Boyle (NNDC rep) and R Price (NCC rep)
Apologies from PC Gibbs

The minutes of the last two meetings had been circulated. The minutes of the meeting held on 12th January were approved.

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 26th January were amended to read under Note 2: "An apology was sent on behalf of the Council on the basis of the email content, *before the case was investigated*" also "There currently is no Complaints Procedure in place, but a draft has been drawn up which will be sent to the Councillors to check and discuss at the next meeting.

The Chairman stressed it was important for each Councillor to identify themselves and explain why it was necessary to speak with any resident.

The Chairman agreed to send a further email to the complainants.

3. A note of resignation has been received from Cllr Menges. The Chairman sent her an email saying how sorry he was to hear of her decision".....

The Council voted in favour of the amendments and both are to be signed by the Chairman at the next formal meeting.

Declarations of Councillors' interests - None

MATTERS ARISING:

BA 24 hour mooring valuation report - the sub Committee are breaking up the work between them but a small grant committee needs to be created. Cllr Dean agreed to help as part of a team.

New Victory Hall - With the easing of Covid19 restrictions, and provided there are no imminent changes with increased rates of infection, the Hall will be able to reopen on 12th April, for activities/events permissible by Government criteria. Hopefully by 21st June everything can run as normal as possible.

Highways

Staithe Road flooding - the gully has not been cleared - Highways deadline of 1st March. Cllrs Neave and Mills will look at the gully, but not the blocked drains under the staithe.

Boardwalk signs - Highways had advised that they were not able to provide signs for a private car park. The Clerk highlighted it was a public car park with public conveniences. The Council suggested the request should be for a brown sign for the tourist attraction.

Mud on roads - A letter to farmers had been deferred as most of the local roads were mainly clear following snow and ice. A minority were still causing problems. Cllr Price advised that with the sugar beet season extended this would continue to be a problem on minor roads, and Highways would be some time in catching up with their various issues.

Overhanging branches - Openreach has been advised that a branch is laying on a cable at the top of Staithe Road.

Cox's boatyard reported that branches along the top of the Common had caused damage to a low-loader transporting a large boat to the boatyard. A request had been made to Barton Hall and the Farming Manager to manage the trees, but without response to date. Cox's offered to pursue the request to prevent future damage.

Damaged Street sign - Staithe Road - During the cold weather a milk float slid on ice into the street sign damaging one of the supporting posts. NNDC are in the process of replacing and reinstating the sign.

Telephone kiosk - The work, including a drain into the Common pond, has to date successfully prevented the kiosk, and also the bus shelter, from flooding. The cost of materials amounted to £153.42, payable to Cllr Neave. The Council approved payment.

Gaye's staithe quayheading - A private boat has been left moored at the quayheading. The Broads Authority has asked the owner to contact Cllr Neave, but to date there has been no contact.

Irstead Staithe - grasscutting quotation - A quotation was received for £45.00 per cut between March and October 2021, an increase of £5.00 per cut from last year. The Council voted to approve the quotation which covers weedkilling, replacing posts etc.

Monitoring of temporary closure of car parks - Cllr Price stated that our actions had been noticed by various local parishes, some of which were in awe of the decision made. NNDC and BA had not closed public car parks, but one in Horsey was closed due to the vulnerability of local shop owners who were seeing visitors from Mildenhall, Colchester and other areas. Due to the staithe closures, visitors were parking on roads close by in Barton Turf and Irstead, and though the right action was taken at the peak of high levels of infection, there was no material benefit to the parishioners. As lockdown is being eased gradually, and with only another month till the fishing season ends, the Council voted unanimously to take down the signs from the three staithe.

Complaints Procedure - Cllr Dean proposed an additional sentence at the beginning of the draft document. The amended copy would be forwarded to Councillors for further approval and adoption.

Report from Norfolk County Councillor R Price - The present weekly figure reports 2,903 Covid19 cases in North Norfolk, an increase from 52 per 100,000 to 55 per 100,000, and a further 15 people have lost their lives. The lockdown exit will cause people to be more careless so it's important for everybody to keep to the rules of social distancing and wearing masks.

36 different organisations are currently involved in the flood risk in Norfolk. The County Council are providing a £1.5million flood reserve, with a Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance formed to spend time to solve the problem for internal broadland and coastal flooding issues.

Cllr Price is processing the provision of Sam2 sign which is to be shared between Neatishead and Barton Turf parishes.

Cllr Price has done a lot of work looking at the quay heading planning issue, talking to different colleagues, which suggests planning permission is not needed, but more advice is awaited. He recommended the Council become members of the Broads Society for £16 per year, to benefit from their support and advice.

Report from North Norfolk District Councillor G Mancini-Boyle - Checks were made at Hoveton and North Walsham vaccination hubs which are working very well. Cllr Mancini-Boyle had contacted the NNDC rep for the Broads Authority regarding a survey on the Black Shed, but nothing heard to date. Once the survey is done then the Council will be able to apply for grants.

PC Gibbs had sent in a report advising that Broadsbeat are conducting patrols on the river network targeting those who are either travelling long distances to access the water, or who are out boating without reasonable excuse. Currently sailing, canoeing and rowing are accepted as forms of exercise along with fishing from a boat. Fishing is not allowed overnight.

The Council has requested he addresses issues concerning the liveboard at Barton Staithe.

Correspondence received:

Broadland Futures Initiative - BA, together with the Environment Agency and other partners are holding a virtual exhibition and online survey to hear from stakeholders and local communities about their priorities, in a world where climate change might affect us in many ways, including through the risk of flooding. There will also be a series of virtual village hall events for anyone to attend and listen to the project team.

Webinar - Helping Local Council secure external funding - Cllrs Dean and McFadyen have booked a session and are to report back to the Council.

Finance:

The Council approved payments made since the last meeting of:

Zurich Municipal Insurance	£532.61	Cheque No. 100872
J Miller (trees at gravel pits)	£500.00	Cheque No. 100873

The Chairman submitted a claim of £153.42 for materials used at the telephone kiosk base. The Council approved payment. Cheque No. 100874

NVH acknowledged receipt of £300 which is to contribute towards the cost of a new access system at the Hall.

Planning:

BA/2021/0037 - Staithe Lodge, Hall Road - Works to Trees	No objections by Council
BA/2021/0052 - Barton Village, Hall Road - Works to Trees	No objections by Council
BA/2021/0034/FUL - Grove House - Change of use of redundant agricultural barn and yard into use. Cart lodge extension to west of existing barn. New garaging outbuilding and part demolition of existing grain store.	No objections by Council
PF/21/0291 - Primrose Cottage, The Common - two storey rear extension.	No objections by Council

Any Other Business

Irstead bottle bank collection - the Clerk advised that Indigo Waste confirms the last collection from Irstead Staithe was on 29th September 2020.

There being nothing further to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting. The next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting, followed by the Parish Council Meeting, on Tuesday 6th April at 7pm