

OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 6.30PM ON MONDAY 14TH MARCH 2022
AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET, OLD CATTON

Present: Mr B Sabberton-Coe (Chairman) Mr G Tingle (Vice Chairman) Mr J Amis
Mr T Cooke Mr G Crouch Ms Y Gowers
Mr B Honess Mr B Leggett Mr R Potter
Mr M Vincent Miss P Wilkin

Ms S Vincent (Clerk)
Broadland District Councillor K Leggett
Norfolk County and Broadland District Councillor K Vincent
7 Residents

116. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor D King due to ill health, Councillor A Chandler due to holiday commitments and Councillor K Leggett due to isolation restrictions.

117. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no declarations of interest.

118. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14.02.2022

It was AGREED that the Minutes, which had been circulated with the Agenda, be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

119. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

120. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

The meeting was adjourned for public discussion and reports from District and County Councillors.

Police report for February 2022 containing statistics for January 2022 was circulated, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes. PC Gill had provided Ms S Vincent with a breakdown of the statistics for crime occurrences in Old Catton.

Norfolk County and Broadland District Councillor Karen Vincent reported:

- County and District Councils met for Full Council Meetings to set the 2022/23 budget at the end of February. Norfolk County Council will be increasing council tax contribution by 2.99%, breakdown is 1.99% for county-wide services and 1% ringfenced for adult social care. District Council unanimously agreed not to increase the council tax. They are the only council in Norfolk to agree this. Residents using the brown bin service will note that this has remained the same as 2021/22 annual cost.

- Ukraine: currently preparing a joined-up plan and activities so that all agencies are aligned.
- District Council will be providing a £150 rebate to all Band A-D properties towards the rise in energy bills.
- District Councillors attended joint surgery in Morrisons on 1st March 2022. One issue raised was resident concerns of the white h-bar marking on Norman Drive which is being ignored, and the conflict of traffic. Councillor Karen Vincent has spoken to PC Gill regarding this. Councillor Karen Vincent is keen to work with the Parish Council to find a solution to this issue, possibly through Parish Partnership.
- Councillor Karen Vincent noted that Parish Partnership Scheme had been approved for replacement surface on trod on Oak Lane. Unfortunately the proposed trod on Taylors Lane had not been approved this time.
- Councillor Karen Vincent, through the District Council Tree Planting Grant, together with a number of residents had planted x30 new trees at Oakfield Gardens. Congratulations was given to Catton Park for award of the Tree Planting Grant.
- District Council will shortly be introducing a new curb side waste collection service for small electrical items, such as hairdryers, radios, toasters, etc. Leaflets will be put through household doors advising electrical items that can be collected at the same time as normal bin collection.
- St Faiths Road/Fifers Lane Junction: work is scheduled to commence 4th April 2022 (date specifically chosen during easter holidays to reduce impact on school traffic).
- Planning Committee will next meet on 23rd March 2022. Papers will be released next week.

Representative from AFC Football Club gave outline of frustrations and disappointment regarding decision not to renew the Club's agreement to play at the Recreation Ground when it expires at the end of the current season (Mar/Apr 2022). Notice had been issued by the Clerk in January stating that the Council no longer wished to permit adult football at the Recreation Ground. Representative stated that despite the Club's request for meeting with Council to establish reasons behind the decision no explanation had been provided. Representative gave detail of the community grassroots club and outlined local sponsors who support it. Representative's opinion was that there would be an impact on the community if the Club were no longer permitting play at the Recreation Ground. Chairman reiterated that the decision was to no longer have adult football at the Recreation Ground. Chairman outlined reasons why the decision had been made which included damage to property, unnecessary foul language during training/matches and urinating against boundary hedging instead of using public toilets during hire period. Representative was given opportunity to respond to the issues; representative stated he was not aware of swearing by the crowd/supporters or on the touchline and explained that swearing on the field of play is the referees responsibility. Representative believes swearing is very minimal within his team and the league. Representative stated he had not witnessed any public indecency by the players. Representative acknowledged the guttering had been damaged and reiterated the Club's offer to pay for the repair. Chairman stated that Sports Committee had reached the decision not to continue adult football but that it was not about the Club it

was about not having adult football. Representative reiterated the sponsorship provided to the Club by local businesses, that support had been given during the pandemic when the Club had continued to play when permitted and had engaged with the community at the Recreation Ground (albeit at a distance). Representative felt it provided people with somewhere locally to watch football. Chairman reiterated that the decision was made to not have adult football at the Recreation Ground. Representative requested that, whilst he must accept the decision, the Council consider the matter further. Representative finished by stating that he was very disappointed for the community.

Resident gave his thanks to Councillor Karen Vincent for her hard work on St Faiths Rd/Fifers Ln junction redesign, particularly the pedestrian crossings. Resident was annoyed that recent Conservative flyer had misrepresented the area as an “accident blackspot”. Resident stated he was concerned the new design would ease traffic flow suggesting that the roundabout would create more queues at each junction and hesitation from drivers entering the roundabout. Resident was of the opinion that traffic lights would have been the best and safest solution. Councillor Karen Vincent reminded Council and residents that the developers had made it clear from the beginning that traffic lights would not be considered due to cost. Councillor Karen Vincent stated that whilst it may not be the perfect solution the new design will certainly be better than currently in place given the expected volume of traffic once the development is completed.

Resident highlighted recent newspaper report of garage/shed break-ins at Marauder Close. Article incorrectly gave Old Catton as the parish – Marauder Close is within City Council boundary. Resident was concerned that Police statistic may have incorrectly included these break ins. Clerk said that she would investigate this.

Resident expressed concern at the George Hill/North Walsham Road/School Lane junction redesign, new traffic lights and new pedestrian crossings. Resident had witnessed Sanders Coach having to swing very wide onto George Hill, onto the other lane. Resident was concerned that, given the path was widened at this point, not enough room had been left for coaches to safely enter George Hill. It was noted that pedestrian pole on George Hill appeared to give very little room for pushchairs and wheelchairs – there was concern that these had been incorrectly fitted. Clerk said she would investigate this.

The meeting resumed.

121. The Clerk’s monthly report was received and noted, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes.

122. FINANCE

- 122.1.** Subscription to Scribe Accounts and Scribe Cemetery from 1st May 2022 at a cost of £1,128.00 (+VAT) was AGREED.
- 122.2.** Subscription to Norfolk PTS from 1st April 2022 at a cost of £525.00 was AGREED.
- 122.3.** Subscription to Norfolk ALC from 1st June 2022 at a cost of £655.38 was AGREED.
- 122.4.** Bank balances as at 28th February 2022 were noted. Monthly bank account reconciliations were noted. List of payments and receipts with vouchers 577 to 635 on payments schedule up to 13th March 2022 with expenditure of £108,001.47 and income of £12,528.60 (including income from allotments) were APPROVED.
- 122.5.** Councillors G Crouch AGREED to conduct independent internal control check.

123. PLANNING

The following planning applications were considered:

- 123.1.** **2022009** – Holiday House, Church Street, Old Catton, NR6 7DJ – Proposed porch, new access and render finish.
RECOMMEND REFUSAL.
- 20220197** – Holiday House, Church Street, Old Catton, NR6 7DJ – Proposed porch, new access and render finish – Listed Building Application.
RECOMMEND REFUSAL.
- 20220117** – The Little House, 77 Spixworth Road, Old Catton, NR6 7NQ – New proprietary garden room to rear to replace existing shed.
NO OBJECTION.
- 20220097** – 90 The Paddocks, Old Catton, NR6 7HS – Change of use from retail class to hot food takeaway.
NO OBJECTION.
- 20220088** – 19 Burma Road, Old Catton, NR6 7AA – Single storey side extension.
NO OBJECTION.
- 123.2.** There were no other planning matters.

124. PROPERTY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 124.1.** There were no written or verbal reports from Members with organisations or significant issues from their areas of responsibility.

125. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- 125.1.** It was confirmed that the following Council Policies and Procedures had been revised and that no amendments had taken place:-
- Grant Award Policy
 - Standing Orders.
 - Community Engagement Strategy.
 - Tree Management Policy.
 - Data Protection Policy.
- 125.2.** It was confirmed that the following Council Policies and Procedures had been revised and approved:-
- Financial Regulations.
 - Risk Management Scheme.

125.3. The 5 Year Strategic Plan and Action Plan (2022-2027) was AGREED.

126. It was RESOLVED that under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

127. Verbal update regarding Members interaction with the public and press was received and noted.

128. Verbal staffing report was received and noted.

129. NEXT MEETING

Date of Parish Council Meeting was noted as Monday 11th April 2022 at 6.30pm at the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Church Street.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 8.10pm.

Chairman, 11th April 2022