

SNETTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Snettisham Parish Council held on Wednesday, 6th March, 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall

Present:

Cllr R Pugh (RP) – Presiding

Cllr J Bateson (JB), Cllr M Billington (MB), Cllr G Byrne (GB), Cllr S Dark (SD), Cllr G Deverick (GD), Cllr P Morton (PM)

Also in attendance: Borough Cllr I Devereux (ID)

Approximately 30 members of the public

Minutes taken by Simon Bower (Clerk to the Council)

Meeting started at 7.31

2019.03.06.01 – There were **apologies** for absence from Councillors Barker, Carey, Platt and Snelgrove.

2019.03.06.02 – There were no **declarations** of interest.

2019.03.06.03 – RP advised that, on legal advice, and while awaiting answers to a series of questions, item 12.b would be deferred to another date. **Public Participation:** Arthur Clarkson asked about the larger number of homes on the proposed Poppyfields site – SNP allowed more only if a significant additional benefit accrued; also if the Pigeon feedback would be published – it would; Peter Bradshaw spoke on the MUGA lighting for which a grant had been received – there was also discussion of timings, 11pm not the case, 8 or 9 likely but negotiation possible; Jean Parkes asked which Councillor had visited the neighbouring properties – PM; David Bocking felt this was a “bit low”; was the Community Centre on the SNP?¹ – no, land offer part of potential community benefit from Pigeon development arising after referendum; David Bocking asked about the Post Office – van visiting Memorial Hall.

2019.03.06.04 – As **Chairman**, RP expressed her sadness that the Village had been affected by recent knife and drug incidents, and that rabbit snares had been found in the Coastal Park (thanking Ken Hill gamekeepers for removing). She thanked Pigeon for their presentation on possible new housing, and expressed her delight at the plans for the old Garden Centre, wishing the owner “good fortune”.

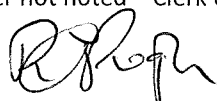
2019.03.06.05 – *The **minutes** of the meeting on 6th February, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and duly signed.*

2019.03.06.06 – There were no **matters arising** raised from the above minutes.

2019.03.06.07 – For **BCKLWN**, ID reported on the “Scrap Fly-tipping” campaign and attempts to encourage landowners to “take their part”. A new waste procurement contract was being finalised – may run to 2037 – and HMG consulting on all waste arrangements including standardising recycling across country, food waste, garden waste and plastic matters – the garden waste proposals may impact BCKLWN finances severely. The new Local Development Plan [LDF] is now out for consultation. GB raised a fly-tipping matter, and PM expressed the view that the emphasis on computer reporting was ageist and

¹ Questioner not noted – Clerk unsighted

Signed:



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discriminatory. Janet Lane asked about the increase in garden waste charges – ID replied that costs had to be recouped, or Council Tax would have to rise. MB asked about the SNP and the LDF – it would be “primary evidence” in this. Clerk noted the LDF consultation had arrived, and that Heacham PC had written requesting PCs to support some of its views – these included the fact that “at least” was now appended to all planning numbers; Clerk noted that SPC had strongly protested this at the last LDF consultation.

For **NCC**, SD reported that a balanced budget of £1.4bn had been set, and that HMG funding had been reduced by £200m p.a. since 2010, causing pressure on Counties, Districts and Parishes. One-off funds were increasingly difficult to obtain as HMG was “snarled up” with “the B-word”². NCC committed to delivering all front-line services. He noted, more locally: his support for the new Poppyfields retail site; there would be consultation on a Traffic Regulation Order re: speed cameras and limits on the A149; his continued offer to help with funding on Footpath 18; new bus stops at Dersingham Surgery (funding from his budget and by Dersingham PC). PM asked about the spotlight shining onto the A149 – [Clerk] this had been raised with owner and Police, but nothing done.

2019.03.06.08 – Despite at least two emails, **Police** had not responded to Clerk’s request to attend re: incidents referred to by Chairman.

2019.03.06.09.a – Clerk reported on the **budget** figures. These were near to accurate end of year figures, though there were some large invoices (bridge, trees and street lights) which he thought may arrive soon, and it would be helpful for accounts if these could be settled before the end of the month.

2019.03.06.09.b – *All **expenditure** listed was agreed without objection.*

2019.03.06.09.c – Given that the next meeting was six weeks away, Clerk requested permission to approve limited **cheque** payments. *Council agreed that Clerk could authorise payment of previously agreed expenditure, and Health and Safety issues where necessary to ensure work done promptly.*

Prop: RP; 2nd: MB; unanimous

2019.03.06.09.d – Clerk noted news of **CIL** payment for c.£3,000 due in April, and that this would have been £5,000 if SNP had been in place at the time.

2019.03.06.09.d.i – *Council agreed Clerk should draft a Protocol for **CIL** expenditure³.*

2019.03.06.10.a.i – In the absence of Cllr Snelgrove, MB led on **Planning**.

Commenting generally on PAs 19/00254, ..256 and ...309 (Pavilion and MUGA) he re-affirmed SPC minuted position of general support. He noted that SPC had commissioned a surveyor (with MHT agreement) to look at the best layout of the entire field, and that this report had not yet been received, though Planning permission had still been sought by MHT. Applications had had to be changed to correct the landowner to SPC. Explaining that Planning approval could be sought on land not owned by the applicant, he noted permission would still be needed from the landowner for any works to proceed, as with the footpath being moved. [Interruptions] GD asked for confirmation of the location proposed – tennis court. GB expressed reservations relating to the survey not being mentioned in the applications, his support for the whole idea of the Pavilion and MUGA improvements, concern over an individual driving the process, the rising costs

² Presumably Brexit

³ Possibly including that majority should be spent of PC projects; other suggestions requested.

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(£100K to £310K, £390K including VAT) [Gasps], and worries over what happened if things went wrong; he noted his desire for formal meetings, rather than a one-on-one in the pub, concluding with his distaste for the recent exchanges on facebook. SD added that he was concerned by the arguing over the issue when both SPC and MHT should be concerned to get the "biggest bang for the buck". The surveyor's report should be awaited to allow a "form follows function" approach, rather than things being "railroaded" through with possible regret later. This was in no way a criticism of those who volunteered to the benefit of the Village, but concern over the spending of large amounts of people's money. MB proposed objecting to the plans in the absence of the survey, stressing SPC's general support but that the correct location was essential. SD requested it be minuted that the MHT intention was "great", but that it was vital to get the "best we can achieve", and this was not a blocking move.

Taking these plans first:

2019.03.06.10.a.i.1 - Council agreed to object to the MUGA application (19/00254) on the grounds above.

Prop: MB; 2nd: GD; 5-1, 1 abst

2019.03.06.10.a.i.3 – A proposal (MB/RP) to object to the Pavilion on similar grounds was not supported. Council agreed to support the application for the extension to the Pavilion (19/00256).

Prop: SD; 2nd: GD; unanimous

2019.03.06.10.a.i.4 – Lighting for the MUGA (19/00309) was held to be covered by the same objections as in a.i.1 above.

PM noted that lighting might be used on the field itself.

2019.03.06.10.a.i.2 – Application 19/00255 (new dwelling behind Norton Hill) was supported by Council, with MB requesting concerns be raised over access and the integrity of the Quarry.

Prop: PM; 2nd: GD; 6-0, 1 abst

2019.03.06.10.a.i.5 – Council agreed by consensus to support application 19/000312⁴ (extension, 21 Station Rd).

SD restated his belief that SPC should redouble its efforts to work with MHT, supporting their efforts.

2019.03.06.10.b.i – Council agreed the purchase of three new **benches** – brown, 1500mm long – from NBB matching the most recent purchases⁵⁶.

Prop: RP; 2nd: GD; unanimous

2019.03.06.10.c.i – Clerk apologised for lack of **TORC** article to consider. This will include information on developments, elections and the SNP (second homes survey) as well as usual notes; to be circulated to Councillors on production.

2019.03.06.10.d/e – no **Personnel** or **Project Development** matters.

2019.03.06.10.f.i – Council agreed by consensus a public meeting on 25th September in the Methodist Church, looking at the **Common** and other associated matters⁷, with necessary expenses, refreshments and hall hire.

2019.03.06.11 – RP referred to the last of the **SNAP** meetings, which would now be replaced by "engagement meetings", given the general lack of attendance by

⁴ Clerk apologised for typo giving wrong reference number on agenda.

⁵ One to replace that destroyed by collision near church, second to replace its neighbour, and third for Newbridge. Possible relocation of those removed to Common if possible.

⁶ SD offered possible funding from his budget.

⁷ In association with Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

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the public. She had expressed her views on visibility and public feelings in a recent (filmed) interview for the Police. At the meeting the Police did not know whether the proposed speed cameras would pick up offending motor-bikes. Clerk reported on a useful **training** session he had attend with RP on footpaths, commons and village greens – details to be circulated. PM noted that NALC might be informed that they could do some training in the local area.

2019.03.06.12.a – Council agreed to re-iterate the policy relating to removal of wood from the **Common**, and that a draft letter from the Clerk be sent to a resident. Given the problems with enforcement, no proposal to limit such removal was made.

2019.03.06.12.b – **Donation** request from MHT. Deferred as above.

2019.03.06.13 – No **agenda** requests or **AOB**.

2019.03.06.14 – **Public Participation**: Bob Almey asked if the tennis court would stay if the MUGA goes elsewhere – depends on survey – mentioned possible disturbance from any potential car park; David Bocking said time was being wasted – RP stressed the need for the “very best place for the very best MUGA”; Jean Savage asked if there were to be any additional meetings regarding the Community Centre beyond that on May 8th – none proposed; Bob Almey asked if development group meetings were to be published – up to group to request this from Full Council; David Bocking remarked that he would continue to take wood from the Common and if necessary SPC could put him in prison; Peter Bradshaw (for the Memorial Hall) remarked that the MHT were thinking of the “bigger picture”, noted the large number of people using the playing field and MHT desire to get the best facilities for the Village concluding with “we have looked at all these points” [Applause] SD noted that he had the “utmost respect” for volunteers and what they did for the Village was great; however, asking questions was vital to get the best for the Village, and avoid a recurrence of things going wrong, as in the past. Decisions need to be “informed” and the two parties should work together on the basis of an independent report. There was no need for anyone to be portrayed as “Panto Villains” and he was uncomfortable with the present situation.

2019.03.06.15 – The next **meeting** was confirmed as 7.30pm on Wednesday, 17th April in the Memorial Hall⁸.

At 9.20pm the public began to leave the meeting, which concluded in private session as per the agenda.

2019.03.06.17 – The Clerk noted some matters where he sought guidance from Council on how he should respond. Council agreed that the approach he suggested was correct.

Meeting ended at c.9.35pm

Abbreviations:

BCKLWN – Borough Council; HMG – Her Majesty’s Government; MHT – Memorial Hall Trustees; NCC – County Council; SNP – Snettisham Neighbourhood Plan; (S)PC – (Snettisham) Parish Council; WECMS – Wash East Coast Management Strategy

⁸ Note not the first Wednesday of April.

Signed: 

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