

**MINUTES OF BROOKE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2019 AT  
BROOKE METHODIST CHURCH**

**Present:** Mr Haycox (Chairman), Mr Harrison (Vice-Chair), Mrs Beardsell, Mrs Jones, Mr Spinks, Mr Gibson, Mr Pitelen and Mrs Andrews (Clerk)

**In Attendance:** Mrs Patel (Chair of Brooke Playpark Committee), representatives from Kingsley Healthcare, Bidwells and the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital and 4 members of the public.

**1. Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Mr Tobin, Mrs Meadows and Mr Fuller (District Councillor).

**2. Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest declared.

**3. Minutes of meeting 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019:**

The minutes had been previously circulated to all Councillors, they were agreed to be a true record and duly signed by Mr Haycox.

**4. Matters arising from meeting 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019:**

**4.1 Playpark**

Mrs Patel gave her report which is attached as an addendum to the minutes.

**4.2 Kings Head PH update**

Mr Haycox reported that he had met with the owner who advised that the pub is being marketed for sale as a pub/restaurant. The owner had also had a meeting with SNDC planners to discuss strategies in the event that the property does not sell for that usage. He has been advised that the property must be advertised at a fair market value for a period of at least 6 months before alternative uses can be considered. The Asset of Community Value status will depend on whether it sells.

**4.3 Local business signage**

Mr Pitelen met with Mr Spurgeon regarding the advertising boards which have been removed from the verge at the junction of the B1332 and High Green. He has advised Mr Spurgeon that the Parish Council would support some more appropriate signage. Mr Pitelen will liaise with Barry Stone and Mr Spurgeon.

**4.4 St Peters Road play area**

Mr Spinks reported that works to tidy up the play area and clear scrub to the edges will start in the new year once vegetation has died back.

**4.5 Adrian Gunson memorial noticeboard**

This item was deferred as Mr Tobin was not present.

## 5. Planning:

### 5.1 New and amended planning applications.

#### **2019/1932 – Proposed erection of single storey detached dwelling on land rear of 29, The Street**

The application was recommended for approval.

#### **2019/1841 – Proposed erection of detached building for use as a study/gym in front of property at North Cones, 33, Norwich Road**

The application was recommended for refusal for the following reasons:

The proposed development does not reflect the style and character of neighbouring houses.

The proposed development does not keep with the current building line.

As a business is run from the existing premises, there is reasonable belief that this structure may become used for a different purpose than the application states.

#### **2019/1967 – Proposed erection of single storey extension at 61, High Green**

The application was recommended for approval.

#### **2019/2027 – Proposed erection of two storey side extension, new porch including internal and external alterations (resubmission of 2019/1350) to 65, High Green**

The application was recommended for approval.

#### **2019/2084 – Proposed single storey rear extension to 26, Norwich Road**

This application came in very recently and Councillors wished to look at the plans online before making a decision. A decision was therefore deferred.

### 5.2 Presentation by Bidwells re: proposed extension to Brooke House, Brooke Gardens

Mr Haycox reminded all present that the presentation was for information purposes only and that no dialogue would be entered in to prior to receipt of a planning application.

Mr Spinks wished it to be minuted that he disagreed with Bidwells being allowed to present a planning proposal to the Parish Council prior to any application being made.

A representative from Kingsley Healthcare (owners of Brooke House care home) gave a short presentation giving a background of the company and outlining their plans to invest in reconfiguring the way that care is delivered to better cater for their clients. They reported that they have a huge waiting list of people needing residential dementia care. They wish to extend the current facility by 26 rooms. A representative from the Norfolk and Norwich hospital who takes care of patient's discharge from hospital in to care gave a presentation in which she reported that there is a significant lack of dementia care in the area.

A representative from Bidwells advised that an application was made to extend the care home 4 years ago but at that time there were concerns regarding vision splays for traffic emerging from the care home on to The Street. They reported that they have now addressed this issue. An application will be made within the next 2-3 weeks.

## 6. District and County Councillors reports:

Mr Fuller (District Councillor) was not present but had emailed a report which is attached as an addendum to the minutes.

Mr Stone (County Councillor) gave his report, summarised as follows:

Richard Bacon (MP) had contacted him regarding the requested bus stop at the junction with the B1332 and Hunstead Lane. This is the bus stop requested by the Parish Council and chased by Mrs Meadows. Mr Stone will liaise with Mrs Meadows.

There is currently a public consultation online regarding County Council budgets. The consultation is open until mid- December.

## **7. School Governor report:**

Mr Hankinson, Chair of Governors was unavailable to attend the meeting but had nothing new to report.

## **8. Correspondence:**

There was no correspondence to discuss.

## **9. Finance:**

### **9.1 Clerk's financial statement**

The Clerk had circulated an overview of the Parish Council finances prior to the meeting.

### **9.2 Cheques to be authorised**

The following cheques were approved for payment and signed accordingly:

£10.00	Brooke Methodist Church	Hall hire
£260.00	M Tobin	Reimbursement of cost of sand blasting finger posts
£5000.00	Brooke Play Park Committee	Grant from CIL fund re new play area
£655.60	Clinks Care Farm Ltd	Grounds maintenance

### **9.3 Budget 2020/21**

Mr Haycox asked Councillors to be thinking about the precept for 2020/21 and budgeting for expenditure going forward.

## **10. Parish Partnership scheme and CIL**

Mr Tobin is looking in to flashing speeding signs.

Mr Pitelen suggested installing a bench and a swing at St Peters Road play area.

Mrs Beardsell suggested a picnic bench between the meres and a new dog waste bin near Windermere Close. Councillors will email Mr Haycox with their suggestions for further consideration.

## **11. Councillor responsibilities:**

### **11.1 Speeding (A Gibson)**

Mr Gibson is looking into this matter. Mr Drew (member of the public in attendance) voiced his concerns about the problem and volunteered to assist with a speed watch scheme.

### **11.2 Meres (L Pitelen)**

Mr Pitelen advised that he had sought advice from Norfolk Wildlife Trust regarding the health of the meres and works carried out at the recent meres working party were in line with their advice. There are too many trees around the meres and he is in the process of obtaining quotes to reduce their number. He will liaise with Robin Taylor at SNDC regarding obtaining permission. The previous quote obtained for dredging the meres was to leave the spoils on site. This is not ideal. Cost is now likely to be more in the region of £4000 but this price still does not include removal of spoils. The work would need to take place in the new year. Once dredged, water levels need to be monitored and if levels are not improved by dredging, a borehole could be considered. Thanks were expressed to Kathy at The White Lion for the generous donation towards the meres fund of £808.14. The Clerk has sent a thank you letter on behalf of the Parish Council. Thanks were expressed to all volunteers who helped at the working party.

### **11.3 Village assets (M Tobin)**

Mr Tobin was not present and therefore the item was deferred.

### **11.4 Buses (L Meadows)**

Mrs Meadows was not present and therefore the item was deferred.

### **11.5 Tree wardens (R Beardsell and C Jones)**

Mrs Beardsell reported that a 5 acre area of land adjacent to Bergh-Apton Waste and Recycling Centre has been set aside as a tree nursery for the planting of around 2000 native British trees.

### **11.6 Website update (A Gibson and J Spinks)**

This item was deferred.

### **11.7 Village events (J Spinks)**

Mr Spinks has liaised with Poringland Parish Council who have agreed to assist him with planning a village fete. Brooke Cricket Club are agreeable to the fete being held at the club where there will be bar facilities available.

### **11.8 Dog fouling (D Harrison)**

Dog fouling around the village has improved but continues to be a problem. Mr Haycox did a presentation at Brooke VC Primary School at which he explained the function of the Parish Council and also impressed upon the children the importance of picking up after their pets.

### **11.9 Footpaths (R Beardsell)**

Mrs Beardsell will be requesting County Council to reinstate 2 footpaths in the village which have fallen in to disuse since they were left off the footpath maps in the 1960's.

Mr Haycox advised that Councillor training is taking place on 30<sup>th</sup> January and 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Councillors interested in registering on one of these courses should let him know.

## **12. Items for Agenda of next meeting 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019:**

Speeding  
Meres  
Buses  
Parish Partnership Scheme

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25 pm

District Councillor report -

Local Plan: I had previously indicated that the draft local plan would be issued for consultation at the end of September and be open for comments between now and Xmas. This would have given a greater degree of certainty over future development sites in the village [subject to consultation responses] and nailed the lie that Brooke could be swamped by 600 new homes or some other similarly outrageous number.

For a variety of reasons this hasn't happened, not least as a result an assessment of the dates for the local plan, which by law must extend for at least 15 years from the point of adoption, is now expected in 2022 - in turn caused by the length of time planning inspectors seem to take nowadays. By simple arithmetic, this means that we must sensibly change the dates from 2016-2036 to 2018-2038 with the knock-on that fine-tuning of the overall numbers will be required. Although there will be two more years of growth at the back end, we lose two years at the front end so it is fine-tuning rather than wholesale revision.

So, our best case is now that we will be in a position to publish/consult between January and March.

For the three districts SNC/Broadland/Norwich, our best guess before fine-tuning is that 9500 homes will be needed in total [for the City, Towns, Suburbs & villages] over-and-above those left over from the existing plan. And 10pc of these must be in sites 0.5-1ha approx. For the 180 rural parishes between South Norfolk & Broadland 2000-2250 homes will be indicated.

You can't take a simple arithmetic average [2250/180] because, clearly, villages like Brooke could sustain more development than Howe, for example. 800 sites have been put forward for development by landowners. Most will be discarded for one reason or another. And even some which are accepted may be scaled back.

Officials are busy scoring all 800 sites on various criteria incl Brownfield, Flood Risk etc. Assessments of primary school capacity have been taken into account when assessing numbers in 'clusters of villages' and Howe, Kirstead & Brooke run-together as a cluster.

I can't say and I don't know what sites will be proposed save to say

that it's likely that the Brooke Cluster will contain about 60 homes +/- 10pc-ish. And these will be contained in one or more sites depending on the assessment process. This will all emerge in early January. And it's at that point that parishes and other interested parties will be able to consider the preferred proposals.

Moving on...

Playpark: I was pleased that the Playpark got the maximum amount of £15000 in the South Norfolk Grants Awards. I know I am biased but they had by far the best evidenced proposal of all the proposals I saw with genuine research on the needs and demonstrating they met all the criteria in full. They made it easy to persuade the committee to make the award.

The Meres: I was happy to help in a small way on the second Saturday and would congratulate you all on the transformation of the mere. It looks much much better.

Councillor John Fuller OBE

Leader of South Norfolk District Council. Member for Brooke Ward

## Brooke Playpark Report for Brooke Parish Council October 2019

### Funding Update

Parish Council (CIL)	£5,000	Successful (ring fenced)
Ben Burgess	£1,000	Successful
JR Construction	£150	Successful
Online giving	£87.50	Successful
Townlands Trust	£500	Successful
Aviva Community Fund	£1,000	Successful
Parish Council 2019/20 support	£1,250	Successful (ring fenced)
Community Action Fund	£15,000	Successful
Tarmac Landfill fund	£15,000	Decision made in December 2019
Adnams Charity	£2,500	Decision made in November 2019
Big Lottery Awards for All	£10,000	Successful
Family fun day	£636.15	Successful
Aviva match from Family Fun day	£500	Successful
Total	£	

Secured:

Pending funding:

Brooke Play Park Committee are delighted with the success of the applications to date. We will be reviewing our total budget secured before Christmas and meeting with NGF Play to instruct the order within the budget we have available. We hope to have the park installed by the Easter holidays.