

BROCKDISH PARISH COUNCIL (INCLUDING THORPE ABBOTTS)

Minutes of scheduled Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 25th July 2023 7pm

WHC, Brockdish

Present: Cllrs Christine MacKenzie (Chair), Sarah McCluskey (Vice Chair), Derek Clark, Enrico Castagnetti & Susanne Russell

Public: 1

In Attendance: District Cllr Clayton Hudson & Teresa Hines (Clerk).

1. Welcome:

Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) welcomed all to the meeting.

2. To consider accepting apologies for absence:

Apologies received, & accepted, from County Cllr Martin Wilby, District Cllr Delme Thompson & Cllr Cobbold.

3. To consider declarations of interest:

Nil

4. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting:

Minutes of the previous meeting of 29/06/2023 were ratified as a record of the meeting & a hardcopy was signed by Cllr MacKenzie (Chair).

Proposed: CM (Chair) Seconded: SM (Vice Chair)

5. Public participation:

Carol Hitchman new Chairman of the Thorpe Abbotts Village Hall Committee, introduced herself to the meeting. She plans to attend PC meeting every 3 months to update with Thorpe Abbotts Village Hall progress. A structural survey of the village hall was carried out earlier this year which shows the village hall is in a poor way, it is planned to rebuild a village hall, with the help of various grants (lots of grants are available). Currently looking at the Pride in Place Community grant for applications in November. A feasibility study will be required, which will be a lot of work for the committee. There are three areas to look at 1. To use the hall as a destination hub i.e. ecvp, provide guides for walking routes. 2. To be used as a field study centre for schools, for children to walk in the local area i.e. visit 100th Bomb Group Memorial Museum. 3. Create a carbon neutral net zero village hall. Community Action Norfolk can help with getting a new village hall, policies & procedures in place (£50 per year to join). The village hall lost charity status in 2008, so will need to be re-registered. The feasibility study £8000, with match funding £2000, will require feasibility study to enable applications for other grants.

First meeting with the Committee (4 members) is tomorrow evening, plans re-structure of the committee with monthly work to be completed in between meetings, 1:1 support meetings with individual committee members. District Cllr Hudson suggested Carol

contact Sheila Key who was involved with the Pulham Penoyer Centre & Diss Corn Hall + also does consultancy work. It is planned to look at village halls that have been built in the last three years. Cllr Russell asked if grants were not forthcoming then would the village hall committee consider the previous option of building houses to fund the hall? Carol has discussed this option & feels it would not work, not as reality is. Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) thanked Carol for the report.

6. To receive District Cllr Clayton Hudson's report.

Firstly, various correspondence on the Old School Playing Field, Brockdish this month, given the county council (and portfolio holder) is being less than clear with regard to its intentions (including what happened in the past), my recommendation given your / wider community believe this site would increase the wellbeing of the community now and into the future is to encourage the Parish Council to nominate it to be listed.

You can find more information here including the form to nominate.

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities/asset-community-value-right-bid>

In my experience the listing of assets of community value puts the community in pole position.

In my SNC role, I am appointed member to the local IDB. I went to a recent meeting in June, and I tabled my report at SNC last evening. Councillors might be interested.

<https://southnorfolkandbroadland.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s4222/Waveney%20Lower%20Yare%20and%20Lothingland%20Internal%20Drainage%20Board.pdf>

Turning to more routine updates

1. Well done to the Pink Tractor for the Annual Ladies Road Run on Sun 2nd July, 20yrs, £1M raised is an amazing achievement.

2. Really pleased to hear Norfolk Police Safety Camera Team is regularly visiting Brockdish

3. Delay of Sale of South Norfolk House as application by Long Stratton Town Council as an Asset of Community Value.

4. Pylons, I don't think you will find a councillor in Norfolk or Suffolk that supports the current Pylon Route or Consultation. SNC response here

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/downloads/file/4717/response-to-national-grid-ref-pylons>

To access the consultation documentation, go here

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/norwich-to-tilbury/public-consultation>

the most useful is the Interactive map

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/ba2cbd9ac64c4723847fae8637d50df3/>

which shows the proposed route of the pylons a lot clearer than we have had before.

5. Hazardous waste (such as household paint no longer required): The next Household Hazardous Waste Days will be held in Autumn 2023. The dates and locations are as follows:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling-and-planning/rubbish-and-recycling/hazardous-waste> Nearest Norwich South - 9/10 September

6. From my SNC local member fund I gave £250 to Waveney Heritage Centre to help fund a replacement fire alarm. Funding is now available through the Community Infrastructure Fund Programme to support parish and town councils in South Norfolk deliver key infrastructure projects. Community Infrastructure Fund Programme: The programme consists of two opportunities to support capital delivery of infrastructure projects. The Community Infrastructure Fund has £300,000 available between April 2023 and March 2024, for projects valued at over £15,000. The Co-Investment Grant Scheme has £1,500,000 available between April 2023 and March 2024, for exemplar projects valued over £250,000 more here

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/community-funding-3/community-infrastructure-fund-programme>

Finally, I wish you all a good Summer and see you in September.

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web: www.claytonhudson.co.uk twitter: <https://twitter.com/claytonhudson>

Cllrs agreed to register the old school field as an asset of Community Value, also the King's Head PH - Clerk to complete intention to bid forms (SNC).

CAF funding - list of items required from Brockdish Village Hall passed to District Cllr Hudson. Quotations will be required, as well as match funding. To be discussed at the scheduled meeting on 21st September. Cllr Clark proposed 'acoustics' to be added to the list. District Cllr Hudson will speak with SNC re: grant for tree health & safety quotation (£400) on roadside trees by Foredale Common (WVfN).

Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) thanked District Cllr Hudson for his report.

District Cllr Hudson left the meeting at 19.40 hours.

To receive District Cllr Thompson's report - Appendix A.

To receive County Cllr Martin Wilby's report - see Appendix B.

7. Planning (applications/decisions/updates as notified by SNC):-

At Risk Register:-

37 The Street, Brockdish

A notice of right to gain entry was served for 23rd February 2023, when Chris Bennett & Andy Baines (Enforcement Officer) met with the owner. No further information can be shared by SNC due to the data protection act, however, Chris Bennett reported the property is now being investigated by another department (will be a long process). Contact Chris Bennett to request an update

8. Correspondence for discussion/ratification: (sent to Clerk):-

Correspondence circulated to Cllrs upon receipt.

To consider a donation request of £250 re: Needham & Brockdish History website.

Discussion followed, keypoints are: 1. Content is not changing 2. Who will update the Website? 3. Why not have the content on the WHC website? Or a link? 4. Has it any value? How many visitors (hits) to the site in the last 12 months? provide month by month numbers. Clerk to contact Stephen Poulter for a response to key points raised. Brockdish & Thorpe Abbotts website has a link to the Needham & Brockdish History website. Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) reported the Parish Council content of the Brockdish & Thorpe Abbotts website does not satisfy the Transparency code. Clerk to seek advice re: National Association of Local Councils website accessibility & publishing guidelines for compliance (WCAG2.1AA). It was agreed by Cllrs that the Clerk to be paid hours worked on this (if required).

9. AOB/Updates/Matters Arising:-

*Flooding - Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) reported we have received £11650.00 funding from NCC re: Flow monitoring & have instructed RDN to carry out installations, of which they propose to undertake in September 2023. Invoice now received & Clerk to pay via bank transfer. Cllr Clark reported the stream by Common still requires clearance. Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) with Stewart Woodruffe will clear as soon as possible.

(There is a slim chance of vandalism to the equipment so the PC will need to insure equipment when in situ).

*Speeding through Brockdish village is still an issue.

We use SAM2 & it is moved on a regular basis, shared with Needham, Cllr Cobbald provides data. Cllr Castagnetti reported the Safety Camera Team have been present in Brockdish opposite the Village Hall on a regular basis & went through the speeding figures, so far. An average of one speeding ticket (fine of £90) is issued every ten minutes, whilst 40% of tickets are issued to residents of the Village. The vast majority are travelling between 35-45 mph. The Safety Camera Team plan to locate opposite the Kings Head in the near future. Cllr Castagnetti to place speeding figures in the next edition of the Mardler (by 07/09/23).

A group/committee has been formed re: speeding (AC,EC, DC, TB, MT) who agreed that two flashing speed signs* would be the best deterrent, approx. cost £5000.

*Application for 50/50 funding under the NCC Parish Partnership scheme details now received. Cllr Cobbald would like to make the application/complete relevant application form. (PC purchased the current SAM2 using this funding in 2017). To be discussed at the next scheduled PC meeting (AC).

Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) thanked Cllrs Castagnetti & Cobbald for all their work to address the speeding problem.

*Defibrillator, Thorpe Abbotts. Cllr McCluskey (Vice Chair) will take over the defibrillator & will require training. Cllr MacKenzie (Vice Chair) reported she is responsible for the Brockdish defibrillator, which requires checking on the 1st of every month & website updated. Cllr Russell would also like to undertake training & possibly one other person. Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) to find out when training is available & will liaise with Cllr McCluskey (Vice Chair).

*The Commons/WVfN. Cllr Clark reported as follows:-

On behalf of WVfN I referred at the last meeting to WVfN approach to NCC to secure that the old school playing field is transferred from NCC to the Parish Council or Waveney Heritage CIC so that it can permanently become part of the Common for management purposes & for public access. A number of things have happened since.

1. Contrary to public belief & a past letter from the then Headmaster the old school playing field was not given to the school in the previous land owners' will. It was purchased by NCC for £4000 in 1994. So it is not necessarily a £ zero argument now.
2. NCC has confirmed that it cannot sell the site before 2026 without DofE approval under S.77 procedure (long & expensive). This is despite NCC formally resolving to sell the site & instructing Officers to proceed in 2017. It was fully reported in the local Press (EDP & Diss Express) as a site for sale at the time.
3. It has been pointed out that we might seek registration of the old school playing field as an Asset of community value. This will guarantee the community the first opportunity to bid for the site when it becomes available. This is not a commitment but an opportunity. (This Item discussed earlier this evening & all Cllrs agreed to the registration of the old school playing field as an asset of community value).
4. Earlier this month NCC was given £333000 by Government to prepare a Local Nature Recovery Strategy. We believe our proposals for the old school playing field can fit directly into that strategy & are informing NCC of that in the hope that this will also influence the question of transfer to the community. The PC agreed to support WVfN in the attempt to secure the old school playing field as an element of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

The tree survey (Foredale Common) quotation of £400 is a grant request which District Cllr Hudson will follow up with SNC, as discussed earlier this evening.

Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) thanked Cllr Clark for his report on behalf of WVfN.

*Brockdish Village new sign. Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) to arrange a meeting to discuss new sign ideas submitted. New sign would be expensive so fundraising required. It was suggested that the current sign be refurbished i.e. painted until money for new sign is raised. Could the sign be moved to a more prominent position?

*Thorpe Abbotts Green/Pump area. Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) contacted Philip Whitehead (SNC Heritage Officer) who advised types of verge protection that could be used in keeping with the traditional character of a conservation area & sent two photographs. All Cllrs agreed that simple wooden posts would be the preferred choice. Cllr McCluskey (Vice Chair) to contact Philip Whitehead (Gareth Leech to provide a quotation?).

Cllr McCluskey reported the pump shelter is in need of a clean & paint (clear preservative). Clerk requested Gareth Leech to undertake this work (01/07/23).

*Footpath (9) behind 100th Bomb Group Memorial Museum, obstructed by wheat therefore not accessible. Clerk reported again to NCC who informed they had written

to the landowner. District Cllr Thompson has also spoken with the landowner. Cllr McCluskey reported still not accessible & will forward photographs to Clerk. Clerk to report again & include photographs to NCC, also to District Cllr Thompson & County Cllr Wilby. Highway Rangers requested to inspect footpath 9 & to check signage.

*Work has begun on the cleaning/refurbishment of Brockdish War Memorial. After this work is completed name plaques will be added to the War Memorial (subject to planning permission).

*Overgrown trees Scole Road, Brockdish previously reported to NCC, update received to say they have written to the land owner.

*Cllr Castagnetti reported overgrown trees/hedge on Church Road, Brockdish. Clerk to report to NCC.

*Overgrown laburnum tree by telephone box still obstructing the footpath. Cllr MacKenzie (Chair) to speak with the property owners.

*Cllr Castagnetti reported a caravan is still sited at upper Tumbrill Lane (since October). All relevant authorities are aware. Clerk to inform SNC again.

*Street light outage reported to Pearce & Kemp Ltd outside 12 St. Paul's Close, Brockdish

*Overgrown/dead trees on Mill Road, Thorpe Abbotts reported to NCC.

* Village website. Annette Sweeney continues to update the website. Clerk has forwarded Annette dates of 2023 scheduled meetings & minutes of previous monthly meetings forwarded to Annette for inclusion on the website.

*Induction training booked for Cllr. Russell on 06/10/23 & 13/10/23.

* PC has vacancy for one Councillor (notification placed in the Mardler). Clerk to notify election services September 2023 (coption).

*It was agreed by all Cllrs to change the date of the next scheduled meeting from 27th September to 21st September (due to Cllrs being away on holiday & unable to attend meeting on 27th). Clerk to notify Thorpe Abbotts Village Hall. (All scheduled meetings will now be held on Thursday evenings).

10 a. Approve Annual Grant Donations (to be paid in September 2023)

Thorpe Abbotts Church £400

Brockdish Church £400

Thorpe Abbotts Village Hall £600

Brockdish Village Hall £200

WHC, Brockdish £200

The Mardler £550

Proposed: CM (Chair) Seconded: SM Vice Chair

10. b. Payments/Transactions for approval/authorisation: JUNE JULY 2023
COMMUNITY ACCOUNT (current)

Amount expenditure	payee	description
£500.00	WVfN	Annual Donation
£168.01	NPower	Re: street lights
£37.50	Pearce & Kemp Ltd	Streetlight maintenance
£127.29	G. Leech	Grass cutting, etc
£120.00	M.A. Sweeney	Website
£54.50	TH	Postage Stamps
£41.14	TH	Printer Ink + Envelopes
£20.00	WHC	Hire Fee
£1068.44	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	
£6908.33	Balance to date c/f	*Inc £872.53 donation re: Brockdish sign + £280.83 CIL for sign £122.67 re: defibrillator (£8070.57)*

11. Date of next scheduled meeting:

To be held on **Thursday 21st September 2023** 7pm at Thorpe Abbotts Village Hall.
The meeting closed at 20.20 hours.

SIGNEDDATE.....

Cllr C. MacKenzie (Chair)

