

SNETTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Snettisham Parish Council held on Wednesday, 7th
December, 2016 at 7.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall

Present:

Cllr R Barker (RB) – Presiding

Cllr J Bateson (JBn), Cllr M Billington (MB), Cllr S Dark (SD), Cllr M Fountain (MF),
Cllr P Morton (PM), Cllr S Pipe (SP), Cllr R Pugh (RP), Cllr D Snelgrove (DS), Cllr A
Todd (AT), Cllr D Westwood (DW)

Also in attendance: County Cllr J Dobson (JD), Borough Cllr I Devereux (ID)

Approximately 8 members of the public

Minutes taken by Simon Bower (Clerk to the Council)

In the Hall, the Crowded Room art project was on display. Some councillors wore seasonally appropriate clothing.

Meeting started at 7pm

2016.12.07.01 – There were **apologies** for absence from Cllr Bailey, and BCKLWN Cllr Wright.

2016.12.07.02 – There were no **declarations** of interest.

2016.12.07.03 – Bob Almey referred to a conversation he had overheard regarding item 12.a and the lack of need for funding.

2016.12.07.04 – The **Chair** commented on many recent events: Remembrance Day (favourable comments received); Christmas Lights - Carols and switch-on; Christmas Market; opening of new classrooms at the School; the Crowded Room art project; Book¹ launch at the School. During this report, many individuals and organisations were thanked: AT, Cllr Bailey, Royal British Legion, Salvation Army, Poppyfields, Revd Wilson, Borough Deputy Mayor, Events Committee, Sir Henry Bellingham and the Halls Foundation. RB also referred to the upcoming Carol Service at St Mary's.

2016.12.07.05 – There being no objections, the **minutes** of the meeting on 2nd November, 2016, having been previously circulated, were taken as read.

2016.12.07.06 – There were no **matters arising** from the above minutes.

2016.12.07.07 – ID reported that **BCKLWN** cabinet had met, and three of their recommendations were of specific interest: council tax discounts on empty/uninhabitable properties were to be reduced; CIL to be adopted on 15th Feb, 2017; a process to make it easier for those who needed help leaving hospital was being put in place. JD reported on two items coming before the imminent **NCC** meeting: Unitary basis for Norfolk – an attempt to remove District/Borough Councils; consideration of the inquiry report on the incinerator issue.

2016.12.07.08 – Clerk reported on nearest crime of which he had been made being in Grimston. **Police** had also announced that an arrest had been made following a serious stabbing in Lynn.

¹ "Gold from Norfolk" by Michael Haden and the children of the Primary School. Clerk noted this was on sale, and a copy had been purchased for the Office.

Signed: 

(Chair)

Date: 11/1/17

2016.12.07.09.a – There were no questions or comments on the **budget** monitoring. Clerk reported that all areas were on or below budget, and predicted an underspend of c.£13,000.

2016.12.07.09.b – Clerk explained that one cheque was being re-presented to change the payee. A large bill from Apogee had come in for next month covering the period where the TORC printed in colour. Electricity prices had increased, Clerk to take best value on quotes. *Council approved the expenditure as listed.*

Prop: MF; 2nd: RP; unanimous

2016.12.07.09.c – Clerk presented **proposed 2017/18 budgets** prepared after meetings and discussions for councillors' information. There may be additions for longer-term projects. Councillors to make requests, comments etc., prior to vote on budget and precept in January meeting.

2016.12.07.10.a – DS reported there were no **planning** applications. Councillors were happy with Clerk's proposal to reply to any applications arriving in December with an automatic objection to allow time for consideration – in line with letter written last year. The **Post Office** consultation would be before Council next month – Clerk had written requesting a Highways plan re: parking etc. be available at that time.

2016.12.07.10.b.i-iii – *Council accepted by consensus the recommendations of the Amenities Group for spending of: £285 removing epicormic growth on limes, £110 on the oak in Shelduck Avenue and £320 for a new **tree** survey.*

2016.12.07.10.b.iv – *Council agreed to accept a quote of £1808 from Proctor Roofing for work on the Market Square **bus shelter** roof.*

Prop: SD; 2nd: PM; 10-0; 1 abst

2016.12.07.10.b.v – RP/MF to look at moving **plants**. No quote received. Deferred.

2016.12.07.10.b.vi – Clerk awaiting response to enquiry from NCC and BCKLWN about the exact details of how possible SPC **maintenance of green areas** etc. may work. Deferred. SD referred to the need to maintain Southgate Lane once work parties and contractors had done initial clearing work.

2016.12.07.10.b.vii – Clerk to seek amendments to **footpath map** to include Beach area. *Council agreed by consensus to purchase three copies of this at £80ea. To be sited at Market Square, Office and Common.*

SD reported that requests for action/information had been made re: northern approach to Village – possible planting; white lines in Village Centre; Crossing Patrol; possible Office improvements. Responses awaited.

2016.12.07.10.c – *By consensus it was agreed to insert into the General Contract the clause: "Invoices should be submitted by the end of the following month. Council reserves the right to withhold payment if they are not."*

2016.12.07.10.d – RB reported Clerk's **Appraisal** completed and signed in October.

2016.12.07.10.e.i – AT outlined the process to date on the **Play Area** proposals. *It was agreed that Council should formally confirm Playdale as the Preferred Contractor, as per previous group recommendation.*

Prop: AT; 2nd: MF; unanimous

Clerk outlined the financial implications², "sources" of precept-neutral income and potential impact of the proposals (including reference to the solar farm funding being confirmed earlier in the day). Beyond funds already committed, this was a likely impact on reserves of around £4,250 – SD observed larger numbers of houses would increase income, making good this shortfall. There was a lengthy discussion of possible alternatives, and questions re: work already required (H&S etc), aftercare, guarantees, maintenance of current equipment. *Council agreed to expenditure of £58,743 on the complete **Play Area proposals** at the Memorial Field and Lodge Walk – 25% to be paid on signing of contract and 75% on completion.*

Prop: SD; 2nd: MF; unanimous

2016.12.07.10.e.ii – MB reported that the **Neighbourhood Plan** Group had met with Alan Gomm and his team from BCKLWN. They had looked at the draft sent to them, and given suggestions and advice. Revisions on that basis were underway. Generally, they were happy with the contents. Next will be consultation by SPC then formal submission, inspection and referendum. DS referred to this process as "Snexit". CIL funding details and consequences were discussed.

2016.12.07.11 – Clerk reported on **networking** morning he had attended. Councillors had notes already, but NPTS were proposing a full alternative to NorfolkALC which may be worth considering in due course.

2016.12.07.12.a – After a lengthy and lively discussion referring to the comments in 3 above, *Council agreed to **donate** £50 to the Snettisham Pensioners' Annual Meal.*³⁴

Prop: SD; 2nd: MF; 8-3

2016.12.07.12.b – *Council agreed to **donate** £50 to the Heacham & District Community Car Scheme.*⁵

Prop: AT; 2nd: JBn; 5-3

2016.12.07.13 – A.O.B – Clerk referred to a donation of £20 from the contractors to help with re-instating the crocuses on Strickland/Lynn corner.

2016.12.07.14 – B Almey mentioned a technique for dealing with epicormic growth, a possible further electricity provider and asked about the Townlands AGM. H Blackburn felt that Council should have given more to SPAM in 12.a above and was not happy that accounts were mentioned. G Deverick thanked Council for their concern for youngsters exemplified in the Play Area decision.

2016.12.07.15 – Next meeting was confirmed as 7.30pm on Wednesday 11th January, 2017.

Meeting ended at c.9.05

Abbreviations:

BCKLWN – Borough Council; CIL - Community Infrastructure Levy; NCC – County Council; (S)PC – (Snettisham) Parish Council

² Figures attached as presented to Council

³ There was an amendment proposed by DW (2nd PM) to seek accounts and/or further information. This was lost on the Chair's casting vote.

⁴ A Councillor agreed to make this up to the £100 requested from his business.

⁵ There was an amendment proposed by MF (2nd RP) to increase this to £100. This was not passed.

Signed:



(Chair)

Date: 11/1/17

PLAY AREA FUNDING FIGURES

Cost of complete plan for Lodge Walk and Mem Hall Fld play area:

£58,743

Funds currently allocated:

2 years of ring-fenced sums from budget	£6,000	
Ring-fenced re: Townlands	£2,500	
Playing Field (£5,000 from 16/17, remainder reserves)	£15,000	
Solar farm	£11,500	
From Car Boot	£785	
Sub-Total		£35,785

Donations/Grants:

Sub-Total		£2,400
-----------	--	---------------

Additional Sources

17/18 budget for areas as in previous years	£3,000	
Likely underspend 16/17 - minimum	£12,000	
PWLB previous years*	£1,300	

Sub-Total		£16,300
-----------	--	----------------

Total - 1		<u>£54,485</u>
-----------	--	-----------------------

Shortfall - reserves		<u>£4,258</u>
----------------------	--	----------------------

**note this for play area; ceased in 16/17 with one payment*

notes - ring-fenced sums cause drop in reserves of £23,500

Signed:



(Chair)

Date: 11/1/17