

BUNWELL PARISH COUNCIL
THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE, THE OLD TURNPIKE, BUNWELL, NORWICH, NR16 1SN
www.bunwellpc.info

Chairman: R Smith,
Tel: 01953 788300
e-mail: rs.silverlodge@gmail.com

Clerk: Mrs Margaret Ridgwell,
Tel: 01603 871636
e-mail: bunwell-pc@live.com

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, MONDAY 1st March 2021.

Due to the Coronavirus restrictions, a public meeting was not possible in the Village Hall, therefore a virtual meeting for councillors took place on the above date. These Minutes also record any email decisions taken since the last Parish Council meeting. The public were also invited to contact the Clerk to voice their opinions or raise any points and request an invitation to observe the meeting via a video link.

Cllrs Present at Virtual Meeting: Cllr R Smith (Chair), Cllr D Crawford, Cllr D Dickson, Cllr P Gledhill, Cllr A Penman and Cllr J Pennell. Apologies for absence Cllr Cobbold and Mrs M Ridgwell Parish Clerk (Cllr Gledhill took notes). No residents attended. County Councillor B Spratt joined the meeting at 7.50pm

MINUTES	ACTION
<p>1. Apologies – Cllr Cobbold (network problems), the Parish Clerk Mrs Ridgwell was unwell and the Chairman opened the meeting. All present wished Mrs Ridgwell a speedy recovery.</p>	
<p>2. To record declarations of interest from Council members in any item to be discussed – There were no declarations of interest to record.</p>	
<p>3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 1st February 2021 - The minutes of the previous meeting on 1st February 2021, having previously been circulated to all members, were agreed and will be signed by the Chair at the next face-to-face meeting.</p>	
<p>4. To discuss matters arising from the previous minutes</p> <p>4.1 Repairs to the Bunwell Hill signpost – Cllr Gledhill reported that repairs are now well underway including the painting of all parts and completion of the metal lettering by Bunwell resident Alf Minter who kindly volunteered his services and skills.</p>	
<p>5. Residents' questions – No questions had been received and no residents were present.</p>	
<p>6. To receive and discuss correspondence – emails had been forwarded to councillors for their information as they were received and any necessary actions were taken.</p>	Clerk

7. Highways

7.1 Standing water in various sites in the village is proving a problem – awaiting further action by Highways at 141 Bunwell Street. Check with 141 residents before next meeting.

Cllr Gledhill

7.2 Accidents in icy conditions on Mile Road between the Hall Road crossroads and the Besthorpe Road junction - Cllr Gledhill will draft an email to the parish clerks of Carleton Rode and Spooner Row to advise that Bunwell PC (Parish Council) is writing to the Highways Director at NCC requesting an extension to the gritting route down Mile Road. The gritting routes are reviewed annually by Norfolk CC in May.

Cllr Gledhill

7.3 Potholes – Cllr Gledhill has received a satisfactory reply from Grahame Bygrave, Director of Highways & Waste. The comments will be 'reviewed by our Highways Services team for further consideration and possible incorporation in future updates to the TAMP' (Transport Agreed Management Plan).

8. To receive the Footpath Warden's Report – Cllr Smith wished to place on record the excellent work of both Kevin Gedge and William Easton over the past 2 years in keeping the footpath clear between Greenways and Barhams Lane. This was much appreciated.

Walkers using the footpaths in Banyards have reported that finger posts had been removed and the defined footpaths were no longer clear. Cllr Smith has mentioned this to William Easton who will look at it.

9. Playground Equipment - Action Play and Leisure have completed the repairs needed to the play equipment. General tidying up and cosmetic work continues but painting of the swings and outside gym has been delayed by the weather. Repairs including painting and servicing will be carried out to the roundabout at some point in the coming months and Eastons have kindly agreed to assist with the movement of the roundabout to their workshop for repairs by the PC. This will be scheduled to minimise downtime given how popular it is with the children.

Cllr Smith

10. Bunwell Planning Development Group

Cllr Gledhill reported that there were no actions to report this month but the Group were kept informed of all Bunwell new build applications as they arose.

11. Planning Applications – to discuss and vote on any new planning applications

The application 2021/0027 had been received and returned to South Norfolk Council Planning with the PC's views for consideration and posting.

12. Finance – due to the parish clerk Mrs Ridgwell being taken ill it was not possible for the finance papers to be circulated and viewed by the council. However, this will take place by email as soon as Mrs Ridgwell returns.**13. To receive matters of importance from Councillors –**

13.1 Cllr Smith reported that the new noticeboards by Bunwell Stores were of good quality and had been fitted. Improved magnetic strips to hold documents in place would be obtained.

13.2 Cllr Dickson asked when the defibrillator batteries were going to be replaced? Cllr Crawford advised that all were scheduled to be changed

and had been budgeted for. Cllr Crawford confirmed they should be ordered now. Also the pad kits should be ordered as their expiry date was November 2021. Delivery is approximately 4 weeks.

ACTION – Order both new batteries and pad kits now for all defib units.

Clerk

14. County Cllr Bev Spratt –

- 14.1 Flooding - Hopefully all recent flood cases and issues in Bunwell have by now been reported but if not the details should be notified to Cllr Spratt without delay and he will refer them to his contacts dealing with this at NCC who are Cllr John Pennell, Nick Tupper and Grahame Bygraves.
- 14.2 Council Tax- Norfolk CC has agreed the annual budget of £1.45billion. Government has given £6.5M towards flooding resilience and potholes. Cllr Spratt was extremely disappointed to advise that NCC had agreed a 4% increase in Council Tax. He had argued against any increase. £8M had been received from new house building and he felt that many in the county would suffer hardship as a result of the increase. With all the challenges and financial pressures for many over the past 12 months he found this increase unacceptable and as a result he would be stepping down but would stand as an Independent candidate at the forthcoming elections.
- 14.3 Tree Planting - Government was supporting the planting of one million trees over 5 years and the parish council should consider where any additional trees would be of value and benefit in Bunwell.

15. To receive items for the next Agenda for Consideration – to consider the date of the Annual Parish Council Meeting and Council AGM in May.

16. Date of next meeting: This has been agreed as Monday 12th April 2021 at 7.30pm. The Chairman closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance and Cllr Crawford for managing the Zoom session. Meeting ended at 8.15pm.

Signed

Date