

HALVERGATE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Halvergate Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 1st December 2021, 7.00 pm at Halvergate Village Hall.

Present:	Charles Reader	Chairman
	Robert More	Vice Chairman
	Stuart Hannant	
	Tom Carter	
	Carol Hannant	
	Steve James	
	Jessica Jennings	Clerk
	Grant Nurden	District Councillor

Plus 1 Parishioner

1. To Consider Apologies for Absence:

Michael Mallett

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest on the Agenda:

None

3. To Adjourn the Meeting to allow Public Participation:

Charles Reader adjourned the meeting to allow the following Public Participation:

3.1 Grant Nurden, District Councillor

- At the Cabinet meeting the report paper on the Household Support Fund was discussed whereby local authorities have been allocated funding from the Government to help those households most in need of support. This is mainly funding at County level and Norfolk County Council has been allocated £6.7m but Broadland District Council has been allocated £100,000 from the fund. Details of the fund and how to access it should be publicised on both Council websites.
- The Food Innovation Centre should be online in August 2022.

3.2 Parishioner Comments

- Raised concerns about the lighting on the Acle Straight near the Branch Road junction and how there are still some lights out. Clerk explained that these had been reported before to Highways England – Clerk to contact them again and will also alert Lana Hempsall to it too.
- Feels the entrance into the village from Branch Road is scruffy and hedges should be tidied and signs mended.
- Overgrown areas on Stone Road – potentially dangerous. Clerk explained that she has already twice reported this to Highways.

4. To Approve the Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting:

Resolved to accept the Minutes of October 20th as a true account

4.1 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Charles Reader pointed out that, as per 8.2, Remembrance Sunday arrangements, where it had been suggested and agreed that he would read out the names of the airmen who had died over the marshes in the war, that he had not done so on this Remembrance Sunday but further consideration in relation to timing taken to read out all names of the fallen would be given in order to include them in the future.

4.2 Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported:

- Clerk had checked listing status of Stone Cottage and confirmed that it is Grade II listed.
- Despite emailing Norfolk County Council again regarding descriptive sign posts for the village, Clerk has yet to receive a response.
- Stone Road – brambles and general overgrowth of bushes. Clerk has contacted Highways again, providing the reference number from the time she had reported it before and also reiterating the reasons why it is dangerous and needs cutting back. Complaint has been acknowledged but no further detail at time of meeting.

5. Correspondence of Note:

Norfolk County Council – email regarding Budget Consultation. Ends midnight 31 st December.	Forwarded to Councillors for information / participation.
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6. Finance:

Balance as at 31.10.21 **£19,068.31**

Payments:

Jessica Jennings	Zoom Fee (November)	£ 7.20
Jessica Jennings	Clerk's Fees (November)	£ 387.90
Jessica Jennings	Clerk's Expenses (December)	£ 17.10
Mr C. Debbage	Churchyard Grass Cutting (Sept & Oct)	£ 500.00
Royal British Legion	Wreath for Remembrance Sunday	£ 30.00

Total: £ 942.20

Balance as at 09.12.21 **£18,126.11**

Outstanding Payments:

Halvergate Village Hall	Hire for Meeting (June to Dec)	£ 50.00
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Projected Balance: **£18,076.11**

7. Planning Applications:

None but the following was received between meetings:

20212027 – Cherry Tree House, Bakers Road, Halvergate
20 solar panels to front and rear roof.

No objections raised by Councillors

8. Items for Discussion:

8.1 Precept – to set the precept for 2022-23

Councillors discussed and considered the amount to set for the precept. Steve James raised the point that, ahead of budget setting, it would be a good idea to consult with the village about where they would like to see spend. Any increases in the precept should be evidence based. Robert More said the annual Open Village Meeting gave parishioners a chance to give their views on the

village and any potential expenses. Steve James will draft a village appraisal questionnaire which the Parish Council can use for future budgeting and planning. To be discussed in more detail at future meeting.

The idea of a Neighbourhood Plan for Halvergate was raised again as a tool to express how parishioners want the village to look in the future. It was agreed to look into this again and make progress with it this time. Grant Nurden reminded the PC that there is good funding to help with drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan. Clerk to send Steve James emails received regarding Neighbourhood plans.

Robert More said that a Housing Needs survey hasn't been carried out for a very long time. Clerk to put this on the next Agenda.

All Councillors agreed to keep the Precept the same – at £9,020.
Clerk to send application to Broadland District Council.

8.2 Review of Subscriptions

Councillors reviewed the list of annual subscriptions that the Parish Council subscribe to:

Norfolk Association of Local Councils	£179.31	Considered vital to keep as provides useful support and guidance, including legal. To keep.
Community Action Norfolk	£60.00	Provides news & information for Communities. To unsubscribe*
Information Commissioners Office	£35.00	Mandatory – not optional. To keep
Zoom	£86.40	Very useful tool in times of Covid. To keep
Zurich Insurance	£575.00	Zurich have been very good so far and currently in a 5 year Long Term Agreement, which keeps the price down. No reason to change at present. To keep
Churchyard Grass Cutting	£1,800.00	Not a subscription but a regular service paid for. Mr Debbage is reliable and does a good job. Continued on the basis of a quote each year. To keep, based on quote.

* Decision taken to unsubscribe from CAN as the services paid for are never fully used, so not really getting value for money.

Councillors agreed that with the Insurance and Grass Cutting it is good to go out for tender every few years.

8.3 Hedge at Burial Ground

Tom Carter explained that the hedge won't be able to be done this year as the field had already been drilled. However, he will make sure that it is arranged to be done directly after Harvest next year.

8.4 Broads Authority – Settlements & Services

With reference to the email received from the Broads Authority regarding settlements and services, in relation specifically to Tunstall, the following points were made to pass on to the Broads Authority to amend their records:

- Places of Worship – should include Tunstall Church and the Hindu Temple
- Moorings – should include those behind the Hindu Temple
- Train Link – should include Acle, as it is the most obvious train link and Acle borders Tunstall.

Clerk to inform Broads Authority.

9 **Items for Next Agenda / Items of Interest:**

- Carol Hannant informed Councillors that a new and very solid signpost for the Weavers Way has been put up.
- Stuart Hannant informed Councillors that he had seen Highways looking at the crash barriers on Marsh Road so was hoping that it was a sign that they were being repaired.
- Robert More reported that the pot hole and flooding were still issues on Marsh Road in Tunstall. Clerk to contact Highways again.
- Village Hall – to go on next Agenda.
- Village Questionnaire / Neighbourhood Plan

10 **Date and Time of Next Parish Council Meeting:**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th January, 7.00 pm at the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 8.10 pm

Any persons wishing to speak at the Public Forum at the beginning of the Meeting, please contact Jessica Jennings, Parish Clerk at pcclerk.halvergate@gmail.com or on 701901

Signed: _____ **Charles Reader, Chairman**

Signed: _____ **Jessica Jennings, Clerk**