

HALVERGATE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Halvergate Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 27th June 2022, 7.00 pm at Halvergate Village Hall.

Present:	Charles Reader	Chairman
	Stuart Hannant	
	Carol Hannant	
	Michael Mallett	
	Tom Carter	
	Steve James	
	Jessica Jennings	Clerk
	Lana Hemsall	County Councillor
	Grant Nurden	District Councillor

1. To Consider Apologies for Absence:

Robert More

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 Lana Hemsall, County Councillor

- Norfolk County Council are in the process of setting a new Budget. The Council has to find savings of £60m and they are looking at how to do this without it affecting front-line services, which is a challenge.
- There will be some structural reorganisation within the Council in order to make the necessary savings and any leaving staff will not be replaced.
- Off shore wind turbine project is to be enlarged and all the energy produced by this will go from Norfolk to London which will involve the erection of huge pylons which would have a negative environmental affect on the Norfolk landscape.
- She has been in contact with Paul Sellick (Highways) to work with him on Highways issues in Halvergate and will attend the site meeting that has been requested by the Parish Council.
- The Norfolk Assist Scheme is available to support families who are struggling.

3.2 Grant Nurden, District Councillor's Report

- Broadland and South Norfolk District Councils have made the decision to purchase the Horizon Building at Broadland Business Park. This will have not affect Council Tax bills as the funding has come from reserves and as it is a joint enterprise it is a shared cost).
- At the AGM on 26th May, John Fisher became the new Chairman and Sue Pratten the new Vice Chairman.
- He encouraged Councillors to take part in Town and Parish Council Forums as they are District relevant.

3.3 Parishioners

- There is an overgrown hedge on the Halvergate / Moulton Road near the junction with Reedham Road.
- The fence and railings on the bend of Branch Road / Marsh Road presents a visually bad entrance into the village.

- Highways issues are a topic of concern and would like to see them prioritised.

Response from Parish Council:

- Stuart Hannant had looked at the stretch of road / verge between Oaklands Close and Sandhole Road and thought there was enough width for a path, with the possibility of tarmac extending under the verges.
- The drainage ditch is still in existence but has disappeared in a couple of places. If a path was put in, the ditch would need to be piped in order to drain the water into the Sandhole.
- It was agreed to discuss all points with Paul Sellick at the site meeting (date to be confirmed).
- The Parish Partnership Scheme includes Trods (non-tarmacked footways) on a 50/50 basis of cost. A tarmacked path costs in the region of £360 per metre which would equate to approximately £150,000 which is not likely to be covered by the Parish Partnership Scheme.
- Steve James suggested that the Parish Council considers taking a loan out with the Public Loans Board, which is Government organisation which lends money to authorities at reduced interest rates over a maximum period of 50 years. It could be considered to raise the Precept to help with repayments.
- It was agreed that the following process should take place:
 - Meet with Highways and find out what they would be prepared to do
 - Understand the issue and who is responsible (i.e. Highways or Landowner).
 - Petition for support – e.g. MP, County Councillor
 - Look at full costings and be clear what Norfolk County Council might pay.
 - If a Loan were to be taken out:
 - Involve parishioners to make sure they are supportive.
 - Work out the period of time it would take to pay it back.
- A Parish survey would be needed to determine the level of support.
- Lana will speak to Highways about the best way to take it forward. She also suggested that having a Neighbourhood Plan in place could help.
- All Councillors, with the exception of 1, were in favour of finding out more about a loan with a view to taking one out.

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

Resolved to accept the Minutes of the AGM held on 12th May as a true account.

4.1 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

None

4.2 Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported:

- The accounts have come back from the internal auditor. Figures to be confirmed and signed off in the meeting for Audit purposes.
- Airmen's Memorial – Christopher Brownhill at BDC has asked the PC to wait until 1st July for a decision, as that would give Highways' response time to be processed.
- Trees at Dawdy's Farmhouse – an application had gone in to fell two Scotts Pines due to the trees having lost limbs and being too big for the area. They are proposing to replace them with native species such as Oak or Elm.
- Clerk is in the process of drafting a letter from the PC to Jerome Mayhew MP to alert him to Highways issues in the Parish.

5. Correspondence of Note:

Broadland District Council – Street Name and Numbering	Certificate of Property name change, Chapel Road. From Tudor Homestead to Mulberry House.
Norfolk ALC – Wellbeing Newsletter. Help to support Norfolk residents with living costs.	Norfolk Household Support Fund, Empowering Communities Fund, Norfolk Assistance Scheme, Emergency Funding / Housing Related Costs, Nourishing Norfolk. <i>On discussion at the meeting, it was advised that any families in hardship should make direct contact with the Early Help Hub</i>

6. Finance:

Balance as at 31.05.22 **£15,684.53**

Payments:

HMRC	Income Tax (Clerk's Fees)	£ 6.20
Jessica Jennings	Zoom License Fee (June)	£ 7.20
Jessica Jennings	Clerk's Fees (June)	£ 402.87
HMRC	Income Tax (Clerk's Fees, July)	£ 6.20
Jessica Jennings	Zoom License Fee (July)	£ 7.20
Jessica Jennings	Clerk's Fees (July)	£ 402.87

Total: £ 832.54

Balance as at 31.07.22 **£14,851.99**

Outstanding Payments:

Halvergate Village Hall	Hire for Meeting (June '21 to June '22)	£ 80.00
Finesse Accounting	Internal Audit Fee	£ 150.00

Projected Balance: **£14,621.99**

7. Planning Applications:

20220909 – Windmill View, 1 Dawdy's Court, Halvergate
Replace conservatory with rear garden room extension.

NB Circulated in advance of meeting; no objections.

8. Items for Discussion:

8.1 Accounts: Annual Governance Statement

The Annual Governance Statement was approved by all Councillors present and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

8.2 Accounts: Accounting Statement

The Accounting Statement was approved by all Councillors present and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

8.3 Highways Issues

Highways issues were raised and discussed in item 3.3. It was agreed to raise these issues in person with Paul Sellick, Highways, when he comes out for the site meeting (date yet to be arranged).

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

- Charles Reader – the Poplar Tree in the grounds of the Red Lion had been cut back by a tree surgeon, under instruction from a neighbour. This had been carried out without permission. It is of concern that no permission was sought and that people are maybe unaware of the need to do so. Clerk to speak to BDC to see what can be done to prevent further unauthorised work.
- Tom Carter - Hedge near to Moulton/Halvergate write junction – overgrown and obstructing clear view of road.
Acle Straight – to left of Branch Road junction in Acle direction, there is a Willow tree that needs cutting back as it is blocking view of road.
- Carol Hannant – the top railing of the handrail into the Burial Ground has come off. Tom Carter said he would look at this.
The Parish Noticeboard needs to be updated. Clerk to update.
- Stuart Hannant – a large tree branch is hanging directly over the footpath to the Burial Ground. Could the Parochial Church Council arrange for it to be cut back?
- Tom Carter – he will arrange to have the brambles that have grown up in the Burial Ground cut back, with a tractor and machine, as soon as Harvest finished.
- Sandhole Corner – the ivy and other vegetation is overgrown and needs to be trimmed back as obscuring vision on bend. Clerk to write to Paul Pitchers.
- SAM2's – Clerk to speak to John Collins and Sean McKnight regarding the current situation as neither SAM2 seems to have been operating.
- There have been a lot of signs being put up on the verges advertising various events in other places, especially Reedham. Clerk to write to Chris Bradbury, Chairman of Reedham Village Hall, to ask him if he could ask organisers to remove signs straight after events have taken place.
- Stuart Hannant expressed his disappointment that the PCC hadn't thanked the PC for paying for the grass cutting of the churchyards at the AGM. Charles Reader explained that Nick Butcher, PCC, had not been asked in advance of the meeting to give a report so had not had any time to prepare what he was going to say.

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

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th August, 7.00 pm at the Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 8.45 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**