

Great Snoring Parish Council

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Present: J Lockhart, S Pannell (Chairman), G Peabody, D Perowne, P Richmond, H Seekings, V Thompson (Vice-Chairman)

and: M Strong (County Councillor with her husband) and four members of the public

Meeting of Great Snoring Parish Council
on **Thursday 14 September 2017** at 7.00pm in the Social Club

MINUTES

Welcome to everyone and especially our new parish councillor Paul Richmond.

1. **Apologies** from PCSO Jo Robotham (SNT Wells)
2. **Declarations of pecuniary interest** by the Councillors in any of the items listed below. None.
3. **Minutes of the previous Meeting** – 13 July, were approved and signed as a true record.
4. **Matters arising:** Progress on items from previous meetings for information or reminders only. Items not on this agenda requiring decisions will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. None.
5. **The Meeting was temporarily closed** for Parishioners to express any concerns they have and for reports from the District and County Councillors.

NCCllr M Strong

- Advice available for 16 – 18 year olds who did not achieve the grades that they needed.
- Parking Infringements: obstruction on a pavement is a police matter; all other infringements have been devolved to local authorities (North Norfolk has contracted out to Kings Lynn and West Norfolk). Further information can be found on the County Council website: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/parking/civil-parking-enforcement-and-legal-orders>
- The County Council has a new committee structure. M Strong is on the committee for 'Digital Innovation and Efficiency' (including broadband and mobile phone coverage).
- There is a quality mark for 'In Good Company' groups and business who are working to tackle loneliness among adults more information and application form on the County Council website <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/campaigns/in-good-company/quality-mark>
- Various activities available at Wells Library

A member of the public raised concern about Victory Housing selling off 'council houses' which are being bought by second-homeowners.

The Chairman re-opened the meeting.

6. Planning

- **Proposals** received from NNDC since the last meeting. None.
- **Decisions** made by NNDC
 - Erection of rear extension, porch to front elevation, raise roof height and roof lights x 2 and associated works at **Dream of Delight, Thursford Road** ref: PF/17/0734.
Approved.

Signed:

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- Internal and external alterations and insertion of roof light to rear (retrospective) at 2 **The Terrace**, The Street ref LA/17/1010. Approved.
- **Update** on retrospective / other planning applications:
 - Studio at Dildash House PF/16/1072: no further information.
 - Four Winds: no breach of control.
- **Other Planning Matters**
 - **Affordable housing:** It was noted that Graham Connolly from NNDC had indicated that he was available to talk about the provision of affordable housing through the exception scheme. However it was thought that this was not necessary as the Parish Council had already held an open meeting. While supportive of an Exception Housing Scheme, there was no land currently available.
 - **Response from Victory Housing regarding the sale of Social Housing:**
 1. Victory Housing sells properties for two reasons –
 - a. Right to Buy (national policy) – six properties in Great Snoring
 - b. Part of Asset Management Strategy (one sold in Great Snoring and a second on the market)
 2. No new homes have been built by Victory in Great Snoring since 2006, but 88 new homes have been built within 9 miles. Should an opportunity arise to build new homes, supported by the district and parish councils, Victory would be happy to consider it.
 3. Currently, Victory has over 200 homes under construction.
It was agreed that a follow-up letter should be sent re-iterating the Parish Council's concern and that of residents that social housing is needed in the village for local people and that 200 homes elsewhere in the County is no help to Great Snoring.
 - It was noted that 6 areas have been identified for consideration by the District Council as **Local Green Spaces:** allotments, Gurney's Ground, Bowling Green, Knoll (Thursford Rd/Dildash Lane), Knoll (Fakenham Rd / The Street), and Churchyard.

7. Financial business

- **Receipts** since previous statement: HMRC: £932.58
- **Regular payments** since previous statement:

Salary and on costs (July and August)	SOs	296.70
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- The balances on bank statements were confirmed as at 31 August 2017:

Current account: £5,043.25;

Savings account (allotment deposits): **£30.00;**


Clock account £86

- **Statement of accounts compared to budget** was noted.
- **The following payments were approved:**

	Cheque no	
J Otte (expenses carry forward)		
Mazars (external audit)	100273	30.00
Rodent Service (quarterly service charge)	100274	72.00
Norse Eastern Ltd (Gurney's Ground)	100275	179.00
Norfolk ALC (training)	100276	60.00
total		£ 341.00

8. It was noted that the Audit for the year ended March 2017 had been completed.

- External auditor report (Mazars): *'On the basis of our review of the annual return, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no*

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matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to that attention of the smaller authority: We were required to return the Annual Return to enable the Council to correct the following: A. An error in Box 3 of Section 2 initially caused Boxes 7 and 8 of the Annual Return to not reconcile with the closing cashbook or bank balances. In future the Council should ensure that the Annual Return is accurate and complete.

- The relevant notices have been placed on the notice board and uploaded to the website.

9. Environment

- Request for help regarding maintenance and the way forward. Councillors asked to try and get people involved as the request in the newsletter did not receive any response.
- Daffodil bulbs to be planted on the knolls – S Pannell, H Seeking, J Lockhart
- Litter pick: Sunday 15 October, arranged by V Thompson, meet at Mill House at 10 am.
- Problems with pigeons, pest control contacts are also available via the District Council.
- Re-arrangement of the knoll – e.g. move the bench. It was agreed to leave as it is.
- Security of Gurney's Ground – chain and padlock re-instated, key-holders: S Pannell, P Richmond, J Dent, Norse
- J Dent's offer to cut the hedge at Gurney's Ground was accepted.

10. Allotments

- It was noted that letters had been sent to all allotment holders with new tenancy agreements which will come into effect on 1 October 2018. (One set had been signed and returned.) S Lovick and R Jarrett had given notice to leave, hope to have moved birds and cleared allotment in the next month.
- To report on current situation / condition of allotments:
 - plots 11 and 11a – date to be arranged for clearing
 - cutting of vacant plots
- It was decided to stay with Rodent Service as they had improved their service. (A quote from Sean Wagg was too vague - £40 per visit – as needed – plus the cost of chemicals).

11. Highways:

- It was noted that the 'slow' markings had been painted on the road on the approaches to the Bridge.
- Items to report
 - Weeds on bridge had been removed by B Howe
 - Pavement outside Cleveny to be sided-out
 - Hedges and sight-lines on The Street and on Fakenham Road. S Pannell to contact owners.
 - It was noted that the street sweeping had not been up to standard on The Street and Thursford Road had not been swept. The Clerk was asked to report the matter to NNDC.
 - Parking on The Street opposite the White House caused problem at the end of August on a couple of occasions as farm vehicles were forced to drive on the garden-verge. It was suggested that letters / notes should be posted in the cottages asking visitors etc not to park on The Street as it is too narrow at that point for farm vehicles to pass.
 - Problems with speeding traffic on Fakenham Road and The Street – ongoing issue.

12. Street furniture

- It was noted that the glass bank had been emptied by Indigo Waste as it was full. They will send an invoice which will be used to claim the recycling credits from the County Council. It

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was agreed to keep it in this position as it seems to be working well.

- Thanks to J Dent for treating the seat and the kissing gate.
- It was noted that the goal nets present a hazard for young children. It was suggested that they should be removed.

13. IT

- Superfast broadband. It was noted that people had thanked the Parish Council for its work in getting superfast broadband to the village.

14. Parish Council

- It was noted that the Parish Council had written to Fakenham Town Council, copied to NNDCllr FitzPatrick, in support of its opposition to the District Council's plans to develop Highfield Road Car Park, Fakenham. The car park was well-used particularly on market days and by people from outside Fakenham using public transport.
- Feedback on Village Plan, Emergency Plan etc. and the way forward. The group had looked at the conclusions of the Village Plan which came out in 2011 to see if there were any items which were outstanding and / or needed to be followed up. A number of issues appeared to be on-going and would be discussed at future meetings including: speed monitoring, gritting, parking, community support network, public transport, events (working with Church and Social Club). The group recommended that a new Emergency Plan was set up which would be reviewed annual. It was noted that the facility to plug in a generator at the Club was no longer available.

15. Events suggestions for consideration:

- Trees and / or lights could be put up in the village for **Christmas**.
- WW1 2018 commemoration

16. Reports from parish councillors

- P Richmond highly recommended the training course for new councillors
- G Peabody reported that he had received correspondence from R Coates regarding the Great Snoring Charities and insisted that the Charity Commission stated that the Parish Council needed to be involved.

17. Communicating with the village / communication from members of the public

- Distribution of newsletter. It was agreed that it was not necessary to have an email version. However it was suggested that an email database could be set up to forward information about road closures, weather warnings etc to those who wanted it.

18. Correspondence: mail circulated as usual via email

- It was noted that the Thursday evening meetings might clash with billiards fixtures. It was agreed that once the dates were known the Parish Council could try and re-arrange its meetings to avoid the clash.

19. Any other business for report or placing on the agenda for the next Meeting.

- **Setting the Budget and Precept for 2018-19**
- **Public Access Defibrillator**

20. To confirm the date of the next meeting at 7 pm on **Thurs 9 November 2017** in the Social Club
Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

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