

**MINUTES of the MEETING of
WOOD NORTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at WOOD NORTON VILLAGE HALL
on WEDNESDAY 7 March 2018 at 7.30pm**

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Marchant (Chairman)
Parish Cllrs: T. Lidstone-Scott, C. Robson, M. Crowe, L. O'Keefe, J. Johnson
and H. Bailey
County Councillor Steffan Aquarone
District Councillor Pierre Butikofer

90 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

91 REPORT FROM THE POLICE

The January Newsletter was shared with Councillors.

92 REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Council Budget - Good news for Melton Constable Division, as planned cuts of £500,000 to bus subsidies and £400,000 to road gritting were reversed by Norfolk County Council. The issue of mobile libraries has been kicked into the long grass: the cuts were not planned until next financial year, so we will continue to fight for this issue. It's particularly important, since these are some of the few services people in rural areas actually receive from the County Council.

County Councillor allowances - Before Christmas, whilst wielding an axe to public services, the County Council voted to increase Members' allowances. Politicians giving themselves a combined £142,000 a year extra, whilst planning on cutting more than twice that from each of the above services! Rather than refusing the increase, where I have no power to direct how it's spent, I will be using the additional money I will be receiving, after tax, to create a seed funding pot for community projects across the Division. Anyone who lives or works in Melton Constable Division can apply for funding, and I will consider all proposals. The total in the fund is published on my website, steff.mycouncillor.org.uk, and I will update it as it is issued.

REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

District Councillor Butikofer reported that North Norfolk District Council (NNDC) is now a 'Hung' Council. There are 18 Liberal Democrats, 18 Independents, 22 Conservatives which means the Conservatives are 4 members short for overall control. At the last full council meeting the leader of the council Tom Fitzpatrick stood down and Councillor John Lee has taken over. Cllr Lee has reduced his cabinet from 10 to 7 members making it more cost effective. At the same meeting the budget for the year was agreed. Council tax will increase by £5 for a Band D property per year. Following the severe weather bins need to be left out and they will be collected at some point. The District Council brought a successful prosecution for animal cruelty. Vattenfall wind farm have announced that they will be using HVDC transmission connection instead of HVAC. This will avoid the need for a cable relay station at East Runton. It will mean that a 45m wide corridor instead of 100m within 5kms of the coast. NNDC will be hosting their inaugural Business Awards. District Councillor Butikofer has submitted the application for funding towards the Wood Norton Play Area from the Big

Society Fund.

93 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Lidstone-Scott has been asked by a resident when the Village Sign would be repainted. This is in hand.

94 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

95 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

On the proposition of Cllr Marchant the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24 January 2018 were approved and signed.

96 MATTERS ARISING

- a) **Laptop purchase** – The Clerk will organize this.
- b) **Defibrillator** – The emergency telephone has been installed. The number will be made public shortly.
- c) **Broadband** – The Clerk has received the ‘Better Broadband for Norfolk’ scheme. A new communications cabinet (reference BBfN Foulsham 6) is to be installed on the grass verge opposite the Village Hall, Stibbard Road/Brush Hill to serve residents and businesses in the immediate surrounding area. No date for installation is currently available.
- d) **Website** – Cllr Lidstone-Scott has spoken to Norfolk County Council who hosts the site regarding the issue of space.
- e) **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** – Various companies are offering their services to help with GDPR. Still awaiting guidance from the Norfolk Association of Local Councils (Nfk ALC).
- f) **Anglian Water** – The Clerk has written but has heard nothing to date. She will chase.
- g) **World War 1 Commemoration** – The Clerk has patterns to knit, sew and crochet poppies. Anyone who would like them please let her know.

97 FINANCE

97.1 On the proposition of Cllr Lidstone-Scott, seconded by Cllr Crowe that payment of £168.60 is made to HMRC. All in favour.

97.2 On the proposition of Cllr O’Keefe, seconded by Cllr Bailey that payment of the Clerk’s half yearly salary of £637.99 is paid. All in favour.

97.3 The balance of accounts is as follows:

- Wood Norton Community Account - £2953.66
- Wood Norton Business Saver Account - £569.00
- Wood Norton Village Sign/Notice Board Account - £1707.62
- Wood Norton Defibrillator Fund - £220.00

98 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

See minute 96 d).

99 CORRESPONDENCE

Norfolk Vanguard and Boreas (Vattenfall)
Eastlaw – General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

100 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Laptop
Defibrillator
Mains drainage

Data Protection
Village Sign
Village Notice Board
Broadband

101 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING
Wednesday 18th April 2018 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.30p.m.

Chairman

Date