



Swafield and Bradfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Village Hall, The Street, Swafield,
On Tuesday 24th September 2019 at 7.00 pm

Present

Parish Councillors:

Ernie Alexander
Gaynor Rawlings

John Amies
Charles Silvester

Robert Clabon

Also in attendance:

One member of the public
Ros Calvert – Clerk to the Council

19/42 APOLOGIES

Were received and accepted from Cllrs Timothy Payne and Michael Starling

19/43 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were none

19/44 MINUTES

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of 9th July 2019 were circulated, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

19/45 MATTERS ARISING – there were none

19/46 REPORTS - Were received from the following authorities:

1. Norfolk Constabulary – The recent issue of the Police Parish Newsletter was circulated. Itemised crime stats had been circulated and it appeared that there had been no recorded crime in the parish. Clerk to invite PC Gwynn to next meeting
2. Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP) Meeting
Cllrs Alexander and Silvester reported on the recent SNAP meeting they had attended. It was not well supported but they felt it was worth the effort.
3. County Council – a report from Cllr Ed Maxfield was circulated (as attached). members expressed their gratitude to him for attending its recent highway site meeting and for his support in the purchase of the SAM2

19/47 ADJOURNMENT

It was agreed to adjourn the meeting to take comments from members of the public and Councillors with disclosable interests.

There were no comments
It was agreed to reconvene the meeting

19/48 PLANNING

1. Planning Applications received
[Planning Application PF/19/1402](#)
Staithe Lodge, The Street, Swafield NR28 0RQ
Construction of rear, side and front extensions to property - **no objections**
2. Applications determined by District Council / Norfolk County Council – none
Planning application PF/19/0803 - Meadow Cottage, Bradfield Common, Bradfield, North Walsham, NR28 0QR – awaiting decision

19/49 HIGHWAY MATTERS

1. SAM2
The SAM2 had been purchased and installed by trained volunteers and appeared to be effective in speed reduction. The results would be downloaded in the next week having been in situ for one month. It would then be moved to another approved site for up to one month.
Two high visibility vests had been bought for use by the volunteers (£8:45) and two padlocks for the machine (£11.16).
The last post approved by NCC Highways was to be installed by the contractors above the chevrons by the bridge on Mundesely Road.
2. Highway Site Meeting
Notes from the meeting held on 17th September are attached to these minutes
A Highway Accident report was received from the Highway Engineer. There were 8 recorded accidents in the last 5 years in the parish. All but two were at different locations and all recorded as slight. Members queried this report. It was thought that pedestrian numbers were higher than reported in the notes.
3. Parish Partnership Scheme 2020-21
It was suggested that Village Gates could be researched for inclusion in the next bid from Parish Partnership Scheme
Speed Bumps had been ruled out by NCC Highways and the scheme for a trod along The Street between the Bradfield Road and the bridge did not appear viable; it might not be very effective and would be very expensive.
4. Road Safety Working Group
It was agreed to consider the establishment of a Working Group of the Council to explore ways to enhance road safety awareness and reduce vehicle speeds in the parish at the next meeting. Clerk to provide draft Terms of Reference
5. Other Highway Matters
 - Photos of standing water on the Street, Swafield had been sent to NCC Highways. The deterioration of the road surface had occurred after the road had been resurfaced following completion by Anglian Water of the sewerage scheme.
 - Road markings were scheduled for repainting with possible additions on Knapton Road.
 - [NCC Farming and the Highway](#) - information had been circulated and was available on the Norfolk County Council website

Chq: 265	£ 13.98	C Silvester	Padlocks for SAM2
Chq: 266	£100.00	Norfolk Citizens Advice	Contribution (LGA1972 s.142)
DD	£167.82	PWLB	Loan repayment (LGA 2003 S1.2)

5. Budget – financial update and budget comparison would be available following receipt of September bank statement and at the next meeting.

19/57 TO NOTE LATE CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS AND REFER AS APPROPRIATE TO NEXT MEETING

1. Meeting dates for 2020

had been circulated, no changes were requested, they were booked for the following Tuesdays as follows:

21 Jan 2020

10 March 2020 (and Annual Parish Meeting)

12 May 2020- Annual Meeting of the Council

14 July 2020

15 September 2020

17 November 2020

2. Reports from Councillors - none

3. Village Matters – none

19/58 NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Council, would be held at Swafield Village Hall, on **Tuesday 12 November 2019 at 7.00 pm**

19/59 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.31 pm

Chairman:

Date:

Appendices

Minute 19/46-3

County Councillor Ed Maxfield – Report

September 2019

County Hall is just about waking from its August slumber. We are only just getting back into the cycle of committee meetings but there are some things to report.

Support for disabled people

The decision to cut support payments for disabled people (the Minimum Income Guarantee, or MIG) is still proving controversial. You might have seen that Cllr Margaret Stone was forced to apologise and to resign as chair of the Health Scrutiny committee after she sent an email to affected families suggesting they were being greedy. Cllr Stone was wrong but I want to acknowledge that the leader of the council dealt with the issue firmly and has agreed to meet with the families.

Funding for schools

The government's announcement that it is increasing funding for education is welcome. It's a shame they couldn't resist spinning it to make it sound like they were spending twice as much as they actually are. And there is a real concern that the increase in funding for special needs education (SEND) will not be enough to meet growing demand. My own survey of Norfolk headteachers showed that almost all of them are having to consider reductions in staffing and SEND support.

Children's Centres

The new contract for the Early Childhood and Families Service (largely replacing work in Children's Centres) is due to start in October, with Action for Children as the service provider. It's still pretty unclear what the service will actually look like! The council has approved plans for the transfer of 13 centres to new tenants/owners. The Mundesley centre will be taken over by the Nursery School that currently occupies part of the building. The Cromer centre will be taken over by Suffield Park school.

Munhaven

Congratulations to Munhaven care home in Mundesley which has won plaudits for its Outstanding review from the Care Quality Commission.

Library reading scheme

I will be giving out the prizes at Mundesley Library again this year for the library reading scheme. It's a highlight of my year and I am looking forward to meeting lots of eager readers.

No Deal Brexit prep

Sorry, I don't want to talk about it either. But I have raised my concerns about slow progress in the County Council's preparations for a No Deal Brexit. The County Council is the lead authority on the Norfolk Resilience Forum which is responsible for ensuring that councils in Norfolk are properly prepared. Whatever your views on Brexit I am sure you'll agree we need to do all we can to be ready for a possible exit without a deal. In council terms that particularly relates to the status of EU citizens working in the care sector but there are plenty of other aspects of life that will be affected too.

Sir Norman Lamb

I was glad to have the chance to join Norman (still can't get used to the 'Sir') on his annual 'village tour' of street-corner advice surgeries when he was visiting villages in Mundesley division. Everyone will have heard that he is planning to retire from Parliament at the next election. Norman has been a friend since I was 19 and even though I know he will do great things with his new charitable fund, I am sorry that he is leaving politics. I know he will be missed by many in North Norfolk and in Parliament. And, no, I won't be running to replace him as our MP: there are enough grey haired men in Parliament already!

Ed Maxfield
County Councillor for Mundesley Division

Minute 19/49-2

Notes from Swafield Highways Safety meeting 17th September 2019

In attendance

Steve White, NCC Highway Engineer, Ed Maxfield, County Councillor

Parish Councillors: Charlie Silvester, Tim Payne, Ernie Alexander, Gaynor Rawlings and John Amies. Ros Calvert, Clerk to the Council.

There was concern regarding the number of vehicles through the village, the speed at which they travelled and impact on residents and other road users.

- It was reported that at a time of high traffic Speedwatch had recorded 534 traffic movements in an hour along The Street Swafield
 - The number of pedestrians and cyclists had not been monitored. There were suggestions pedestrian movements could number 8 (4 each way) per day. The roads were thought unsafe for pedestrians.
SW - It might not be in the best interests of pedestrian safety to encourage walking between the two bridges and on to North Walsham.
 - Road Traffic Accidents (RTA) – Council has no record of accidents. Steve to send the Council a copy of recorded traffic accidents within the parish - along The Street, Trunch Road and Knapton Road.
 - Standing water on The Street to be photographed and sent to Steve and Council for further investigation and repair
 - White Road markings in need of attention to be reported to the Clerk and to NCC Highways <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem>
 - The SAM2 is new and effect not known but looks promising.
1. **Suitable site for a trod along the Street Swafield** - It would be feasible to put a gravel trod along the north side of The Street from the junction with the Bradfield Road to the field gate continuing along the opposite side to the canal bridge (estimated cost £100k). £80 per linear meter. Surface suitable for pushchairs etc
 2. **Traffic through the village** -
 - 30 mph would be painted on the road entrance to the village at the first 30 mph signs on The Street, Trunch Road and Knapton Road were there were currently none and to refresh those that are already in situ.
 - All slow signs on road to be repainted and additional ones to be put on Knapton Road as advised by Steve.
 - An extension to the 30 mph zone out along the Knapton Road would have to fulfil Highway requirements (Traffic Regulation Order £3k - £5k plus cost of signs and installation). Not suitable for Parish Partnership Scheme)
 3. **Speed Bumps** - These are not acceptable to Highways

4. Village Gates

Could be installed at the entrance to the Village on Trunch and Knapton Roads. On the Knapton Road they may be able to be installed further outside the 30mph zone. Costs to be explored. Suitable for Parish Partnership Scheme funding.

Also feasible a parish sign with “please drive slowly” as the road enters the parish along the Knapton Road between the track to the Grove and Swafield Hall (Knapton lies to the east of the road from the track to the Grove to the boundary between The Homestead and Woodlands).

Minute 19/51

Notes: Site meeting at Bradfield Common 18th September 2019

In attendance: Helen Baczkowska (Norfolk Wildlife Trust), Cllrs Charlie Silvester and Gaynor Rawlings, Ros Calvert (Clerk)

Helen strongly recommended that the site be registered on the County Wildlife Register. This would not close any doors but would rather open up opportunities for advice on management and grant assistance if required.

She explained that one of her colleagues had carried out a plant survey on the northern section in the spring and found it to be rich in diversity of plants and trees with at least two overgrown ponds and bounded on one side by a small wet ditch

We walked round this site which was very overgrown with brush and brambles. There was a more open section in the middle near the WW2 shelter (info: door key with the Council chairman.)

It was suggested that the centre section be kept open by flailing back and removing arisings. A job for volunteers – a community project? Area could be grazed.

This would enable some pedestrian access to a site that is full of wild flowers and other wildlife.

It was suggested that installation of information boards be explored

It was suggested that suitable markers installed at the edges of the common to define the area.

We also explored the southern section of the common. The boundary to this site is not obvious. There is a small triangle to the north side of the road next to the stream and a long thin area to the south following the line of the stream – currently dry – and bounded by a tree lined bank opposite to some sharp meanders in the dry stream bed. Some of this part of the common was maintained by the neighbouring property and accessible.

Suggestion – bat boxes!