Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 11th March 2020 in the Spread Eagle PH, Erpingham

Present: Mr G Cox, Mrs J Holmes, M/s B Godrum, Mr W Goreham, Mr N Smith (Chairman), Mr A Witham;

in attendance: Cllr J Toye (NNDC) and 15 members of the public.

1. Chairman Norman Smith welcomed all those present. Apologies were received from Mr R Goodliffe.
2. Declarations of interest – AW and WG re item 5.2.
3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on January 8th 2020 were approved and signed, proposer WG, all agreed.

1. Matters arising

4.1 NCC Highways – NCC had arranged the removal of the overhanging tree in School Road and advised that white lining would be scheduled. The Clerk would arrange for a new SAM2 pole to be installed at the entrance to Jubilee Close.

4.2 NNDC – nil further

4.3 NCC – footpaths – BG advised that the footbridge to Thwaite Common had been replaced.

4.4 New dog bin - a new dog bin (near the telephone box) had been installed, with fortnightly collections.

*The meeting was adjourned for public participation and Cllr JT (NNDC) covered the new waste contract, energy conservation, tree availability, the next Town and Parish Forum on 24/4 and housing issues. The Clerk and Chairman gave an outline of the history of an application to erect a mast on the recreation ground. The Clerk had made contact with two N Norfolk parishes which were addressing telecom mast approaches and also the NNDC officer dealing with these requests. The applicant had been invited to the meeting but had declined. From discussion it was clear that*

*the Parish Council should pass all the contact/application info to the Village Hall Committee as the body responsible for operational matters on the recreation ground. Further the meeting felt that there should be a Public Meeting to discuss the proposal and this would be planned for mid-April, the applicant advised/invited to attend and a record sent to the NNDC. The meeting resumed.*

5. Planning

5.1 Clarke Telecom, mast proposal for recreation ground – the actions were as above.

5.2 Land at Eagle Road, eight new dwellings (20/0100) – members emphasised both the need for sewerage to be adequate and the housing need for young families. The Council resolved to support the application and the Clerk would add its reservations that the sewerage service may not be adequate.

6. Finance

6.1 Finance report – the Council’s domain name had been renewed for a year, and renewed its registration with the ICO until Jan. ‘21; the new dog bin would cost £190 +vat; a new SAM post

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would cost £90 +vat – agreed by the Council – the Clerk would re-declarare to the Pensions Regulator on behalf of the Council. Current bank statements were initialled. The Clerk asked the MUGA group in which month their contribution would be paid, and he was asked to forward a demand from October 1st 2019.

6.2 To receive a request from Erpingham PCC for support – the Clerk read the request and the Council agreed to make a maintenance grant of £100 to both churches in the parish, all agreed.

6.3 To appoint Roger Canwell as the Council’s Internal Auditor – the Clerk explained the need to appoint a new auditor and Mr Canwell was appointed, all agreed.

6.4 The following payments due were approved en bloc, proposer BG, all in favour:

- Playdale, play area repairs £1056.46 (cheque 0600) \*

- EON, electricity £70.91 (0601) \*

- NPFA, annual subscription £20.00 (0602)

- NN Community Transport grant £50.00 (0603)

- Citizens Advice Bureau grant £50.00 (0604)

- Clerk’s expenses (Sep-Feb) £189.43 (0605)

- Norfolk PTS, subscription £99.00 (0606)

- HMRC, paye £194.20 (0607)

- Clerk’s pay (Feb, Mar) £277.12, £276.92 SO’s

The cheques were signed (\* signed outside the meeting). The Clerk presented a letter to the bank to adjust slightly the March Standing Order, ensuring reconciliation with PAYE. This was signed.

7. Play Area inc H & S – JH and BG reported difficult ground conditions but all was well otherwise.

8. Reports

8.1 Clerk’s report (meeting dates) - the next meeting is on May 13th at 7.00 pm with the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Meeting of the Council. The Clerk gave his leave dates and asked the Council to allow one week of unused holiday in 2019-20 to be used later in 2020 as per his contract, which was agreed. The MUGA group are to site a paper bank at the Village Hall and the Council was happy to signal its support.

8.2 Members’ reports -

BG advised that potholes at the roadside in School Road were worsening – the Clerk would advise NCC.

AW reported potholes on The Street between Erpingham House and the caravan site – the Clerk would advise NCC.

WG gave aSAM2 update and reported the SNAP priorities on drugs and highway offences incl. speeding.

NS updated the meeting on the Play Area Hub and its fund raising plans.

NS talked about the ‘hoped for’ Section 106 monies from the Broadland Homes development.

In open business the Council heard concern about the condition of the path beside the play area. The meeting closed at 21.05.

Signed ......................................................Chairman Date......... May 2020