

Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of
Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council at the Community Centre, Sporle
On Thursday 14th July 2018 at 7.30pm.

Gordon Burrows GB (Chairman)
Helen Dye HD
John Barley JB
Murdo Durrant MD (Clerk to Parish Council)

Kalvin McLeod KM (Vice-Chairman)
Helen Bartley HB
Jacqui Howard JH
Peter Wilkinson PW (Breckland District
Council) BDC

Two members of the public

1. **To receive and consider and vote on accepting apologies for absence:** Sue Clark (SC) sent her apologies as she was away on holiday. Ed Colman (EC) Norfolk County Councillor sent his apologies as he had another meeting this evening. Apology from SC accepted unanimously proposed by JB seconded by HD.
2. **To approve the minutes of the meeting of the council held on the 14th June 2018:** Proposed by KM seconded by HB passed unanimously.
3. **To record any declarations of interest in any items discussed:** Nil
4. **To adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public, and councillors with a prejudicial interest, to speak on agenda items:** A member of the public spoke about the churchyard grass cutting and asked why, as it had historically been done by the PC with the Parochial Church Council (PCC) paying a contribution of £500 towards this, had the PC stopped the cutting and strimming of the grass at the rear of the Churchyard. GB explained that the reason for the grass no longer being cut was as a result of a complaint about damage to vases, flowers and gravestones when the area was strimmed by the previous contractor. The parishioner asked for the PC to reconsider this and reinstate the cutting of the rear of the churchyard. GB informed both members of the public that the church yard grass cutting was an item agenda for later in the meeting.
5. **To receive updates from County and District Councillors:** EC was unable to be present but had sent a report that was read to the meeting by MD.
EC said that the problem of standing water near the junction of Sydney Dye Court and The Street was with the developer, NCC had made them aware of the problem and that they were expected to rectify the problem, so far they have not come up with a proposal that NCC is happy with.
The trees on Bunkers Hill this is put on the forward plan to be cut back after July due to concerns about wildlife living in the trees. Quotes are being obtained and work should be complete by the end of August.
New anti-mobile technology is now being used in Norfolk that can 'see' if a mobile device is being used in a car. This will then flash on a screen to warn the driver in a similar way as the SAM2 system of speed warnings.
A new service is being put in place to ease demand on Children's Services, which uses a dedicated team of senior social workers to work with other professionals to ensure that the right amount of support to children and social workers more time with families that require support.
PW for BDC gave the following report.
Breckland Silver Social workshop and shows is still going strong, the next one was in the Swaffham Assembly rooms on the 17th July. 2-3.30pm.
Crime figures for the Nar Valley ward were not too bad, 5 x burglaries, 1 x sexual assault, 1 x theft from motor vehicle, 1 x ABH, 1 x attempted burglary, 3 x Assault on Police.
HB said that the chalk pits and farms are currently being targeted for thefts, and that hare coursing was on the rise again. GB said he would be attending the next SNAP crime meeting. PW said that West Norfolk Carers were there to help young carers who need assistance.
6. **To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 14th June 2018:** PW asked for the timings of the BDC Interim Local Services at Swaffham Library be added to the minutes 10-1pm on a Tuesday and 1-4pm on Fridays.
7. **Finance:**
 - a) To approve payments to be made as at Annex A: Proposed by HD seconded by KM passed unanimously.

- b) Finance and accounts report: MD gave a report on the state of the accounts, which at this time are well within the agreed budget. Budget spread sheet posted on PC website.
- c) Payment for new external hard drives: MD explained that the cost of the two new external hard drives would be £140 and asked that he be paid in advance this sum to allow them to be purchased before the next meeting in September. Proposed by GB seconded by KM passed unanimously.

8. Highways:

- a) Cleaning/clearing mud and debris: GB explained that there was a new cover over where the hole was that had water coming from it on Bunkers Hill, now waiting for inclement weather to see if the work done has made any difference. JB informed the meeting that the path opposite Railway Farm was getting very bad again. A discussion took place to see if a way could be found to resolve this, in which it was felt that a previous contractor had proved to be expensive and the Highway Rangers unreliable, a suggestion was made that the gardening group may be able to undertake the work, but it was felt that it was not a suitable project for them to be part of. Left unresolved at this time.
- 9. Update on Bunkers Hill JW The Street Garden Club work: MD informed the meeting that the Gardening Group had started work on the corner of Bunkers Hill and The Street. JB said that it already looked far better and thanked them for what they had done so far. Work was needed on the overhanging branches at this corner KM and GB would look at the best way to tackle this problem.

10. Pavilion and Playing field projects:

- a) Pavilion update: GB-No real update at this time, unfortunately Mr Bailey had died recently and it was felt inappropriate to contact the family at this time to discuss the Pavilion. He would contact them after the funeral. A meeting would then be called to form a proper committee of the PC with GB as Chairman and MD as clerk/secretary.
- b) Playground update: As above.
- c) Norse and grass cutting contract update: MD informed the meeting that the extra cost of cutting the football pitch would be £183, this was agreed unanimously. KM said he had spoken to the men cutting the grass and the biggest problem they have is dog mess which needs to be cleared prior to cutting. A discussion then took place around this issue, it was felt that the problem had got worse since the public gained access via the kissing gate. It was agreed that this access point should be locked to prevent dog owners from using it. KM said he may be able to identify the individual who believes he can walk his dog there as its 'A public park' despite having been informed by KM that it is private property owned by the PC and dogs were not allowed. KM will provide the clerk with details and he will write to the individual informing him that the PC would look to legal action if he continued to walk his dog on the playing field.
- d) Cutting of churchyard under Parish Council/Norse contract: MD explained to the meeting the situation both historically and currently around the cutting of the churchyard. Historically the PC had cut the grass for the entire church yard and the PCC had paid the PC £500 towards the cost. The current situation was that after complaints about damage to private property the PC had stopped its contractor from cutting the grass at the rear of the church yard. The current system was not right as it is the PCC/Churches responsibility to cut the grass on its property, not the Parish Council. If after this year the PCC wanted assistance from the PC they should make a request in line with any other group for a donation.
He then informed the meeting of a quote from Norse to cut the rear of the church yard from now until the end of the financial year, which was 3x men for one day to cut back the rear of the Churchyard £622.57+VAT. A two weekly cut £694.03 +VAT a total of £1,116.60 +VAT. It was suggested that the PCC pay a further £500 towards this total, making the cost the PCC will have to pay to the PC in March £1000. This was agreed by the PC. GB then explained the reasoning behind this to the members of the public.
- e) Use of playing field for car parking during produce show: Agreed unanimously that the Playing field would be opened for use as a car park.

11. SAM2 sign update: KM explained that the SAM2 had gone back to Castle Acre (CA), it is not known if they have sent it for repair. He informed the meeting that the Norfolk Constabulary safety camera team would be coming to the village in the near future, in the mornings and evening around the time the roads are busiest through the village. There was a discussion around where best to site it, felt that Sydney Dye Court junction with The Street, and near the junction of the Street and Bunkers Hill would be best. It was noted that the white lines had been repainted at the cross roads at Dunham Road South Acre Road but not the Slow painted in the road KM said he would deal with this. The base of the school sign south of the school in The Street was now rotting at the bottom MD to write to highways about this.

12. To consider correspondence. (All circulated prior to meeting): Request for a donation from Norfolk Accident Rescue Service (NARS)- Put over to the October/November Precept meeting for a decision.

13. Date and time of next meeting.

**Thursday the 13th September 2018, 7.30pm at the Community Centre, Sporle
Parish Meeting & Parish Council AGM**

Murdo Durrant
Clerk to Parish Council

23rd July 2018