

Hemsby Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held 20th August 2018

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Monday 20th August 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Office, Hemsby.

Present: Chairman Terry Barnes, Vice Chairman Mike Peake

Clerk: Elaine Galer

Parish Councillors: Scott Bensly, Ian Brennan, Caz Eden, Pam Richmond, Charlotte Hill

Police representatives – PC Gary May, PC Dan Brown

Public: 6 members of the public were in attendance

Meeting Declared open at 7.30 pm

THE MEETING WAS RECORDED

As the County Councillor and Borough Councillors were expected to attend later, any discussion on the Pontins planning application were deferred until their arrival.

1. Public Participation

A member of the public complained about the number of cars parking at the mouth of Common Road and requested double yellow lines be installed near the junction. It was explained that a petition had been sent to NCC and it was not expected that they would be in favour of installing double yellow lines. The response from NCC had not been officially received – clerk to chase. PC Gary May explained it was not a parking offence to park near a junction, so he could not do anything. The County Councillor would be informed of the situation and ask if there was anything he could do.

Another problem re parking was highlighted at the garage at the Crossroads. This is an ongoing problem and the proprietor of the garage would be asked again.

Problems with parking throughout the village is a problem – it would appear that people are aware of the lack of enforcement. PC Gary May had visited the kebab shop re his customer's parking – a sign was now displayed in his window, asking customers not to park inconsiderately.

A Parishioner asked for help with an electricity pole installed in her garden – the bitumen that had been painted on the pole was dripping all over her garden. Despite repeated contact with EDF energy, this problem had not been resolved. She asked for help from the Parish Council. Clerk to follow up.

Parking around the Parish Office was also discussed – new markings should be installed soon, after that a visit from the enforcement officer would be arranged. It was felt that as the current markings are so worn, they are difficult to enforce.

2. Reports from County Councillor, Borough Councillors and Police

The Police report had been received – it is currently displayed on the notice boards and the Council's website. PC Gary May went through the report. He then went on to explain about the fire at Pontin's, the previous weekend. The Fire chief did not investigate the fire as he deemed it as arson. The police have been involved, completing house to house investigations etc. They are liaising with Northern Trust, the owners of the site. Reports from County and Borough Councillors – see item below.

3. Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Councillor Keith Kyriacou (work commitments), Councillor Tony Bowgen (work commitments) and Councillor Leslie Mogford (illness). These apologies were accepted by the council.

4. Receive Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda and requests for dispensations

None received

5. Approval of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 16th July 2018

It was proposed that the Minutes of meeting held 16th July 2018 are a true and accurate record. Proposed Councillor Ian Brennan Seconded Councillor Scott Bensly, All in Favour.

Borough Councillor Noel Galer arrived.

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6. *To review and determine the Parish Council's response to the proposed Pontins site development*

The Council's response was handed out. Councillor Ian Brennan explained that the Council's Official response was a work in progress. The Clerk stated that it was confusing that the decision date for this application was shown as 7th September 2018 on the GYBC website. She had contacted the planning department. This date is the statutory date (13 weeks from receiving the application). This planning application would go through to a Development Control meeting – the next one is scheduled for 12th September – but the agenda has not been published as yet. Therefore, the date of 7th September would be expected to change. The clerk would be notified when the application was to be heard, and the Council would be invited to attend and to speak. Each invitee would be given 5 minutes, and although, more than one representative could speak during that time, it was felt best by the planning department that 1 person was delegated to this role. Borough Councillor Noel Galer explained that other groups would be invited to attend – based on their comments received by GYBC. He also explained that GYBC are also likely to ask questions re the comments raised. It was discussed and agreed that HPC would use their comments as a basis for their report, which was still being worked on ready for the Development Control meeting. It was felt that Councillor Keith Kyriacou would also be invited as a school governor and could attend in that capacity, thus reinforcing the Parish Council's voice.

County Councillor Ron Hanton and Borough Councillor James Bensly arrived.

7. *Chairman's Report*

Complaints had been received regarding the litter on Beach Road. It is clean in the early hours but appears messy later in the morning. It would appear that seagulls are responsible as they feed from the full bins. Borough Councillor Noel Galer explained that this had also been discussed at the Town Hall, as similar problems occur elsewhere. Councillor Charlotte Hill was concerned that a lot of complaints were received regarding the tourists (parking and litter etc), yet the Parish Council are trying to encourage tourism in the village. It was explained that a lot of complaints are brought to the Parish Council – which they need to resolve. This is why a strategic view of parking etc was necessary and is ongoing.

Councillor Noel Galer asked if there was any requirement for food traders to have their own bins – this needs further investigation. It was also agreed that a review of the bins was necessary as usage was not consistent. It was not felt necessary to have more bins as some are not used.

Councillor Pam Richmond explained that in St Ives in Cornwall, where there is a similar problem with seagulls, the council had agreed that only 1 egg would be left in the seagull's nest – thus reducing numbers. County Councillor Ron Hanton confirmed that the subject of seagulls was to be looked at by the Environment Committee as it is a Borough wide problem.

8. *Vice Chairman's Report*

The gate to the Burial ground has had the wheel fitted but this is unsatisfactory. He suggested that the bill not be paid until he had discussed changes to the wheel.

A letter had been received re the state of Fakes Road – litter, dog's mess and overhanging hedges. He would like to speak to the Fire Officer as debris left from hedge trimmings constituted a fire hazard. All in agreement.

Complaints had been received re the pothole on Martham road. The clerk had already reported this to NCC and would follow it up.

9. *Reports from County Councillor and Borough Councillors*

County Councillor Ron Hanton explained that there will be an extraordinary meeting of NCC community's committee on 29th August to discuss the governance of the Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service. The Police Commissioner feels there is a case to bring this under his umbrella. It is felt that the governance should remain as it is.

The Annual Truckers' children's convey would take place on 26th August.

The proposed third river crossing at Great Yarmouth will be open to public consultation at various locations, libraries etc from 20th August – 20th October 2018. Borough Councillor Noel Galer explained that he joined other Borough Councillors in asking for the 3rd river crossing exhibitions be brought to the northern villages.

Borough Councillor James Bensly discussed the recent fire at Pontins. He thanked the Police and Fire Service for their help with this. GYBC would continue with the demolition of the building, as it was deemed unsafe, alongside with asbestos demolition experts. Monitoring re the asbestos is ongoing. Northern Trust are also meeting with GYBC to discuss securing the site. PC Gary May confirmed that some of the fencing had been secured, the rest was due to be done by the end of the week. This was to be paid by Northern Trust. Borough Councillor Bensly explained that, if necessary GYBC would secure the site and the pass the bill to the owners. The cost of the services involved can not be passed on as the Fire Service responded to 999 calls.

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A parishioner asked what the rateable value of the Pontins site would be. Borough Councillor James Bensly explained that this would be approx. £500,000 pa – this represents a loss to the borough of £5,000,000 over the 10 years the site has sat idle.

It was explained that the Draft Local Plan was now available for review – links had been copied to the Facebook page. Everyone was requested to respond to this.

County Councillor Ron Hanton, Borough Councillor James Bensly, PC Gary May and PC Dan Brown left the meeting.

10. Items reported to Parish Councillors during the month

Councillor Ian Brennan declared an interest in the following item: -

Councillor Caz Eden explained that reports had been received of a path being cut through near the Newport Cottages. The clerk had previously reported this to GYBC, but they had been more concerned re the dumping of garden waste that was occurring. The path, however, is dangerous as it stops at the top of the dune, with a vertical drop to the beach. It was agreed that this is on private land. More investigation was required to find out who the owner was before taking it further. Councillor Scott Bensly suggested a lockable gate should be installed. This problem has been ongoing for several years.

Councillor Pam Richmond had received a request for the hedge near the bus stop on Yarmouth Road to be cut back again. Vice Chairman Mike Peake to investigate.

11. Committee/Councillors Reports

- a. *Bloomin' Hemsby* – the bid for Grow Wild needs to be actioned shortly
- b. *Neighbourhood Plan* – the clerk has been liaising with Councillor Leslie Mogford on this – a meeting needs to be arranged shortly for a status report
- c. *Village Hall* – No representative was available. A parishioner asked how the revamp of the toilets was proceeding – Councillor Tony Bowgen was due to attend this meeting at 9pm.
- d. *Playing Field / Pavilion* – No records have been received re the AGM or any other documents that have been promised.
- e. *Patient Participation Group* – Councillor Pam Richmond reported that the next meeting was in January
- f. *Save Hemsby Coastline* - Councillor Ian Brennan stated that the final day for the feedback from members of the public was 17th August. A report was due after that date. Bernard Harris has not moved the hexagonal blocks as yet – this is supposed to happen after the works on the Scratby gabions has been completed.
- g. *School Governor's report* – Councillor Keith Kyriacou was not present
- h. *Risk Assessments* – Chairman Terry Barnes asked for a volunteer to be trained to undertake this in the future. Councillor Charlotte Hill volunteered.

12. Finance

- a. *Bills to be paid* – The grass cutting had not been done in July – clerk to chase Norse and bill is not to be paid at the present time. Green slips had not been received from the groundsman. As no signatories for the bank were present, it was agreed that the Chairman should be added to the list of signatories.
- b. *Financial Statement for July 2018* - These had previously been distributed.
- c. The Chairman asked if a printer could be purchased for use in meetings as previously discussed – A3, air printer etc. – quotes to be obtained

13. Planning

- a. *Planning Applications received – none remain outstanding at present*

The clerk asked if all subsequent planning applications should have a statement to ensure that the application does not adversely affect future road/kerb parking. Proposed Councillor Pam Richmond, seconded Councillor Ian Brennan. All in favour.

The third river crossing review would be put on the agenda for the next meeting as it had only just been received.

14. Further comments from Members of the Public

Vice Chairman Mike Peake asked if anyone would be interested in joining a Speedwatch scheme that was being formed in the village.

Borough Councillor Noel Galer explained the idea of employing a professional planner to assist with the planning application for the Pontins site, as mentioned by Adam Nicholls last month. This would involve examination of all relevant documents, policies etc and, if necessary, attendance of the Development Control

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meeting to represent the Parish Council. The fees are £550 per day (maximum 2 days) and £70 per hour for attendance at the meeting.

Proposed Councillor Pam Richmond, seconded Councillor Ian Brennan. All in favour

15. Councillor Caz Eden asked what was happening re the Draft Local Plan. It was explained that a separate meeting would be required once everyone had had a chance to read the document.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm