

## Nacton Parish Council

Draft minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 31 March 2021 via zoom starting at 7:00pm

### Present:

Parish councillors: Cllr B Hunt (Chairman), Cllr R Eaton, Cllr J Leeder, Cllr C Newby, Cllr J Wyndham, Cllr P Warner, Cllr C Potter  
Mrs C Lucas (Clerk)  
Ms Catherine Brown (guest)

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Context/Discussion</b>	<b>Actions and Decisions</b>
<b>57. Apologies for absence</b>	Cllr W. Cook	
<b>58. Declarations of Interest</b>	Cllr. P Warner declared an interest in the Christmas tree.	
<b>59. Invitation to public to comment on agenda items</b>	Cllr. Hunt welcomed Catherine Brown who was in attendance of the meeting.	
<b>60. Minutes of last meeting</b>	All agreed and signed by the Chairman.	
<b>61. Matters arising from the minutes</b>	Previous actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Councillor email addresses are now set up and in use</li><li>• Parish newsletter has been completed and is ready for distribution</li><li>• Clerk salary confirmed and precept submitted</li><li>• Internet banking is in progress</li><li>• Facebook page for Nacton Parish Council has been set up</li></ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor contact details have been updated on both the noticeboard and the website</li> </ul>	
<b>62. New councillors/councillor updates</b>	<p>New councillor paperwork is all complete.</p> <p>Update from Cllr. Eaton: SALC update - The legal information that Parish Councils had used previously which meant that meetings had to be held remotely ends on 6<sup>th</sup> May. So, currently unless anything changes our next meeting in May can be held in the village hall following the latest Government guidelines set out at that specific time.</p> <p>Cllr. Eaton told councillors that ESDC appear to be in favour of the Scottish renewables planning application and have agreed the mitigation procedures with no reference to the communities involved.</p> <p>Cllr Eaton said that the Sizewell PINS meeting (Government planning inspectorate committee) was not successful. Microsoft Teams kept freezing which impacted the meeting and it had to be extended by two days.</p> <p>Ufford Parish Council have said that they have had high speed fibre broadband installed. Can we find out about the broadband roll out for Nacton?</p> <p>Newsletter update: The newsletter is now complete. Cllr. Potter asks when the email database was last updated as he has never received an email copy of the newsletter. There are approximately 20 people at Priory Court who don't have email – in future Cllr. Potter will ensure these people all receive a printed copy. Send newsletter to central contact at Priory Court for distribution to residents.</p>	<p><b>Action: Clerk to look into Broadband rollout in Nacton and report back.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Cllr. Leeder and the clerk to try and organise a Parish database.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Clerk to ensure newsletter has a presence on social media.</b></p>
<b>63. Chairman's Update</b>	<p>Update as follows:</p> <p>There have been several Victoria Field meetings held recently to determine what should be pursued. There have been lots of discussions around bug houses, Hedgehog houses, planting of wild flowers (highlighted that there may</p>	<p><b>Action: Cllr. Wyndham to send out her report on Victoria Field proposals</b></p>

	<p>be an issue with watering plants in the hot weather), seating and equipment. There may be one more meeting with all participants and then small 'sub' groups will go away and look at specific items to report back on.</p> <p>Chairman is chasing up £1000 that was paid out to the land registry approx. 2.5 years ago for Paupers Wood.</p> <p>Cllr. Hunt has asked Mike Whybray for the data for the VAR and to assist with charging the battery. Awaiting reply.</p>	
<p><b>64. Reports</b></p>		
<p><b>64.1 Suffolk County Council</b></p>	<p>Report from Patricia O'Brien: Not a great deal to report. SCC business goes ahead as usual, but differently. Holding meetings on 'zoom' and unless chaired well, meaning, for me, that members are not allowed to talk for too long!! On February 11, SCC agreed its budget for 2021/22. SCC is increasing its planned spending in 2021/22 to £597.9m, £41m more than 2020/21. £15.3m will be spent to address its ongoing Covid-19 costs. In 2021/22 General Council tax will rise by 1.99%, which represents an increase of £26.68 for a Band D property. There is a 2% rise in the Social Care Precept for 2021/22 as the council recognises the rising costs and demand for adult services; thus the overall rise for a Band D property will be £53.55. There are no proposed reductions in council services or personnel in 2021/22. On January 29<sup>th</sup> SCC announced that it will install Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras at its recycling centres. The cameras give an accurate count of vehicle numbers and also record the time spent on site. This will allow SCC to maximise site availability and to develop new and existing sites to better meet the needs of an increasing population. This will add to the improvements that were announced on February 3<sup>rd</sup> to expand and improve Foxhall recycling centre. The new design will provide queuing capacity within the site and better access from the highway. The raised level construction will improve the route to containers by removing the need for stairs. Construction will begin summer</p>	

	<p>2021 and be operational by autumn 2022. SCC intends to keep a service running, as much as possible, whilst construction takes place.</p> <p>On February 23rd SCCs Cabinet confirmed its support for the creation of a new Freeport (Freeport East). The Freeport would cover both the ports of Felixstowe and Harwich as part of the Government's aim to create a number of Freeports across the country in order to hasten job creation, investment and international trade, post Brexit. A Freeport includes: secure customs zones and tax sites, business to be carried out inside a country's land border, different tax and customs rules apply. Freeport East has several unique aspects that makes its bid for Freeport status particularly strong. This includes: global and regional connectivity (36% of all UK container traffic passes through Felixstowe), unrivalled international connections, particularly with Asia, strong connectivity to the Midlands and the North. The bid supports other national objectives such as development of new technology and the drive for clean energy. The Port of Felixstowe has strong research and development links with Cambridge and Essex Universities plus strong connections with the energy sector. Felixstowe Port recently won funding to trial a pilot 5G network.</p>	
<p><b>64.2 East Suffolk Council</b></p>	<p>No apologies sent from either District Councillor. Melissa Allen has not actively been involved in a Nacton Parish Council meeting.</p>	<p><b>Action: Cllr. Hunt to email Melissa Allen regarding non-engagement with Nacton Parish Council</b></p>
<p><b>64.3 Village Hall</b></p>	<p>A combination of long-standing financial prudence, the annual Nacton P.C. grant, a Government Covid grant and the continued custom of the Nacton &amp; Bucklesham Under 5s leaves the Hall in sufficiently robust financial help to be able to undertake some essential maintenance work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The bracing of the Sweet Chestnut tree was replaced with a more durable system</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action: Clerk to ensure village hall bookings have been confirmed for the rest of 2021.</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The rotten boarding in the south wall will shortly be replaced by Carl Watts</li> <li>• A work party has renewed the defective paintwork on the north wall with advice and assistance from Mark Wilson. This work had previously been undertaken by a professional painter to an entirely unsatisfactory standard</li> </ul> <p>We plan in line with current guidelines to make the hall available for hire for large parties of children from 17th May and for adults from 21st June if nothing changes before then.</p>	
<p><b>64.4 Tree Warden</b></p>	<p>A further 10 metre section of hedgerow on The Street side of Victoria Field has been cleared and replanted. As before, all vegetation except mature hawthorn has been removed. The coppiced hawthorn provides a framework for inter-planting with native hedgerow species, supplied by the Woodland Trust through the Suffolk Tree Warden Network.</p> <p>In the Paupers' Wood work continues to thin, coppice or remove weaker, damaged and dead trees which are used to provide woodchip to improve the pathway. This work will continue during the coming months, taking care not to disturb nesting birds. A short section of failing hedgerow along The Street has been replaced using native hawthorn, again provided free of charge by the Woodland Trust.</p> <p>The sweet chestnut outside the village hall has been braced with cable stays using an innovative technique by which the equipment is installed permanently in the tree which grows to absorb the anchors. It should not need replacing again.</p>	
<p><b>65. Finances</b></p>		

<p><b>65.1 To agree payments to be made</b></p>	<p>All items on the agenda agreed.</p> <p>Clerk's salary was discussed along with benchmarking information for clerk's salaries. All agreed to increase salary from £11.30 per hour to £12.30 per hour.</p>	<p><b>Action: Cllr. Hunt to cancel zoom subscription once face to face meetings can resume.</b></p>
<p><b>65.2 Financial Update</b></p>	<p>There is approx.. £6000 CIL money still to use. Nacton Parish Council have also been given:</p> <p>£650 for a new noticeboard (from Suffolk County Council)</p> <p>£1000 for an information board for Victoria Field (from East Suffolk District Council)</p> <p>£1000 to go towards new seating for Victoria Field (also from East Suffolk District Council)</p> <p>There is also £10,344 to be spent by the end of 2022 which is to be shared with Levington and must be used towards outdoor playing space.</p> <p>Expenditure and budget – technically this financial year end we are overspent by £12 (after VAT returns are taken into consideration)</p> <p>Clerk to facilitate transferring £200 to election fund (rather than £250) then we will be in the black by £50 for the end of the financial year. All councillors agreed to this.</p> <p>At the last meeting there was a discussion around setting up internet banking which will make payments easier. Information and advice has been sought from SALC. The Chairman will make the clerks salary payments.</p>	<p><b>Action: Cllr. Hunt to speak to Levington about the jointly allocated money.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Clerk to send Cllr. Leeder the bank account number and sort code to complete internet banking mandate.</b></p>
<p><b>66. Election and AGM</b></p>	<p>The date of the next meeting is May 26<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>The annual parish meeting will be held first and then the AGM straight after.</p> <p>All councillors were asked to think about their positions and what they would</p>	

	like to carry on with.	
<b>67. Correspondence</b>		
<b>67.1 Sizewell C</b>	<p>Cllr. Hunt has a one-to-one meeting set up regarding Sizewell C on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Information will be fed back to all.</p> <p>Sizewell C transportation, different parishes have different views on what would be better. Trains will be a quarter of a mile long going at 10mph and there will be 4 of them. Lorry movements would be around 1000 a day going up towards Levington and back again.</p>	
<b>67.2 Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnerships</b>	Cllr. Hunt is in discussion with Felixstowe Community Partnerships to try and secure £5,000 funding.	
<b>68. Planning</b>	No comments	
<b>69. Parish Documents</b>	There needs to be a list of policies with all the dates they need to be renewed by.	<b>Action: Clerk to produce list of policies along with dates.</b>
<b>70. Matters raised by and reports by councillors</b>	<p>David Garrett has agreed to manage the maintenance plan for the village going forward with the assistance of the clerk and chairman. Watering of plants may</p> <p>Cllr. Leeder has been creating a Parish Directory which will be a living document that can be amended at any time when things/people change.</p> <p>Cllr. Eaton asks why businesses have not been included. There is discussion around this and then it is agreed to ask parishioners what they would like in their directory going forward.</p> <p>It is then discussed whether there should be two directories in the future, one</p>	<p><b>Action: Clerk to add Parish Directory to the agenda for the next meeting to discuss in further detail.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Clerk to organise getting the</b></p>

	<p>being purely a business directory.</p> <p>Cllr. Eaton asked if the clerk had reported the noticeboard had shattered glass on one panel. The clerk had reported this to the Chairman.</p> <p>Cllr. Leeder commented on the fact the VAR was not working and that he had noticed there was more speeding taking place. Cllr Hunt to address this.</p> <p>Cllr. Potter commented on the pot holes in Priory Lane and the fact that many vehicles both cars and vans speed along. Is there a possibility of this becoming a quiet lane? If Priory Court put in a report about the problems with Priory Lane, Nacton Parish Council to support it.</p> <p>There are comments made around the continued dog fouling in the village. If the Parish Council are informed of residents and their addresses who are allowing their dogs to foul then letters will be sent out to them.</p> <p>Cllr. Warner asks if there is still a councillor vacancy – Cllr. Hunt says yes there is.</p> <p>It is noted that the SALC AGM will be held in July if anybody would like to attend.</p> <p>The Chairman told councillors that Patricia O'Brien at Suffolk County Council will soon be retiring and he will send her a card to thank her.</p> <p>The passing of Nikki Yeo was confirmed to councillors and the Chairman will send a card.</p> <p>Please note the clerk is on annual leave from Good Friday to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April however will respond to anything urgent.</p>	<p><b>noticeboard glass replaced.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Clerk to speak to Patricia O'Brien</b></p>
<b>Public question time</b>	None	

Meeting closed at 20.40

