

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BROOKE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT BROOKE METHODIST HALL ON
MONDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.30PM**

Present: Mr Spinks, Mr Tobin, Mr Pitelen, Mr Newman, Mrs Brown, Mrs Hannah and Mrs Jones.

In attendance: The Clerk, Mr Fuller (District Councillor) and 2 members of the public.

Absent: Mrs Beardsell, Mrs Mason-Billig (County Councillor)

1. Apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Mrs Bearsell and Mr Wilson

2. Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest made.

3. Minutes of meeting on 9h January 2023:

The minutes were circulated, agreed to be a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman accordingly.

4. Matters arising from meeting on 9th January 2023:

4.1 Village communication

This item was deferred.

4.2 Flashing speed signs

Mr Tobin is awaiting a link from Westcotec to retrieve the data collected by the speed sign. He reported that the post by the Church is unusable as a speed sign location as it is so badly corroded it would be dangerous to mount the unit on. It has been reported to Highways but the Clerk will report it again.

4.3 Benches

Highways have given permission for 2 benches to be installed between the bins on the Norwich Road lay-by. Steve Jones has been asked to quote to lay concrete bases and fit them.

4.4 Land registration

The most recent correspondence from EG Law advises that Land Registry are requesting additional documentation in support of the application to register the Brecon Road amenity area. The Clerk and Mrs Brown will liaise.

4.5 Electric charging points

There is no update. Mr Newman will try and find out the present position.

4.6 Development North of the village

A member of the public has requested that the Parish Council holds a village meeting concerning the Local Development Plan's allocation of up to 50 houses at the North end of the village, and in connection with the current consultation. It was noted that the current consultation is regarding legal compliance and soundness of the plan and not to do with allocation of land or number and

design of housing. It is therefore not an appropriate time to call a public meeting. The Clerk will advise the member of the public. With regard to the legal compliance and soundness of the Local Plan, Mr Newman will go through it and highlight any areas he feels fall short and advise the Parish Council of such. He stated that individuals should also respond to the consultation.

4.7 Meres management group

Mr Pitelen had drafted suggested terms for a meres management group. Councillors agreed with the terms and Mr Pitelen will therefore set up the group accordingly.

5. County and District Councillor's reports:

Mr Fuller (District Councillor) gave his report, summarised as follows:

Council tax has been frozen for the 9th time largely due to savings made by merging South Norfolk and Broadland District Councils offices in to the Horizon building which will be a carbon neutral building.

The South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Allocations Plan consultation is open until 6th March 2023. Representations are invited on the legal compliance and soundness of the plan.

Mr Tobin advised that a member of the public has requested the PC to hold a public meeting.

Mr Fuller advised that SNDC is currently in the 7th round of consultations and this stage is the regulation 19 consultation which is limited to the legal compliance and soundness of the plan. It is too late to comment on the sites or number of allocated houses.

Mr Tobin asked whether if a development of 50 houses is built with a hammerhead design, does this mean that further development will follow on that site. Mr Fuller stated no and cited the examples already in Brooke where there is a hammerhead design and where no further building took place like at Astley Cooper Place and Mereside.

Mr Newman pointed out that the current settlement boundary stops at number 45 Norwich Road. Mr Fuller advised that the boundary will change according to the new Local Plan.

A member of the public referred to the previous FW Properties application for 200 houses on the preferred site including serviced land for a new school. Mr Fuller advised that the site is now allocated up to 50 houses so there would be no financial incentive for a developer to provide land for a new school. Mr Spinks advised that there was never any budget for the build costs of a school in any case.

Mr Tobin pointed out that the new Local Plan includes the requirement for a roundabout on the Norwich Road for access on to a new development. He considers that the cost to a development would be significant and disproportionate to the value of 50 houses. He considers that provision of a roundabout is a precursor to further development.

Mr Spinks stated that as an elected District Councillor, the PC would expect Mr Fuller to support the views of the Parish but feels that this has not always been the case in the past due to Mr Fuller's other role at South Norfolk Council.

It was agreed that in view of the current stage of consultations, it would not be a logical time to call a public meeting. The Clerk will advise the member of the public who suggested one.

Members of Brooke Society were present and were invited to comment. The Society had drafted a response to the consultation but it focussed on the land allocation rather than on the legal soundness of the plan.

6. Planning

6.1 New and amended planning applications:

2023/0202 – Proposed single storey pitched roof wrap around extension to the side and rear. Demolish existing conservatory/porch and replace existing rear entrance with a window into the kitchen at 2, Coach House, Brooke Gardens.

The application was discussed and the majority view was no objections.

A retrospective planning application was made for the fence at 58, Coniston Road but not for 1, The Street. The Clerk will chase present position in this regard.

6.2 Greater Norwich Local Plan Gypsies and Travellers sites consultation

Councillors had considered the consultation and agreed that there was nothing in the document to affect Brooke and therefore no response is required.

6.3 South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Allocations Plan

See agenda item 5

7. Public Spaces:

7.1 Trees and hedges

There were no issues to discuss

7.2 Highways

The corroded 30mph sign by the Church has been reported but has yet to be replaced.

Mr Newman and Mr Wilson have reported the lack of 30mph repeater signs on the Norwich Road but no action has yet been taken.

Highways road signs left against the trees in the middle of the meres have been there for months now. The Clerk will contact Highways and ask for them to be removed.

8. Finance:

8.1 Clerk's financial statement

The Clerk's financial statement had been circulated prior to the meeting and was accepted as a true representation of the current financial position of the Parish Council.

8.2 Cheques to be authorised

The following cheques were approved for signature:

£10.00	Brooke Methodist Church	Hall hire
£50.00	J Andrews	Petty cash
£72.00	NALC	Councillor training

8.3 Cheques to be authorised from the Village Hall account

£1454.26	Enfield Electrical Supplies	Electrical supplies
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9. Parish Council administration:

9.1 Councillor training

Mr Newman attending new Councillor training and found it extremely useful. The Clerk encouraged other Councillors to attend.

9.2 Cheque signatories

Mandate change forms have been submitted to add Mrs Jones as a cheque signatory.

10. Correspondence:

An email had been received from a member of the public asking for a public meeting regarding the Local Plan consultation. This has been covered under item 5.

11. Items for agenda and date of next meeting 5th May 2023:

Village communication
Speed signs
Benches
Land registration
Meres management group
Councillor training

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.00pm

