

Wormegay Parish Council - Meeting Minutes

Chair: Peter Sneesby

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Clerk: Julian Snape

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The meeting of Wormegay Parish Council took place on 29th October 2019 in the Tottenhill and Wormegay Village Hall at 7pm.

Present: *Chairman:* Peter Sneesby, *Councillors:* Jill McArdle, Elizabeth Gannon, Gwen Reddington and Kevan Reddington. *Clerk:* Julian Snape. Also present were four parishioners.

1. Apology for Absence

Councillors: Jonathan Pearce, Mike Johnson and Borough Councillor Mike Howland

2. Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda

None

3. Minutes of Meeting Held on 24th September 2019 to be Approved and Signed

These were duly approved unanimously and signed. No matters were reported.

5. Chairman's, Borough Councillors and Clerks Reports

Chairman: Cllr Sneesby reported that the last meeting at the Mission Room was good and was well attended. Further meetings in the Mission Room to be held next year. After investigations over insurance it appears that the insurance will cover a village New Years Party on the Village Green and Mission Room as long as there were no public fireworks involved.

Borough Councillor: Cllr Sneesby read out Borough Councillor Mike Howland's *report:* My report this month focuses on Downham Market and the changes taking place which haven't been welcomed by many people, firstly the Town Council decided to change their standing orders allowing Councillors to wear what they like at Town Council Meetings even when members of the public are present. Secondly the decision has been taken to finish the popular Dragon Boat Racing with immediate effect. There is an intention to move the Council offices from Priory Road into the Town Hall and rent out Priory Road to provide an income (no costings have been carried out at this time). It is rumoured that the Town Market is going to be relocated from the car park back into what was the old Market on the other side of the Town Hall, this is to coincide with the car parking charges which I understand will come into effect in or about April/May next year in order that the Council can maximise the income from car parking. There is the possibility of the Chinese Lion Dance being cancelled celebrating the Chinese New Year together with the St George's Day event where the school children come to the Town Square to see the dragon being killed by St George. There are many new Town Councillors with different ideas on how they feel the Council should be run as so time will tell if they have got it right or not, the committee system has been scrapped and replaced with working and steering groups. Airfield Ward like others is suffering from the usual speeding traffic, dog fouling, pot holes , and theft from farms. I thought meeting at the old reading rooms went down well and it nice to see so many villagers even if it was to discuss the potential Quarry issue.

Clerk: Nothing to report

6. Reports from last meeting – (Parishioners participation limited to 3 mins each)

Dog waste bins:

The paperwork has been signed off and 3 wooden posts will be sourced with the assistance of a parishioner. Cllr McArdle will collect the bins from Cllr Reddington.

Traffic Calming Signs:

The Parish Partnership Scheme match funding completed application form will be sent to Norfolk County Council in advance of the December deadline to assist with the purchase of one SAM traffic calming electronic sign.

Other traffic related issues:

The Highways Department Rangers are available to visit soon. **AI Clerk forward details to Cllr McArdle.**

Cllr Gwen Reddington confirmed that the speed guns the Parish Council once had were on loan and had been returned several years ago.

It was reported that lorries from Blackborough End were still cutting through the village. Cllr Sneesby advised villagers to keep a log of registrations, dates and rimes for escalation to the Traffic Commissioners Office. Cllr Sneesby also noted that there were only 14 Traffic Officers for the whole of Norfolk .

Although there have been some attempts at road repairs on the road out of the village to Blackborough End they seem only temporary and some cracking repairs, and one of the passing places had been put out of commission. Cllr Gwen Reddington spoke to Mr Wallace of the Highways Department who confirmed the repairs are temporary but will be made permanent at some time in the future, which may require the road closing for up to three weeks.

Defibrillator:

Cllr Sneesby indicated there may have been a miscommunication with the Mission Room and they may have thought it needed to be installed inside. It will only require external installation and the cost of electrical charging would only be between £2 - £8 per year. A parishioner was open to the possibility of mounting it on their house, although this may have issues if the house was even sold on and a new occupant was unhappy with the installation and access.

It may also be possible to mount a defibrillator independently on a post if it can be solar powered. **AI Cllr Gannon to investigate costs.**

7. Health and Safety

Nothing to report.

8. Planning

No new planning applications.

The objections to the Silica Quarry Proposals have been sent into Norfolk Country Council and it was hoped that as many individual villagers as possible had sent in their own objection letters too. It would also appear that unless the current land owner of the proposed quarry site were willing to sell it may not go ahead as so far no site has ever been compulsory purchased for sand or mineral extraction.

9. Financial Report for this Meeting and Approval of Cheques

Current balance: £18,507.57

Cheques approved: £177.40 Clerk Wages

All cheques were unanimously approved.

10. Other village matters and items for future agendas

Cllr Sneesby indicated there may be a solution for the loss of the regular village bus service through the village which had been reported to be ending after Christmas. Although he couldn't go into any detail a solution was looking hopeful.

It was mentioned that the village needed a map as visitors and delivery people often got lost around the village. The Clerk (who is a trained cartographer) will investigate what can be done.

11. The date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting is Tuesday 26th November 2019 at 7pm at the Wormegay and Tottenhill Village Hall.