

Little Snoring Parish Council

Clerk Joanna Otte, Little Manor, Thursford Road, Little Snoring, NR21 0JN tel: 01328 822366
Email: littlesnoringpc@googlemail.com website: <http://littlesnoringparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

Present: G Brown, S Harvey, L Spanton, A Talbot (Chair),
And: T FitzPatrick (District Councillor) and two members of the public

Meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 18 September 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Community Room

MINUTES

Welcome

1. **Apologies** from S Price and C Redford were accepted.
2. **Declarations of pecuniary interest** by Councillors in any of the agenda items listed below.
None.
3. **Minutes of the previous Meetings** (24 July) were approved and signed.
4. To consider **co-opting** to fill the vacancy. No one had been found to take on the role.
5. **Matters arising:** Progress on items from previous meetings for information or reminders only. Items not on this agenda requiring decisions will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.
None.
6. **The meeting was temporarily closed for Parishioners to express any concerns they may have and for District and County Councillors to report.**
Members of the public asked the following:
 - Was there any update on the potential development on Kettlestone Road? – the parish council had not received any further information.
 - What was being done about the litter bins on the playing field which had overflowed during the summer? – It was explained that the parish councillor who usually emptied the bins into a wheelie bin had not been able to do so on a few occasions due to a broken ankle and wrist. However the Parish Council was considering getting a couple of wheelie bins which would be emptied on a regular basis by North Norfolk District Council contractors.
 - The group organising the monthly Cuppa would like to have a proper door mat to help keep the floor clean and also to have some smaller fold-up tables. The Parish Council agreed that they could spend up to £240 (the amount that had been raised during the previous two years) to make reasonable purchases. The Clerk thanked the organisers for doing the Cuppa.
 - The Cuppa group also said that they and others would like to have a larger venue – perhaps not a huge village hall but a larger modular building – for community events such as the Cuppa, craft activities and a youth club. The size of the Community Room was restrictive e.g. approx. 20 for the Cuppa and maximum of 10 for craft activities. The Parish Council suggested that those interested should form a group to work towards that goal – grant applications would need to have evidence of need, so the group would have to demonstrate that the existing venues (Community Room and School Hall) were not sufficient and that there was an enthusiastic and committed group already organising events and able to carry the project forward. They were invited to put an article in the newsletter calling for those interested to join them.

NNDCllr Tom FitzPatrick reported that he had represented the East of England at the All Party Parliamentary Group looking at infrastructure including digital infrastructure. He

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emphasised the importance of improving mobile phone coverage in rural areas – the shared rural network needs to come the East of England. Another issue was the Big Switch Off - all analogue landlines to be switched to digital by the end of 2025. There was pressure to allow and encourage local government to be involved with raising awareness rather than simply relying on providers to get the information across to users. Work was also needed to get rid of digital exclusions and the tackle ‘not spots’. He noted that the District Council had achieved for a second year RSPCA Gold Award for its stray dog service.

The Chair re-opened the meeting

7. Planning

i. Applications received

- a. PF/23/1877: Retrospective application for the siting of a mobile home for an on-site warden to caravan park at **Caravan and Camping Park Crossways Holt Road**. Link circulated. No objection.

ii. Decisions made by NNDC

- a. RV/23/1169: Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission PF/21/2326 (Single storey rear extension connecting to garage (to be converted to habitable space) two storey porch extension) to allow alterations to height and fenestration of garage to be converted, and removal of workshop section. At **Little Manor Thursford Road**. APPROVED.
- b. PF/23/1311: Single storey extensions to rear and side of dwellinghouse at **8 Holt Road**. APPROVED.

8. Highways

- i. Parish Partnership Scheme is open for applications for highway improvements – 50% of cost from the County Council (deadline 8 Dec for 2023-24).
 - a. It was agreed to apply for a new radar for the SAM2: cost from Westcotec £898 + VAT.
- ii. Items to report: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem>
 - a. It was noted that potholes around the village had been repaired.
 - b. It was noted that the puddle across the junction of Kettlestone Road / Thursford Road had been reported with a request to clear out the drain and pipes properly to allow the surface water to drain under the road into the ditch.

9. SAM2

- i. As it had been confirmed that an application could be made retrospectively to the Parish Partnership Scheme to cover 50% of the cost, a replacement radar had been installed and the unit was back up and running on the A148. Thank you to Stephen Harvey for sorting this out and to Major Tyres for checking the amps on the two batteries free of charge.
- ii. The SAM2 unit was Holt Road near Crossways during August and September monitoring traffic speed and the volume of vehicles travelling from Fakenham towards Holt. It was now on The Street near the bus shelter (monitoring traffic coming from Great Snoring).

From early August to mid-September 2023

- An average of 6,488 vehicles were recorded coming into the village per day
- The peak times of travel are 10 to 11 am (average of 540 vehicles); and 4 to 5 pm (average of 589 vehicles)
- The maximum speed was 95 mph at 11:40 am on 31 August, (although the average speeder was travelling just under 35 mph).
- The majority of vehicles were travelling below the speed limit which is 40 mph. The 85th percentile speed (i.e. of 115,827 vehicles) was 40.8 mph; and the average speed was 34.8 mph.

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10. Financial Business

- i. Bank balances as at 30 Aug: Savings ac £7,535.30; Current ac £1,172.40.
- ii. Receipts since 30 June: NCC recycling credits £25.82
- iii. Regular payments since 30 June: Anglian Water £34; FT Gds Maintenance £1050; CGM (playing field) £510.45; Salary & on-costs.
- iv. To approve the following payments

to whom (details of payment)	Date	cheque no.	Amount
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd (reissued following return from Barclays) previous chq 100922	23/08/23	100924	£4788.64
Fakenham Prepress Solutions (newsletter)	23/08/23	100925	£129.60
Westcotec (replacement radar for SAM2)	23/08/23	100926	£1077.60
Joanna Otte (expenses)		100927	£43.61
Countrystyle Recycling Ltd (bottle bank)		100928	£13.20

11. Presentation of the village and reports

- i. **Health and Safety:**
 - a. Report (assets around the village)
 1. It was noted with appreciation that the **Village Sign** had been repaired and repainted again by a resident.
 2. **Bus shelter** tiles and internal board of roof damaged. Quotes:
 - a. Osier Developments: £1920 + VAT (may need access to mains water & electricity)
 - b. Walsingham Estate: £2290.51 + VAT (excl: cutting hedge back, rafter repairs)It was agreed to accept the quote from Osier Developments

12. Playground.

- i. Purchase of 2 x **picnic benches** for £135 (discount price - moving sale). Thank you to Stephen Harvey for erecting and installing the picnic benches in the play area.
- ii. It was decided to get quotes from NNDC **for wheelie bin/s** (hire and collection) for the playing field to replace the litter bins.
- iii. **Quotes for new equipment:**
 - a. **Online Playground:** Replace trim trail items (balance combo, log steps): £2930 and bench: £1290
 - b. **Kompan:** Total with discount **£30,640** (+ VAT)
 - c. **Sovereign:** Option 1: Yellowstone climbing structure and bench: **£6957.85**; Option 2: Drop rope traverse, inclined balance weaver, log traverse, walk & stretch posts, stepping stone, and bench: **£7854.50**; Post installation inspection £480
- iv. To consider how to **fund this project.**
 - a. It was agreed to apply for a grant from North Norfolk Sustainable Communities Fund (maximum was £15,000 but it could be less)
 - b. As the Parish Council does not have the funding in reserve, it was suggested that the equipment could be paid by a one-off increase in the Precept. This would mean that all the tax payers in the parish of Little Snoring would contribute towards the cost (approx. £50 extra next year). The Precept would then return to the previous level. It was agreed that opinion from residents would be sought via the newsletter.

13. Community Room

- i. Steward Safety Supplies had provided 1 x foam extinguisher and 1 x fire blanket, and registered for annual service.

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- ii. It was noted that a written Fire Risk Assessment was now required from 1 October. The Clerk was asked to see if a template was available.

14. Churchyard Conservation Project

- i. Set a date for strimming and raking the long grass: a Tuesday or Thursday in October to be confirmed.
- ii. It was agreed to purchase four large wooden rakes for clearing the arisings about £40 each (£270 available from fund-raising event in April 2022).

15. Newsletter

- i. Information about the Big Switch Off
- ii. SAM2 Report
- iii. Funding for the playground equipment

16. **Correspondence:** circulated as usual.

17. Next meeting of the Parish Council: **Monday 13 November 2023** at 7.30 pm in the Community Room.

Meeting closed at 9 pm

Meeting of Little Snoring Playing Field Association

Following the Parish Council meeting on 18 Sept 2023

1. **Minutes** of last meeting (24 July) were approved and signed.
2. **Financial business:** balance as at 31 August: £1660.45
3. **Other business**
 - i. It was noted that the wooden base of the plaque in front of a tree which residents had planted in memory of a long-term resident and friend had been damaged by the grass cutter. CGM are making arrangements for a replacement.

Meeting closed at 9:03 pm