

HALVERGATE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Halvergate Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 30th March 2022, 7.00 pm at Halvergate Village Hall.

Present:	Charles Reader	Chairman
	Robert More	Vice Chairman
	Stuart Hannant	
	Carol Hannant	
	Steve James	
	Jessica Jennings	Clerk

1. To Consider Apologies for Absence:

Tom Carter, Michael Mallett, Grant Nurden

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest on the Agenda:

Item 8.3 (Affordable Housing) – Robert More, as landowner and in communications with Saffron Housing.

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's Report

In Grant's absence, clerk reported:

- There is no increase in Broadland DC's share of Council Tax for 22/23
- There is no increase in the collection charge for garden waste
- Broadland DC is working with other Norfolk Councils to progress ways of assisting refugees from Ukraine.
- He is in discussions with the Enforcement Team regarding a planning issue.

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

Resolved to accept the Minutes of February 2nd as a true account, with one amendment. To be signed at the next meeting.

4.1 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

8.1 – Village Questionnaire and Neighbourhood Plan – delete sentence, "Stuart Hannant suggested getting a questionnaire put out around the village to see what the village would actually like to see happen"

This is because Saffron Housing will be carrying out a survey of the village's opinions and superseded SH's comment.

8.3 – Village Hall – with reference to the Deed of Conveyance and associated letters, Charles Reader added that the implication was that if the Village Hall was sold, then both the Parochial Church Council and the Diocesan Board of Finance would want a share of the proceeds.

8.4 – Queen's Platinum Jubilee – with reference to the donation that the Parish Council offered to make to the Playing Field Committee, Carol Hannant updated the meeting with information about catering and entertainment that has been planned to celebrate. She asked if the PC would cover the cost of Live Entertainment (£200), the Children's entertainer (£100) and the Children's tea party (£100) – a total of £400. All Councillors in favour of this. Clerk requested Carol send her the Playing Field's bank details so she can transfer funds.

4.2 Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported:

- Highways has noted the potholes reported on Squires Road as needing repair and will do them but it can take up to 6 weeks.
- Grant Nurden has kindly given a laptop that he no longer uses to the Parish Council for the Clerk's use. The PC to reimburse him for the cost of having it put back to factory settings and made ready for Windows 10, which was £55. All Councillors in favour of this.
- Caroline Donald, Service Delivery Manager, Highways England, confirmed that work has taken place on the lighting at the Halvergate junction on the Acle Straight. Two new signs (HAS1 and HAS2) are still to be installed, as they are waiting for delivery of materials but will be done as soon as possible.

The maintenance work carried out included:

Installation of 4 new columns at the junction with new LED lanterns.

Installation of new LED lanterns on 2 of the existing columns

2 columns were cut down and removed, as per structural testing recommendations. 5 other columns had been removed earlier in the year.

Repair works to the 2 feeder pillars and circuits switched off for columns HA018 to HA027 which was done ahead of the full lighting renewals scheme.

Clerk to query what this actually means in terms of better lighting and a safer junction.

- Norfolk Association of Local Council (Norfolk ALC) has sent their invoice for the 2022/23 subscription, which is £183.64, a 3% rise from last year.
- Highways informed Clerk that the fallen tree on Wickhampton Road is not their responsibility as it is a boundary tree. It was not causing obstructions and is on the verge therefore no intervention necessary.
- The second SAM2 is ready to be sent out for delivery. Clerk arranged for it to be delivered to Charles Reader before it is passed on to the SAM2 volunteers. Software access to be sent via email.
- Confirmed that Broadland DC had confirmed receipt of the planning application for the Airmens' memorial and that a decision should be made by the 5th May.

5. Correspondence of Note:

Norfolk County Council – Experience, Tourism Survey about Winter Tourism in local area. Will be done every 6 months over a 3 year period, alternating between Winter and Summer tourism.	Forwarded to Councillors and also put on Facebook and Website to encourage parishioners to engage too.
BDC/SNDC – Ukranian Crisis Information Session. Norfolk's response to Ukraine, including Homes for Ukrainians.	Forwarded to Councillors for information.

6. Finance:

Balance as at 31.01.22

£17,335.91

Payments:

Jessica Jennings	Zoom License Fee (February)	£ 7.20
Jessica Jennings	Clerk's Fees (February)	£ 387.92
Jessica Jennings	Clerk's Expenses	£ 26.10
GS Computers	Computer Service	£ 45.00
Jessica Jennings	Zoom License Fee (March)	£ 7.20
Jessica Jennings	Clerk's Fees (March)	£ 387.90

Broadland District Council	Planning Application Fee	£ 231.00
		Total: £ 1,092.32
Balance as at 29.03.22		£16,243.59
<u>Outstanding Payments:</u>		
Halvergate Village Hall	Hire for Meeting (June to March)	£ 70.00
Projected Balance:		£16,173.59

7. Planning Applications:

20220467 – Airmen's Memorial, Plot of Land adjacent to Sandhole Road / The Street, Halvergate

As this is a Parish Council Planning Application, it was not discussed but for information only.

8. Items for Discussion:

8.1 Dog Fouling

Dog fouling has become a major issue in the village, with particular pockets affected more than others, notably Bakers Road, Squires Road, the grassy area outside the church and even in the churchyard / burial ground. Sadly, there is evidence of it throughout the village and on public footpaths.

Dog Fouling is a legitimate offence in Broadland, under the Defined Area Public Spaces Protection Area, with a maximum penalty of £1,000. If evidence of someone letting their dog foul and not clear up after it is captured, they can be prosecuted.

Councillors discussed various proposals to try and stop people from not picking up after their dogs. Education of the hygiene side of dog fouling was discussed. Steve James informed the meeting of packs which are available on-line which contain posters which have proved to be a success in other parts of the country.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would follow this approach and purchase some posters. They will be put up on separate signs, as it is illegal to attach posters to telegraph poles.

Councillors agreed to draw up a leaflet and do a house drop to all parishioners. This will be combined with the leaflets for the AGM & Open Village Meeting.

8.2 Barriers on Marsh / Branch Road

The barriers on the bend where Branch Road and Marsh Road meet are in a very bad state of repair, are potentially dangerous and need to be looked at. They are supposed to prevent cars from crashing into the dyke but in their current state, would not be effective. Councillors requested that the Clerk add this to the list of things to raise with Jerome Mayhew MP (along with Wickhampton Road, Tunstall Road and the Acle Straight/Halvergate junction).

8.3 Housing Needs Survey / Affordable Housing

Robert More explained his position, as landowner of a potential Affordable Housing scheme site in Halvergate, and his contact with Saffron Housing Land & Planning Manager, Joe Bootman. The site is the land at the end of Church Avenue/Gillett Drive, Halvergate and the proposal would be to build and provide affordable housing stock, which would include rental properties and would very much be aimed at local (to Halvergate especially) people.

Saffron Housing are proposing to carry out a housing needs survey within the village in order to get a clear idea of housing need.

Charles Reader asked Councillors if:

1. Does the Parish Council support Saffron Housing carrying out the survey?
All Councillors in favour.
2. Does the Parish Council support the principle of an affordable housing development on the land adjoining Gillett Drive?
 - Councillors agreed that the first step is a housing needs survey but that it is up to the Village to decide what is needed. Councillors do not think that 5-bed executive houses are what's needed but, instead, houses that can keep local people (young and old) in the village.
 - Councillors would like to see starter houses, 2-bed semi detached, be available.
 - Councillors agreed that it is very important for Saffron to understand the importance of local / village people being the ones to benefit from any houses built and they would like to know who would have the control over deciding who lives in them.

It was agreed to invite Joe Bootman along to a Parish Council meeting after the survey has been done to discuss further and in more depth.

8.4 Deer Population

Charles Reader raised the concern that there has been a large increase in the number of deer in and around the village, both Muntjac and Red Deer. If a car is involved in an accident with a deer, it can be extremely dangerous and could result in the death of the driver and / or passenger. At best, it can cause extensive damage to cars.

He proposed the idea of having road signs warning of Deer and suggested the Moulton/Halvergate Road as an location for them, with a sign at each end, Also, Mill Road / Freethorpe Road.

Clerk to speak to Highways and find out if and what can be done.

8.5 Open Village Meeting / AGM

It was agreed that the date for the Open Village Meeting and AGM would be Thursday May 12th, with the AGM at 6.00pm and the Open Meeting at 7.00pm.

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

- Tom Carter – would like the ivy to be cut back by the bridge on Branch Road. Noted that there is some subsidence on Marsh Road, Tunstall.
- Clerk asked to contact Paul Pitchers regarding the trees and vegetation on his boundary with Sandhole Corner and Marsh Road as there is some encroachment and overhanging branches.
- There is a very bright light on Chapel Road – requested that Clerk write to owner to ask if they could adjust the angle of it.
- Robert More informed the meeting that there are two trees in the Churchyard which need felling (as they are dangerous) and one which needs to have its top taken out. An application has gone to BDC for permission to carry out the work.
- Tunstall Church is hoping to hold a fundraising event later in the year.

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

The next Parish Council Meeting will be the AGM, to be held on Thursday 12th May, 6.00 pm at the Playing Field Pavilion, followed by the Open Village Meeting at 7.30pm

The meeting was closed at 9.10 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**

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