Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 12th November 2019 in the Village Hall, Erpingham

Present: Mr G Cox, Mr R Goodliffe, Mrs J Holmes, M/s B Goodrum, Mr N Smith (Chairman); in attendance: Cllr J Toye (NNDC) and one member of the public.

1. Chairman Norman Smith welcomed all those present, with apologies received from Mr W Goreham, Mr A Witham, Cllr J Timewell (NCC),
2. Declarations of interest – none
3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on September 10th 2019 were approved and signed, proposer JH, all agreed.

4. Matters arising

4.1 NCC Highways – the Clerk relayed the info from NCC regarding recent requests – with thanks to Cllr JT (NCC). The Clerk had requested a drain clear in The Street, and been advised of a ‘Eagle Road’ closure on 25/11 for 12 days. The Clerk was asked to contact NCC about the hedge outside the Bowls Club (30 mph sign) and the overgrowing hedge on The Street opposite Chapel Road.

4.2 NNDC – nil further

*The meeting was adjourned briefly to allow Cllr Toye to report and he gave the Council information about the availability of trees for any organisation/individual to apply for to NNDC. The meeting resumed.*

4.3 NCC – footpaths – NCC had not been able to identify any action needed on the bridge on Thwaite Common. The Clerk would contact NCC again, referring to the rotten wood.

4.4 Allotments – the Clerk read the reply from the Town Lands charity and the Council heard that all the allotments are now tenanted.

5. Planning

5.1 Alby F/station – 3 non-illuminated signs (19/1503) – the Council had no objection.

5.2 Clarke Telecom, mast proposal for recreation ground – the agent had been in touch with small amendments and had responded to the Council’s request for a site meeting by asking that this wait until they had had a meeting with NNDC.

6. Finance

6.1 Finance report – the Clerk had asked for a play area inspection during 2020; the Village Hall had passed funds over to the Parish Council to cover the play area repairs: INCOME ITEM £2728.03; the Leisure Hub had requested £236.89 to support their new shed. The Clerk presented the latest bank statement which was initialled. INCOME ITEM: £4620 (NNDC) – precept + grant. The NNCT and the CAB had both written requesting support.

6.2 To review the Council budget for the current year and first draft for 2020-2021 – this had been. circulated to members and the Clerk had now been advised that the ‘precept grant’ would no longer be paid (current year £240);

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in discussion Council agreed to fund the Leisure Hub request (item 6.1) and the budget was accepted by the Council.

6.3 To set the precept for 2020-2021 – the Council considered the loss of the grant, the need to fund the play area, and freedom to consider future demands for support so decided to set the 2020-2021 precept at £9900, proposer RG, all agreed. The Demand was signed.

6.4 To consider the Council’s Risk Assessment review – following the helpful contributions from members at the last meeting the Clerk had updated the draft and the Risk Assessment could now go on record.

6.5 The following payments due were approved en bloc, proposer RG, all in favour:

- E.On, electricity £58.80 (cheque 0590) \*

- Action Play & Leisure, play area repairs £2882.40 (0591)

- K Richardson, grass cutting £120.00 (0592)

- Community Heartbeat Trust, defibrillator service £87.60 (0593)

- Clerk’s pay (Oct, Nov) £276.92, £277.12 SO’s

The cheques were signed (\* signed outside the meeting)

7. Play Area

7.1 Report inc H & S – BG and JH reported that they had commenced a weekly site check dealing with a small incident of vandalism; insurance had been arranged(equipment not).

7.2 Funding group report – NS briefed the Council on the ‘Hub’ group to be formed with intention of fund raising for new play area equipment; this would be separate from the Parish Council although some interface will be necessary when grant applications demand it.

*(Mr W Goreham joined the meeting)*

8. Dog Bins provision in the parish – the Council discussed the situation and members agreed to identify any suitable sites for consideration by the Council, conscious of cost implications.

9. Reports

9.1 Clerk’s report/meeting dates; the Clerk was asked to identify an alternative meeting location that satisfied Standing Orders commencing at 7.00 pm (second Wednesday)

9.2 Members’ reports –

WG gave the SAM update and locations; he then identified the SNAP priorities.

NS asked the Council to consider the relationship with the Football Club; the Clerk explained the current position.

BG asked about the School Road street sweep and the nearby overhanging tree, both of which were in hand with NCC/NNDC.

In open business repairs to the play area seat were arranged. The meeting closed at 21.15.

Signed ......................................................Chairman Date......... January 2020