

## **SKEYTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held at Skeyton Village Hall on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019. 7.30.p.m.**

Present: Chairman Cllr: M. Hicks, Vice-Chairman Cllr: J. Hughes, Cllr: H. Randell, Cllr: I. Stevenson, District Councillor Saul Penfold, Norfolk County Councillor John Timewell and Parish Clerk Diane Fields.

Guest attendee: Cllr Simon Covey - Burgh & Tuttington Parish Council.

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr: S. Bunting, Cllr: A. Morton and Cllr: D. Scott.

### **2. Minutes**

Minutes from the Council meetings dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018, and the planning minutes from 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 were all signed and accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

### **3. Matters Arising**

- a) Cllr Stevenson raised that a parishioner had questioned why there was a bright light glaring from the farm buildings towards Black Horse cross roads at night. The parishioner was concerned that this may be having a detrimental affect on the local wildlife. Cllr Randell, the owner of the farm, said that the light had been placed there due to security reasons as recently people had been in his yard with the intent of stealing goods. Cllr Randell to look at the position of the light to reduce the glare if possible.
- b) After several quotations and unsuccessful attempts to either repair or have a new Village sign made at reasonable cost, Chairman Cllr: M. Hicks had spotted a sign in the village of Scottow and made enquiries. The sign is well designed and built made from mild steel, galvanised and powder coated. The supplier was contacted and a cost of £350 was quoted to produce a series of designs for consideration. The final design would then be laser cut by a machine at a further £1,255 to then supply and make the sign. Vice-Chairman Cllr: J. Hughes supported this proposal as this would be a stylish and long-lasting replacement, this was seconded by Cllr: I. Stevenson. It was agreed that the sign would be set in a plinth on a post and the sign would be placed near the Village Hall which would make it more visible. Cllr M Hicks to proceed with asking the supplier to create the initial designs.

- c) Norwich Western Link Options – the results have not been announced yet.
- d) The Parish Clerk had contacted the British Heart Foundation in regards to the Council purchasing a Defibrillator for the Parish. The costing was coming out at £600 for the Defibrillator and an additional £500 for a cabinet to house the Defibrillator. The Council agreed that this would be looked at again post-election and once the village sign had been paid for. It was suggested that the Parish Clerk would write to the Village Hall Committee to see if they would help with the funding of this.
- e) Emergency Plan. The Clerk would contact Cllr: S. Bunting and Cllr: D. Scott regarding this.

#### 4. Correspondence

- a) An e-mail had been received NNDC (ethos – Environmental Planning) Regarding Public Open Spaces in the Village. The Clerk would fill in the form and return. There are no Public Open Spaces in Skeyton.
- b) Local Elections are due on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019. Clerk to send details of these to the Councillors, dates and forms to be filled in and taken to NNDC by said date. The cost of the local election would increase dramatically (c£500) if the election were to be contested and Cllr Hughes advised that the Council should keep this amount in reserve until the position was understood.
- c) An e-mail had been received from Cllr: Simon Covey from Burgh & Tuttington Parish Council concerning a company called ABEI Energy Group who are interested in erecting a wind farm “east of Burgh” Cllr: Simon Covey attended this meeting and asked Whether Skeyton PC had received a similar enquiry and to inform us that he had contacted the company asking for more details. District Councillor S. Penfold said he had not heard anything about this and would look into it. ABEI were understood to be a Spanish Company with an office in Cambridge.

#### 5. Planning

- a) PF/18/1932 This planning application had been withdrawn for the time being, but it was thought it would come up at a later date.
- b) PU/18/2303 Parish Clerk has contacted NNDC again regarding this, to inform them that the PC were not aware of any previous agricultural use.

- c) The site in question will be visited again this month to make sure the Owner has removed the side panels of this extension as requested.

## 6. Finance

- a) Bank Statements – At the end of January 2019 there was £2,787. 64 In the Club, Charity and Trust Account.
- b) Bottle Bank - £175. 80 was received in credits from NCC on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018.
- c) VAT claim for £14. 63 has just been sent off. This is from January 31 2018 to 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019.
- d) Cheques were signed for Clerk's Wages, Tax and URM Bottle Bank.
- e) It was agreed that £500 would be ring fenced in case of a contested election.

## 7. Highways

- a) The Council asked Norfolk Councillor John Timewell if he could help us with the problem regarding the surface and structure of the causeway on Black Horse Road. He kindly asked Jon Wynett to meet him there so they could both see the problem. At the moment there is no money for this work till next year 2020. A roughing up technique was suggested but the Council are not happy with this. The road is narrow and on a bus route and the erosion at the edges of the road was causing concern. Also, some of the red and white marker posts had disappeared. The road was completely unlit, with a ditch one side. Surface water from the road was going into the fields causing problems. It was noted that the last major work on this road was thought to have been carried out in the nineties or early eighties. Norfolk Councillor John Timewell proposed to write to Jon Wynett, thanking him for his time but was not happy as he regarded this as more than urgent.
- b) It was reported that the bump in the road near "The Hollies", had been filled in and Highways were working to improve it.
- c) Several potholes along the Norwich Walsham Road coming into Skeyton, with the Chicken Farm on your left were reported
- d) Tuttington lane were a few months ago a tractor dropped his plough and ripped up the road. Although hastily repaired at the time this has still not been repaired properly as there are unrepaired areas and a 'speed bump' where the original patch was made.

8. Any other business

- a) District Councillor Saul Penfold reported that the full council meeting at NNDC is next week, they are busy preparing the budget. In future there would be larger Wards, with the number of Councillors being reduced down from 48 to 40.
- b) Norfolk County Councillor John Timewell, stated that they have a meeting next Monday and were also busy fixing budgets. Discussions were ongoing in County Hall and that there were major issues with the press ahead of election in May. He felt strongly about that there needs to be levelling out of money from Government to Councils.

Meeting closed at 8.45.p.m.

Next meeting is 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019, 7.30.p.m.