

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
SWAFIELD AND BRADFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER, 2014 AT 7.00 PM
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SWAFIELD**

Present:-

Chairman - Cllr. E. Alexander, Cllr. J. Amies, Cllr. T. Bullock
Cllr. N. Standing and Cllr. M. Starling.

County Councillor W. Northam.
District Councillor G. Jones.

Councillor T. Fitzpatrick - Leader of North Norfolk District Council.
Sheila Oxtoby - Chief Executive North Norfolk District Council.

Jeanne Heal - North Norfolk Community Transport

PCSO D. Fathallad.

Julie Chance - Clerk.

Three members of the public also attended the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

No Declarations of Interest or Dispensations received.

**3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2ND
SEPTEMBER 2014**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd September 2014, having been circulated, were taken as read, **AGREED** and signed by the Chairman.

The meeting was suspended for public participation.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None received.

The meeting was reconvened.

5. POLICE

5.1 Police Report:- It was reported that there have been no crimes during the period 30th August to 4th November 2014.

5.2 Speed Checks:- PCSO Fathallad reported that no more speed checks have been carried out. The Chairman requested more speed checks. PCSO Fathallad replied that he will make the arrangements.

5.3 Community Speed Watch:- The Clerk reported that she has included this matter in the news letter requesting volunteers. There needs to be at least six volunteers. The newsletter will be circulated to all households in Swafield and Bradfield. This matter will be placed on the next agenda for further discussion.

5.4 Police Surgeries:- The Chairman enquired why the Police were not present on the 24th October as planned. PCSO Fathalla said he would look into this matter and let the Chairman know. Any future Police Surgeries will be held for only 15 to 30 minutes in the small villages. Cllr. Amies said that vehicles are parking on the right hand side of the road at night and asked whether the Police could issue them with tickets. PCSO Fathallad said that it is only against the law if the cars are parked facing oncoming traffic and the responsibility of the parking and issuing tickets has been passed to Norfolk County Council. Cllr. Starling asked whether the officer from Norfolk County Council is in uniform. Sheila Oxtoby replied that they would be and any complaints need to be emailed to Norfolk County Council. County Councillor Northam will contact the Highways Department and report these concerns.

6. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

6.1 County Councillor's Report:- Attached. Cllr. Amies asked why when Norfolk County Council clean out the ditches they use a 180 instead of a 360 digger which is a waste of money. County Councillor Northam said he will check into this matter and report to the Clerk.

6.2 District Councillor's Report:- District Councillor Jones reported car parking will be free in the evenings. This does not come in effect until 14th November. Several members present said this was causing confusion and Sheila Oxtoby agreed to feed this information back and

request more information in the media in order to inform members of the public. It was reported that the new “P” on three parking spaces in the car parks will allow members of the public to park free of charge for 30 minutes. Report attached.

7. NORTH NORFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

- 7.1** Sheila Oxtoby reported that there will be Town and Parish Council Forums and the Eastern Area will be held on 26th November at Honing Village Hall. A detailed letter will be sent to the Clerk with more information. The Forum will deal with planning issues which is one of the main problems brought up during North Norfolk District Council’s visits to Town and Parish Council meetings. North Norfolk District Council has a balanced budget for the coming financial year but needs to make savings of £1.3M over the next three years. North Norfolk District Council’s income is made up of Council Tax which equates to 40%, returned business rates and a government grant. The Government will be cutting the grant by approximately 10% per year which equates to £800,000 per year. There will be no reduction in services or increase in the Council Tax this year. The new waste recycling contract means more can be recycled in the green bins. It is understood that some Parishes are unhappy about the loss of bottle banks which brings in much needed income, but the bottle banks still have a role to play. Scrutiny are looking at cleansing and if there are any issues North Norfolk District Council need to know.

North Norfolk District Council have some significant challenges to deal with. They have £47M tied up in assets and they need to take a more commercial approach. One of the issues they are dealing with at present is the approach by Wetherspoons to purchase the building where the North Walsham Town Council offices are situated. The planning process still needs to be carried out and that is the time for members of the public to object or support. Cllr. Starling expressed concern for the other public houses in North Walsham and said that this deal will close them down. He also asked why there was so much secrecy around the deal. Sheila Oxtoby said that this is a £1.6M investment in North Walsham which shows confidence and will create jobs. There was no secrecy, as soon as the offer was made the information was made public. The whole process has been very transparent. Sheila Oxtoby said that competition can be healthy if the right type and would argue that none of the other public houses in North Walsham would be in competition with Wetherspoons. Cllr. Starling said that, as with other projects such as Crane Freuhauf, North Norfolk District Council have already made their minds up. Cllr. Tom Fitzpatrick said that public houses remain open because the public use them. They die if they are not used.

The Chairman enquired what was happening with the recycling centre at Worstead. Sheila Oxtoby will look into this matter and send the information to the Clerk. A member of the public asked whether recycling of food products was going to be improved. Cllr. Fitzpatrick said that it can be done and North Norfolk District Council are looking into the matter. This will be the next big issue to tackle. Cllr. Fitzpatrick reported that the Big Society Fund is still active and has money for projects such as Village Halls.

A member of the public requested a copy of North Norfolk District Council's 2015/16 budget. Sheila Oxtoby will send a copy to the Clerk who will then pass it on.

8. PLANNING

8.1 **Planning Application No. PF/14/1165 - Continued siting of storage containers, portacabin office, portable fridge and freezer units, Farm Shop, The Street, Swafield, North Walsham, NR28 ORQ:-**

There were no objections to this application but the Members commented that the conditions made in the previous planning application for screening should be adhered to. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would write to North Norfolk District Council and enquire whether there is a time limit on this planning permission and the condition for screening.

Planning Application No. PF/14/0589 - Conversion of barn to residential dwelling - Swafield Mews, Knapton Road, Swafield, NR28 ORP:- No objections.

Planning Application No. PF/14/1387 - Variation of condition 4 of planning permission ref:- 02/1482 to permit residential occupancy, Badgers Barn, Pond Road, Bradfield, North Walsham, NR28 OAB:- No objections.

8.2 **Permissions Given:-** Farm Shop, The Street, Swafield, North Walsham, NR28 ORQ. Hollytree House, Chapel Road, Bradfield, North Walsham, NR28 ONZ - Prior Approval not required.

9. FINANCE

9.1	The following cheques were AGREED and signed:-	£
	J I Chance - Salary, Office Allowance, Stationery and Postage	313.83
	HM Revenue and Customs - Tax	56.20
	Swafield Village Hall Committee - S137 Grant	200.00

- 9.2 BT Payphone Box:-** It was **AGREED** that the Swafield and Bradfield Parish Council would purchase the BT Payphone box for the cost of £1. The Chairman signed the Agreement. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council will need to inform North Norfolk District Council if they wish to change the use of the BT Payphone box. The Clerk reported that once the transaction is complete BT will remove the telephone and will continue to pay for the electricity until this fails, at which time it will not be repaired or replaced.
- 9.3 Budget - Year Ending 31st March 2016:-** The Clerk circulated the draft Budget for the year ending 31st March, 2016 which was **AGREED**. The Precept form for the year ending 31st March 2016 was completed in the sum of £4,534, **AGREED** and signed by the Chairman, two Members and the Clerk.
- 9.4 Aon Insurance:-** It was **AGREED** to renew the annual insurance with Aon in the sum of £303.66. This is an increase of 46 pence from last year.
- 9.5 Grant Application Form:-** The Clerk circulated a draft grant application form. It was **AGREED** that when a request for a grant is received the Clerk will send the form to the organisation for completion.
- 9.6 Norfolk County Council - Partnership Funding:-** The Clerk reported that Norfolk County Council are continuing with the partnership funding initiative and have allocated £200,000 on a 50/50 basis for any projects. Any funding application would need to be with Norfolk County Council by the end of January 2015.

10. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- 10.1 Pedestrian Signs:-** It was reported that these are now in place.
- 10.2 Little London Road:-** The Clerk reported that she has still not received a reply from North Walsham Town Council and will chase accordingly.
- 10.3 Speed Limit - Heavy Goods Vehicles:-** The Clerk reported that the speed limit for heavy goods vehicles of more than 7.5 tonnes will increase from 40 mph to 50 mph on single carriageways in early 2015.
- 10.4 Damage - Side of Road:-** It was reported that there has been some damage to the side of the road from Beech Farm 150 meters towards North Walsham. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk will report this to Norfolk County Council.

11. NORTH NORFOLK COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

- 11.1** Jeanne Heal gave a presentation on how the North Norfolk Community Transport was formed and their objectives and extensive services. Leaflets and posters were circulated and the Clerk will place a poster on the notice board. It was **AGREED** that this information will be placed in the next newsletter.

12. THE NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST

12.1 The Clerk circulated information concerning a meeting to be held on 6th November with a guided tour. The Clerk returned the attendance slip with the names of the Members who were attending. This matter will be placed on the next agenda for a report from the meeting.

13. MISS TEEN GREAT BRITAIN 2014

13.1 Cllr. Starling provided the Clerk with the address and it was **AGREED** that a letter would be sent congratulating the participant on her attendance at the above event.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

- 14.1 NCC - Hazardous Waste:-** Circulated. Noted.
- 14.2 NNDC - Recycling Revolution:-** Circulated. Noted.
- 14.3 Oil Club:-** Circulated. Noted.
- 14.4 Norfolk Link:-** Circulated. Noted.
- 14.5 Thank you Letter - Peter Owen:-** Noted.
- 14.6 Norman Lamb MP - Annual Village Tour:-** Noted.
- 14.7 NNDC - Review of Polling Districts:-** Circulated. Noted.
- 14.8 Cromer Town Council Civic Service:-** The Chairman will inform the Clerk if he and his wife are able to attend.
- 14.9 NCC - Budget and Services:-** Circulated. Noted.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was noted as Tuesday 13th January, 2015 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Swafield.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm.

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Chairman

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Date