



## North Tuddenham Parish Council

### Minutes of the Meeting of North Tuddenham Parish Council held on

At 7.30pm on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at North Tuddenham Village Hall

**Attendance:** Cllrs Stapleton (Chair), Harding (Vice-Chair) and Baxter (RFO); District Cllr Bambridge, 4 Members of the Public and Clerk (V Turner).

**1.0 Chairman's Opening Remarks** -The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

**2.0 Apologies for Absence** – apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Blake and Phillips.

**3.0 Declarations of interest**

Cllr Stapleton declared an interest in the Recycling Project

**4.0 Public Session**

**SPEEDING** - Residents drew Cllrs' attention to ongoing concerns regarding speeding traffic along Trap Lane towards Elsing. Whilst the road is a designated 60mph route, they expressed fears for the safety of all users. Attention was drawn to Department of Transport regulations that indicated that whilst the road met some requirements as a 60mph zone, it could possibly qualify for speed reduction on the grounds of Geometry and Environment ie that the road was a single track lane with 5 blind bends. Cllrs thanked the residents for bringing this ongoing issue to the fore but stressed that in accordance with the Norfolk Speed Management Strategy, historically, these issues had been difficult to navigate for attention.

**ACTION: Cllr Harding to investigate further.** A further member of the public confirmed that he had been aware of a strategy in 2015 by NCC purporting the plan to implement rural zonal speed limits but it was understood that no tangible actions around this appeared to have taken place. Cllr Bambridge volunteered to assist the Parish Council should it wish to make an application for speed lowering to NCC and it was **PROPOSED** that this be added as a formal Agenda item for September to review.

Residents also noted that refuse collection vehicles travelled at unsafe speeds along Low Road East and Cllr Bambridge offered to liaise with Serco to initiate a better awareness for workers using rural roads. The Chairman thanked all for their input and helpful suggestions.

**5.0 To approve the Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**5.1 To approve the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

The Minutes of the Meeting were read and agreed as a true and accurate reflection of events and signed by the Chairman.

**5.2 To approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

The Minutes of the Meeting were read and agreed as a true and accurate reflection of events and signed by the Chairman

**6.0 To consider matters arising from minutes of previous meetings not considered on this Agenda**

Cllr Baxter confirmed that all public notices and submissions for the AGAR 2020-21 had been published and sent. **NOTED.**

**7.0 To receive any District and County Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Bambridge previously circulated an Annual Report that had been shared on the website

Special recognition to businesses that have displayed excellent practice during lock-down. Cllr Bambridge confirmed that there are currently 10 Covid wardens located in Breckland who are working hard to maintain regulations for the ongoing safety of residents and businesses in the area, and that funding was likely to see them in-post until the end of the year at least.

Littering is an ongoing problem in the county prosecutions have taken place and will continue to do so. He stressed that considerable evidence needs to be gathered by Enforcement Officers in order to prosecute so anyone witnessing a littering offence is welcome to report and submit any evidence to Breckland via the fly-tipping reporting portal available at:

<https://www.breckland.gov.uk/article/9264/Report-a-Fly-tip-online>

Normally prosecution is via a fixed penalty system but court cases are an option where applicable.

Cllr Harding acknowledged the help and assistance that BDC had afforded residents and businesses during the pandemic and tendered an official vote of thanks from the PC.

**8.0 To receive any update on the A47 Dualling Plans and North Western Link Road – Mike Smith/Andrew Harding**

Mike Smith attended and delivered his Report as designated representative of NTPC for the Consultation process. Please see Report attached – Appendix 1. Cllr Harding added that he was in contact with the Bus companies regularly and progression of bus provision was ongoing. Cllr Bambridge advised of key contacts at NCC and BDC who may be instrumental in supporting the Council's project moving forwards.

**9.0 To receive the Report of the North Tuddenham Community Association - Pat Baldwin – The Clerk read the Report supplied by Mrs Baldwin; the Report is attached as Appendix 2. The Issue of dog mess was discussed and Cllr Bambridge encouraged contact with the Warden whom he felt would be happy to visit and monitor with the aim of identifying offenders for Prosecution. ACTION: Clerk to contact.**

**10.0 To receive the Report of St Mary's Church Tower Project Group – Mike Smith**

Mr Smith read his report to the Meeting – Please see copy Report attached - Appendix 3 Rev McCaghey addressed the meeting and officially thanked Parishioners and Cllrs for their support for the tower renovation project. Special thanks were made to Mike Smith whose tireless efforts had ensured the success of the project. Cllr Bambridge suggested publicizing the Church of St Mary's via the BreckWorld video platform. It was noted that this could be considered once the building was finished.

Rev McCaghey also spoke around securing the position of St Mary's within village life for the future – see report attached – Appendix 4.

**11.0 To receive the Report of The Common Volunteers Group – Cllr Stapleton**

Cllr Stapleton told Cllrs that work was continuing as it had done during lockdown, with social distancing measures in place. A new commemorative path is nearly finished in memory of beloved friend to the village, Philip Barnes. The Parish Council reiterated its wish to buy a tree in his memory and it was **NOTED** that there would also be a memorial to him placed in the Churchyard. Cllr Stapleton confirmed that there is an amount of wood to be disposed of at present and it was hoped that felled timber could be sold to raise funds. It was **NOTED** that The Common could be a site to use as a venue for some of the planned St Mary celebratory events.

The issue of dog mess on The Common was raised again and it was **AGREED** that this area should be a focus for the Dog Warden when he visits.

**11.1 To consider vehicular access to The Common for dedication ceremony –**

This was discussed but it was felt that vehicular access on to The Common was not ideal. **ACTION: It was AGREED that the Chairman would contact the family to discuss and find alternatives.**

**12.0 To receive the Report of the Village Recycling Project – Jonathan Stapleton**

Cllr Stapleton confirmed that the initiative was now up running again with the appropriate

precautions in place. Metal stocks are high and awaiting collection pending NCC notification of Recycling project returning to Parish Council control. Risk Assessments prepared have been distributed to volunteers and will be signed and returned imminently.

### **13.0 Highways Matters**

Speeding - already discussed in Public Session

Potholes – Clerk **NOTED** location of identified defects **ACTION: Clerk will report to NCC**

Drains – It was **NOTED** that these should be cleared ahead of ahead of winter. – **ACTION:**

**Clerk to write to IDB and Highways.**

Overgrown Verges – **ACTION: Clerk to contact Highways**

### **14.0 Planning**

**13.1 To receive and consider any new planning applications - None**

**13.2 To note any planning outcomes**

**3PL/2021/0852/HOU – Proposed Cart Lodge and Driveway Layout –**

**Meadow Barn, Low Road, North Tuddenham – Permission Granted - NOTED**

### **15.0 Casual Councillor Vacancy**

**15.1 To receive update on Casual Vacancy**

Still remains unfilled. It was **AGREED** that recruitment should continue.

### **16.0 To receive update on ownership of land identified as potential sites for Dog Waste Bins and to agree any amendments to original locations if appropriate**

It is believed that the proposed location at Mill Road is LA controlled. However, Cllrs are still encountering difficulties in finding alternative sites that BDC will service. **ACTION: Clerk to approach BDC again to establish if they are able to walk over the footbridge to empty a bin in this location.**

### **17.0 SAM2 Device Updates**

**17.1 To receive update on progress of SAM2 purchase and installation –** The new pole has been installed by Westotec. Grant payment still outstanding from NCC but it has been confirmed that it is being processed. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Baxter that the invoice for the SAM2 be settled ahead of the grant payment - this was **SECONDED** by Cllr Stapleton. **AGREED. ACTION: Clerk to chase grant payment.**

**17.2 To agree on three volunteers to undertake rotation of device and download of data, and to agree appropriate training as advised**

It was **AGREED** that the Chairman approach Cllr Williams and a parishioner with a view to becoming trained volunteers. **ACTION: Cllr Stapleton to speak with individual volunteers outside of the meeting.** Cllr Harding also to be trained. All volunteers to undertake remote training run by Westcotec ahead of agreeing working practices.

**17.3 To agree the drafting of a Risk Assessment to cover the safe practice of SAM2 use**  
To be compiled once training has been undertaken. **ACTION: Clerk and AH to draft**

### **18.0 To receive and consider update on Agri-Environment Agreement – Cllr Stapleton**

Deferred to next meeting

### **19.0 To consider and agree any actions in response to a Parishioner's letter for recognition of a long-serving community volunteer**

It was **AGREED** that this was a good idea – **ACTION – Clerk to circulate options and list for discussion and decision on next Agenda.**

### **20.0 To receive update and consider and agree any outstanding actions required for the hoisting/positioning of the St Mary's Flag –** Discussions took place regarding the implications of placing a flag pole on consecrated ground covered by Faculty jurisdiction – all changes to the grounds will need a request via this system. A proposal would need to be submitted to the Diocese. Alternative suggestions for placing the flag on St Mary's tower once works were completed was **NOTED** as problematic due to the difficulty in getting access to the flag pole at the top on grounds of Health and Safety. Cllr Harding suggested alternative sites including

seeking permission to perhaps site the flag at the village hall. Cllr Bambridge offered to support any requisite planning application. In the interim, the official unveiling of the winning flag will take place at the Scarecrow event at The Lodge which is being organised by the Community Association on 15<sup>th</sup> August. **ACTION: Chairman to speak with VH committee to discuss the flag being on their property.**

**21.0 To discuss and agree any necessary action surrounding breached planning regulations for Local North Tuddenham businesses**

Discussion surrounding businesses operating within the village and any breaches of planning conditions was **AGREED** as a matter for Planning Enforcement. **ACTION: Any breaches or expired permissions to be collated by the Clerk for referral to BDC.**

**22.0 Policy Review**

**22.1 To review and readopt Equal Opportunities Policy**

Reviewed and unanimously **AGREED** for readoption – Review July 2022

**22.2 To review and adopt Disciplinary and Grievance Policy**

Reviewed and unanimously **AGREED** for adoption – Review July 2022

**23.0 Finance**

**23.1 To receive current account balances**

£9380.93 - Current Account

£ 646.42 – Deposit Account

**23.2 Payments made since last meeting**

CNs 458 – Christine Mobbs - Plaque on Common - £51.50

459 – Zurich £384.18

460 – M Bergin IA – £30.00

461 – Clerk – Salary and expenses £643.40

**Payments for Approval:**

Pat Baldwin - £25.00 – Expenses incurred for flag competition

Westcotec for SAM2 - £4186.80 – VAT refund received and NCC grant in process – Net cost as previously **AGREED** at £1244.50

NARS – £50.00 Donation in name of previous Clerk as **AGREED** previously

**23.3 Receipts since last meeting**

Interest £0.02 – Deposit Account

BDC Recycling Credit - £110.84

VAT Refund on SAM2 - £697.80

**23.4 Requests for Grant Funding – None received**

**23.1 To discuss any future project for Parish Partnership Funding 2022-23**

Discussion took place surrounding any future projects eligible for PP funding; the idea of a Permissive Path near The Lodge was debated. Clerk reminded Cllrs that applications needed to be submitted by December 2021. **ACTION: List for formal discussion at next meeting.**

The Chairman proposed a resolution to extend the Meeting beyond the two-hour point. The motion to extend was **AGREED**.

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**24.0 To note any correspondence received:** NALC Bulletins; NCC Updates; NWL Liaison Group; CAN Newsletters; Planning emails; Temporary Traffic Orders; email from parishioner regarding recognition of a North Tuddenham Resident; Parish Partnership Correspondence 2022-23; Email confirmation from PKF Littlejohn; NCC Rangers email; letter from Planning Inspectorate. **NOTED**

**25.0 Urgent Business – to consider any issues raised by Cllrs that the Chairman considers urgent**  
Overgrown PROWs – **ACTION: Clerk to investigate responsibilities and take appropriate action**

**26.0 To confirm the date and time of the next ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.30pm

# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1

### HIGHWAYS

#### A47

Development Consent Order DCO Representation Process with Planning Inspectorate finished mid-June. Final Consultations with 'interested parties' will be taking place in August and September.

MS is registered as an 'interested party' on behalf of this Parish Council.  
Preliminary online Teams meeting to discuss is on 3rd August.

Points raised by this Parish Council have been formally registered.

- T junction to Lyng /access to Hockering
- underpass at Mattishall Lane (Hockering)
- noise dampening on new section of dual carriageway near Oak Farm
- sharp exits from A47
- difficult turning out of elevated Fox Lane exit on to Old Main Road.

50 mph speed limits from Poppy Wood to Lodge will probably not be actioned until T-junction installed. Both County Councillor (BB) and Norfolk County Council Highways are aware of our views.

Bus service on Old Main Road into Hockering – personally not heard about any developments. (Subsequently *Andrew H reported some progress with his separate discussions and Gordon B is on the case too!*)

#### NWL

Plans formally approved by Norfolk County Council. There is still some environmental opposition. Only problem I foresee is if NWL did not go ahead. Now seems unlikely. My approach at Local Liaison Group meetings, with NCC and affected parishes, is that it is better to have a dedicated route, having made suitable provision to protect the environment, than to have chaotic rat- running through small villages in the Wensum valley. Still to hear what weight limitations will be placed on existing routes across the Wensum when NWL is built. Next LLG meeting in August. Final public meetings in the Autumn. Should be submitted for Planning Application next year.

### MIKE SMITH

## Appendix 2

### North Tuddenham Community Association – July 2021

Recycling. The parish council registration with Mellor Metals is still valid and ongoing. New registration forms for recycling credits have been submitted to Norfolk County council, although the pc is still registered for credits, new forms were needed to change names, address etc, since I am no longer the clerk.

Plans for the scarecrow competition are well under way, posters , entry forms and tickets are all out, the flag will be unveiled by Esme Okan on 15th August at the bbq picnic at The Lodge.

Due to lockdown the dates for the scarecrow festival and hog roast have had to be moved , no

arrangements can be made for the hog roast until we know the outcome of our grant application.

The sunflower and photo competitions are in progress and a ramble is planned, date dependent on the weather. There will also be an online quiz, later in the year.

The notices asking peoples to clean up after their dogs were not a huge success, there is still a problem and some notices were removed and destroyed. Any suggestions that would help to resolve the problem, which has escalated into dogs being allowed to foul in people's front gardens would be gratefully received.

Pat Baldwin

## **Appendix 3**

### **CHURCH TOWER**

Now in week 18 of 48. Scaffolding complete. Tower stabilised.

Experts deciding how to proceed next – repair buttresses or piling and anchoring the footings.

Grass cutting and access to gravestones – we now have permission to cut the grass.

Prior to this I was not able to give grant individuals access without permission from insurers or on-site foreman at the very least. Individuals taking 'own responsibility' for the dangers would not have been approved.

#### Re-opening of church

The projections are that work will be complete at the end of January.

Currently thinking about celebrating reopening with a several days of events.

Preliminary Ideas include a concert, various talks (say about '*Our treasured glass and its restoration*'; or '*Flint working explained*'; '*How to secure an ancient building*' etc) and film shows about the church and its history.) Just ideas at present.

Could open whole village to include activities at the Lodge, the Village Hall and the Common? Parish Council input? Make 2022 a special year for North Tuddenham! Food for thought.....

More wacky ideas include 'personalised' flint stones!

Dignitaries, contractors, sponsors, and villagers invited.

Timing – probably March or early April (before Easter).

More info in due course. Ideas welcomed.

#### **Good publicity and planning are imperative!**

Rector then spoke about the future of the restored church in the Community.

## **Appendix 4**

### **Verbal Report from Rev McCragey**

Reverend McCragey addressed the members of the Council thanking both them and the community of North Tuddenham for their support in raising funds for the repairs to St Mary's Tower. He was thrilled to confirm completion of the project would ensure that the Tower would remain as a spiritual symbol of the community of North Tuddenham for future generations to come. However, he explained that the renovation of the Church also signaled an upcoming

need to evolve even further to become a fulcrum of village life once more.

Irrespective of faith, he hoped that the village would join with the Church to make St Mary's once again part of everyday life. By the end of the the renovations, he hoped that there would be many opportunities to capture the momentous journey whilst simultaneously renewing a sense of positivity and progression for the Church's place in society whilst not demeaning its spiritual value. He told the meeting that the PCC was enthusiastic to work in tandem with the Parish Council to ensure the sustainability of the Church whilst maintaining a thriving life-blood for all to benefit from in the future. Remarking on the already cohesive and community-centred nature of the village, he hope that moving forward, the two committees could work collaboratively to find new and novel ways to enjoy the Church, once more, as a hub for village life.

The Reverend thanked the meeting for the opportunity to address members.