

**Minutes of the Meeting of Horsford Parish Council
held on Monday 4th September 2023 at 7pm at Horsford Village Hall**

Attendance: Cllr Brown (Chair), Cllr Clarke, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Keeler, Cllr Makinson, Cllr McClure, Cllr Nich Starling (District Councillor), Cllr Tony Adams (County Councillor), Sarah Vergette (Clerk, via Zoom) and ten members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Lisa Starling.
2. **Co-option of Councillors:** This item will be kept on the agenda for the time being.
3. **Declaration of Interests:** Members of VHMC declared an interest in village hall matters.
4. **To approve as accurate minutes of the previous meeting.** The minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated were **approved**.
5. **Public participation session**
 - a. Public. Members of the public attended to speak against the planning application for the Solar Farm. The land concerned is good arable land, the Government state that anything classed above 3a should be use for arable purposes. The land has good irrigation. Potatoes are grown on this land. A new building was erected last year and subsequently created six jobs. If this application is passed the jobs would be lost. There would be a loss of 88 acres of good agricultural land. Broadland had given the business a grant which would be wasted if the application went through. An email had been received regarding this and had been circulated to councillors. There is other land that would be more suitable for a solar development.
 - b. County Councillor. Cllr Adams reported with regard to the Butterfly Mill and the proposed bus lane through the estate. The construction of the new bus link is the responsibility of the housing developer and has been completed ahead of the new estate being adopted by the county council. As such it is the developer's responsibility to prevent, control and maintain access between the two housing estates. Cllr Adams was told that BDW are asking if it is necessary to put in ANPR cameras. He subsequently contacted the Highway Technician to say this was not good enough as it was a planning condition that ANPR cameras were installed. A copy of the email response had been circulated. It is the developer's responsibility to maintain access between the two estates. It is likely that buses will start to use the route before the cameras are installed. To minimise costs to the county council it is planned to advertise one TRO which covers both situations, rather than the more traditional route of a TRO for the bus gate and another TRO for the APNR enforcement. The issue of enforcement is down to Broadland District Council and this will now be handed over to the District Councillors to ~~monitor~~ make sure the planning condition regarding the cameras is enforced. Cllr Adams reported with regard to the overgrown foliage. Highways will contact the landowners where private hedges are the problem and Highways will ask their contractors to cut back any overgrowth on land that Highways own. District Council. Cllr Nich Starling reported that he has spoken to the planning enforcement officers who will be looking into the planning conditions for GDW.
 - c. There was no police report.
6. **Village Hall Committee**
 - 6.1 Cllr Keeler reported the decoration of the hall is nearly complete. Two councillors need to sign off the works once it has been completed. It was agreed that Cllrs

McClure and Clarke will do this. Sadly there had been more damage to one of the sinks in the public toilets. This has been repaired straight away. The brackets have been reinforced.

- 6.2 To discuss payment to the cleaners for the public toilets. The Parish Council had previously agreed to take over the payments. It was agreed to make this payment by Standing Order on the first of each month in the sum of £433.33. **Agreed.**

7. BAP

- 7.1 Cllr Makinson had circulated an update which was noted. It was agreed that Brown & Co should proceed with the search for sites for recreational land. The clerk will reply to Brown & Co.

There was a misunderstanding relating to the Transport Masterplan with regard to including the proposed pedestrian controlled crossing at the junction of Holt Road and Mill Lane in the S278 Agreement relating to the new retail outlet on the old Brickmakers site, with the Parish Council meeting the cost. The landowner does not want this to happen as it may cause even more delay to Highways agreeing the S278 on the site. It was agreed that once the costings for the pedestrian crossing had been received from Highways, the Parish Council would consider the proposal for getting Highways' approval for this work using CIL funds and the matter was referred to the October Parish Council meeting, when it was hoped the costings would be available. The proposed position of the pedestrian controlled crossing being where the current pedestrian crossing is sited, is because the underground services required are already in existence.

8. Finance

- 8.1 To approve payments:

a.	SSE – Electric	£150.64
b.	Clerk – Salary & expenses	£1657.55
c.	A Makinson - Zoom	£15.59
d.	Horsford VH – Hire	£160.00
e.	New Road Property Services	£110.00 new post for dog bin
f.	New Road Property Services	£395.00 Repairs to sinks
g.	New Road Property Services	£53.81 further repairs to sinks
h.	Mower Signs	£151.68

Agreed.

It was agreed that there should be a record in the accounts for repairs to the public toilets. It has helped having the café as there is someone around most of the time.

- 8.2 To agree the bank reconciliation. **Agreed**

- 8.3 To discuss the grant for the Church Room for improved toilet accessibility.

Cllr Brown explained that normally the Parish Council would match fund for a grant such as this. Grant applications have been applied for, fund raising will take place. This is about providing an accessible toilet for a public space. Three quotes have been obtained and they will be forwarded to the Parish Council. It was **agreed** to match fund phase one once other funds are in place. Cllr Makinson asked if phase two – replacing the current shingle car park - would this come under the Parish Partnership Scheme although the car park is private and owned by the church. The Parish Clerk was asked to research this point.

- 8.4 To note the External Audit return. **Noted.**

9. Allotments

- 9.1 Cllr Brown said there are lots of sunflowers on the allotments. There have been complaints about people having two plots and there are wildflowers on one of the plots which then seed onto other plots. The Allotment Committee will take a look to see if the Tenancy Agreement needs alterations. A meeting will take place on Sunday 10th September. The current agreement is approved by NALC but may need tweaking.

10. Planning

Comments regarding all the planning applications had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

- 10.1 Planning application 2023/2346 The Old Produce Shop, Holt Road. Comments had been circulated. Support.
- 10.2 Planning application 2023/0182 Dog Lane, there are traffic issues relating to this application and it should not be supported.
- 10.3 Planning application 2023/2395 Solar Farm. There was some discussion relating to this application. Although sheep may be grazed on the land they would not produce as much food as if the land was being used for arable purposes. It was recognised that this is not a material consideration. Concern was raised under the Glint and Glare Management Plan as the site is along the airport route. Norwich Airport have been consulted. The View and vista should also be considered. There is no screening and will be very visible at the entrance to the village. These solar panels could be sited on alternative land. The loss of land to the potato farm could mean that potatoes would need to be brought in from further afield which would add food miles.
Cllr McClure noted that onshore wind farms are now back on the table.
Cllr Johnson will circulate the comments to be made, the clerk will respond to BDC stating that the Parish Council does not support the application.

11. Clerk and Councillors reports

- 11.1 The clerk's report had been circulated and was noted. It has been confirmed that S106 monies can be used for the tree works. Nothing further has been heard from the Cricket Club.
- 11.2 Cllr Makinson stated that Norfolk ALC AGM would be held in October and it was agreed that Cllr Makinson would attend and the Parish Council would fund it.

12. Highways

- 12.1 Parish Partnership Scheme. Cllr Makinson stated that we are waiting for the costing from Highways to extend a pathway to Church Street. The Parish Partnership Scheme could be used for this work.
- 12.2 To discuss Stratton Strawless/Hainford A140 speed limit reduction. It was agreed that this was a good idea.
- 12.3 To discuss S38 Agreement at Cricketers, Holt Road. Ongoing
- 12.4 To discuss the proposed bus gate and yellow lines at Memorial Way. Discussed under public participation.
- 12.5 To note email regarding overgrowth and parking issues. Noted in clerk's report and County Councillor's report.

13. Correspondence

- 13.1 Email from Bruno Peak regarding D Day beacons, noted. This should be sent to the school.
- 13.2 Email regarding Mindfulness course training, noted.

13.3 Email regarding litter on the Holt Road around the businesses. It was agreed that the businesses should be responsible for their own litter. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to the businesses asking them to put bins out and make them aware there is concern over litter. The clerk will respond to the email.

14.Date of the next meeting. Monday 2nd October at 7pm. Items for the agenda should be sent to the clerk by Monday 25th September.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

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Chair

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Date