

## Meeting Minutes of Nordelph Parish Council

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 at 6.30pm held at Nordelph Village Hall, Birchfield Road, Nordelph

Parish Councillors present: Councillor Capsey (Chairman), Councillor Lyus, Councillor Gray, Councillor Venn, Councillor Thomas, Councillor Patch and Councillor Favell also present Borough Councillor Rose, County Councillor Dawson and one member of the public

Apologies: Borough Councillor Spikings

Councillor Patch signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form.

### MINUTES

#### 1 Welcome

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone including Councillor Patch to her first meeting.

#### 2 To consider and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received as above and the reasons for such approved.

#### 3 To declare pecuniary interests & consider any requests for dispensations

No pecuniary interests were given and no requests for dispensations had been requested prior to the meeting.

#### 4 Open Forum for public participation (15 minutes only);

- a) The contractor appointed to replace and repair the railings along the riverbank was present. He outlined the works required and it was noted that there will more than likely be an increase in material costs since his quote last year. Councillors pointed out that there is a finite amount of funding available and the project will have to be tailored to the funds available. It was agreed to arrange a date to meet with him to walk the length of Birchfield Road to consider exactly what is needed and where. Councillors Favell, Capsey, Gray and the Clerk to attend.

#### 5 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024

It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the last meeting as a true record and these were signed by the Chairman.

#### 6 Parish Matters

- a) See Item 4a) of these Minutes.
- b) Suggested 2025 meeting dates were received. All Tuesdays as advertised on the Parish Council website <https://www.nordelphpc.info/meetings-calendar>
- c) Councillor Patch received and duly completed her Register of Interests Form.

#### 7 Finance

- a) It was resolved with all in favour to approve the outstanding payments since last meeting as listed below:

December 2024 Payments List							
Supplier	Price	VAT	Total	Type of payment	Description of service/supply	Reference	Inv no.
Fabian R Eagle	150.00	0.00	150.00	TRF	Bat boxes (to be fully refunded by C Dawson)	42	Eldon 24/11
Richard King Memorials Ltd.	200.00	0.00	200.00	TRF	Cleaning of the war memorial	43	24/444
Nordelph Village Hall	18.00	0.00	18.00	TRF	Hall hire	44	98
Clerk's expenses Oct/Nov/Dec	96.20	0.00	96.20	TRF	Mileage, mobile, broadband, electricity etc.	45	
Clerk's salary November	352.80	0.00	352.80	DD	November salary / 20 hours @ £17.64/hour	46	
	<b>817.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>817.00</b>				

- b) Two quotes for grass cutting in the Parish for 2025 were considered and it was resolved to appoint Graham Barker for a further year who was the contractor for 2024.
- c) The proposed budget figures for 2025 2026 were carefully considered and in order to adequately cover the ever-increasing rise in costs to run the services and facilities in the Parish it was resolved to increase the precept for 2025 2026 to £12,500.00 (from £10,500.00 this financial year). For

example, next year there will be an increase in grass cutting costs, staff costs, parish council insurance, dog waste bin & litter bin emptying amongst others. The increase in precept should also provide the Parish with sufficient reserves to continue to cover other costs to the Parish next year i.e. financial support towards the repair / replacing of some of the railings along the riverbank, to carry out a tree report on trees in the churchyard and to appoint a contractor to carry out any associated works required, continue to provide maintenance support for the defibrillator at the Village Hall (pads and battery), maintenance costs to the bench in the churchyard and at the Staithe, maintenance of the BT Kiosk/ Seed Swap.

- d) It was noted that Councillor Venn is no longer a signatory on the bank account. A new signatory is required.
- e) The Current Account balance at 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024: £5,364.02.
- f) Income received since last meeting: £0.00.
- g) Councillor Venn & Councillor Thomas viewed the bank statements for internal audit purposes.

#### **8 To receive a report from the Borough Council**

- There are staff shortages in the Property Department.
- Modernisation is required to the Oasis Centre in Hunstanton as well as Alive in King's Lynn and the swimming pool at Downham Market.
- Concerns had been muted surrounding the recent closure of a care home by the Norse Group in the Borough.
- A Central Government 'white paper' has been issued which is looking at the closing of Borough and District Councils in Norfolk and amalgamating with Suffolk under a paid Mayor. This was rejected in 2016.

#### **9 To receive a report from the County Council**

- County Councillor Dawson had donated a bat box to the parish.
- Footpath 7 is still with the Legal Department.

**10 To consider any planning matters since last meeting:** no report.

#### **11 To discuss any cemetery/churchyard issues**

- a) It was resolved to not purchase any further boxes at this time i.e hedgehog or bat.
- b) It was resolved to appoint a contractor each year to clean the bench. Thanks to be recorded to Councillor Thomas and another fellow resident who very kindly cleaned it this year.

#### **12 To consider Playing Field issues**

- a) Councillor Capsey has recently staked the three young trees.

#### **13 To consider any Village Hall matters**

- a) Cil funding for solar panels has been confirmed at £43,000.00.
- b) Various events are planned over the coming months; for further information relating to village hall matters contact the Village Hall Committee directly via email at [villagehallnordelph@gmail.com](mailto:villagehallnordelph@gmail.com)

**14 To note any general correspondence since last meeting:** no report.

**15 To note any correspondence or report any issues relating to the Police:** no report.

#### **16 To consider Agenda items for the next meeting**

- To note any progress with repairing / replacing the railings along the riverbank
- To appoint a new signatory on the bank account
- To request an update on Footpath 7

- To consider promoting next year's Parish Assembly e.g. waterways / conservation<sup>1</sup> / parish services<sup>2</sup>
- Councillor Favell apologies received

**17 If required to consider excluding the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the items to be discussed<sup>3</sup>**

- a) Information relating to the national agreement on pay scales was circulated. It was resolved to approve the new pay scale for the Clerk for 2024/25 (SCP 25) back-dated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.

**18 To note the date of the next meeting**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 6.30pm at the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Signed..... Date .....

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<sup>1</sup> Bat boxes, bird boxes, hedgehog boxes

<sup>2</sup> Invite local groups

<sup>3</sup> Personnel issues, tenders for contracts, legal proceedings