

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HORSTEAD WITH STANNINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE TITHE BARN, RECTORY ROAD, ON WEDNESDAY 12th JUNE 2024 AT 6.30PM

Present: Cllrs Mr M Stevenson (Chair), Mr A Browne (Vice Chair), Mr M Boakes, Mrs C Fleming, Mr D Hales, Mr I Tebbles and Ms P Weightman.

In Attendance: Becky Furr (Parish Clerk) and three members of the public.

Public Participation

Cllr Coplestone and Cllr Whymark provided a report in advance of the meeting. Please refer to the end of these minutes for more information.

Lucy Care – Churchwarden for Horstead attended this meeting to share information about a new enterprise set up between Horstead PCC and the Horstead Centre. Please refer to the end of these minutes for more information.

Mr Jones circulated the latest speedwatch data and PC Ward has given Mr Jones a link to camera safety partnership data which he will include in future reports.

Main Meeting

1. Apologies

Apologies from Cllr Austin, Cllr Kirby, Cllr Langberg, Cllr McMaster, District Cllr Coplestone and County Cllr Whymark were received and ACCEPTED.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Browne declared an interest in item 5a.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday 8th May 2024 (Annual Parish Council Meeting)

The minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting on 8th May 2024 were AGREED and SIGNED as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters Arising

The estate boards placed on the war memorial have been removed.

The planter on Frettenham Road is being delivered to Cllr Stevenson. This weighs 250KG and we will need to obtain a lift to move it to the correct location. Cllr Stevenson is looking into this.

Tom Burke is the Contracts Manager for Wicksteed who is responsible for installing the horse rocker. No date has been agreed yet.

5. Planning

- a. 2024/1562 – Erection of 5 self-custom dwellings at land of Buxton Road. NO COMMENT.
- b. 2023/2422 – Erection of 25 dwellings at land on rectory Road, Coltishall. NO COMMENT.
- c. 2024/1262 – Proposed external staircase and access door to existing garage at 1 Birch Close. NO COMMENT.
- d. 2022/1461 – Erection 3 single storey self-build dwellings with garages and gardens at The Paddocks. It was AGREED to OBJECT to this application on the grounds that it is outside the resettlement limit, the area is prone to flooding and the rural landscape will be impacted by

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the development. It was NOTED that District Cllr Coplestone has called this application to committee.

6. Finance

a. Payments Received

HMRC	VAT Quarter 4 2023/24	£3282.32
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b. Payments APPROVED

D.Bracey	Annual Play Area Inspection	£192.00
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C.Jones	SAM2 Management – May	£18.00
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TDP	Planter	£960.00
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B.Furr	Clerks Expenses	£160.80
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J.Rice	Litter Picking - May	£120.12
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C.Moate	Pressure Washing	£80.00 (invoice received after agenda set).
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c. Payments for information only – previously agreed direct debits and standing orders

Veolia	Horstead Mill Bin - April	£105.62
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B.Furr	May 2024 Salary	£870.96
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HMRC	May 2024 Contribution	£268.46
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Acceptacard Ltd	QR Fee	£11.94
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7. Highways & PROW matters

It was AGREED to reimburse Mr Jones for mileage so that he could attend the speedwatch event on the 17th June 2024.

8. Tree and Pond matters

Cllr Stevenson AGREED to follow up whether the pond is still being monitored.

9. Horstead Mill matters

a. Fundraising for the Mill – the fundraising signage is now displayed at the Mill.

b. It was AGREED NOT to introduce a bottle bank to the Mill area. This is due to safety concerns about broken grass near water and accessibility issues, particularly in the summer season.

c. Cllr Hales reported that the dog bin in the car park was overflowing a few days after it had been emptied. Consideration was given to purchasing another bin. The clerk will contact BDC to find out how much it costs to empty a bin.

10. Play Area Matters

a. The annual play inspection report was circulated to councillors in advance of the meeting. It was AGREED the clerk will obtain a quote from Mr Moate for the minor remedials identified and obtain quotes to have a tree survey carried out.

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- b. The quote from Mr Moate to paint the two metal benches in the play area (and the bench on Glebe Way) was APPROVED at £155.
- c. In Cllr Kirby's absence, the clerk will ask Cllr Austin to carry out weekly inspections of the play area.

11. Bus Shelter near The Recruiting Sergeant

Cllr McMaster and Cllr Boakes obtained a quotation from Westcotec to replace the bus shelter for £7422 excluding VAT. It was AGREED to suspend standing orders. Mr Jones explained that there are plans for a pedestrian crossing to be placed near the Recruiting Sergeant as part of the planning conditions for the North Walsham West Urban Development, which is likely to involve relocating/replacing the bus stop. Standing orders were reinstated. It was AGREED to defer this matter and await the outcome of the planning application.

12. Working Parties

Cllr Stevenson proposed setting up working parties for parish council matters. It was AGREED the clerk will email all councillors to express an interest in what parties they would like to be involved in. These parties would collate information, obtain quotes, and make proposals to bring to full council meetings for decisions.

13. Veolia Sustainability Fund

Cllr's considered biodiversity projects including planting wildlife flowers on the verges to make these areas more attractive and act as a traffic calming measure. Cllr Fleming AGREED to explore what type of wildflowers would be appropriate.

Standing orders were suspended. Lucy Care was interested in applying to this fund for river monitoring equipment and associated resources. Standing orders were reinstated. The clerk will email details to Lucy.

14. Hedgehogs R Us

It was AGREED NOT to take part in the above project.

15. Policies and Procedures

The Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, Reserves Policy and SAM2 Management Policy and Risk Assessment were reviewed and APPROVED. It was AGREED that the £300 Neighbourhood Plan earmarked money should be put into general reserves now the parish council is not pursuing this.

16. Training

Cllr Stevenson is attending "chaining successful meetings" on the 1st July.

17. Items for next agenda

BA Lease and Mill Structural Survey

Dog bin for Mill

Printer for clerk

Publishing SAM2 data via the parish council website.

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18. Next Meeting

Wednesday 10th July at 6.30pm in the main hall of the Tithe Barn.

Meeting closed at 19:35.

News from Broadland District Council- June 2024

The Annual General Council meeting was held at the end of May, the current chair of the Council retired and the new chair Cllr. Adrian Tipple was appointed. Cllr. Tipple is the first Labour Chair of Broadland District council since it was incorporated in 1974, and his appointment was warmly welcomed cross party.

Over the coming year Cllr. Tipple looks forward to representing the council at civic engagements. My Member Ward Grant Fund of £1,000 opened shortly after the election in early May, and I have already spent the whole amount supporting three local good causes: Firstly, I have supported 'Coltishall & Horstead Good Neighbours' with £500 of funding, which will be used to fund a summer outing to enhance the social wellbeing of our elderly & vulnerable residents. The project is being run by Julie Douglass who has led the Good Neighbours group in our villages for many years, and I would like to thank Julie for her unstinting community service.

Secondly, I have supported 'Friends of Coltishall School' with £250 of funding, (with match funding from several local businesses), to enable them to host a community fun run event in June. Proceeds from the 'Rainbow Run' will be used for an outdoor learning area at Coltishall Primary School, to enhance the learning experience for local children. Wendy Griffith, who is chair of the Friends of Coltishall School is running the project and doing a fantastic job fundraising for this worthwhile cause.

Lastly, I have contributed £250 to support our important community magazine 'The Marlpit', which acts as a signpost for local people, informing them of activities, clubs, events and help groups, providing social cohesion within our communities. The Marlpit is chaired by Paul Thomas & his dedicated team who work so hard to produce this popular monthly magazine, which is appreciated greatly, thank you to all involved.

Kind regards, Cllr. Jo Copplestone Cllr.jo.copplestone@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

News from Norfolk County Council – June 2024

A47 safety improvements will now go ahead, this follows the application from Dr Boswell to appeal to the Supreme Court being denied.

At NCC we have a new Chairman, Cllr Stuart Dark. The Chairman's theme for the year is volunteering. You may not know that this week is Volunteers Week (3-7th June). There are many ways to get involved across our great county. At The Forum, Norwich, on Friday 7th June there is an event, Give it Go, a Volunteering Extravaganza. There is also a website run by Voluntary Norfolk called Get Involved, Voluntary Norfolk Volunteer Centre | Get InVOLvedNorfolk . This will give you information about volunteering and opportunities to get involved.

NCC have submitted a planning application for the Norwich Western Link. Go to the NCC website and search for FUL/2024/0022. NCC will now run a statutory public consultation until 18th July 2024. You can comment online via the website link, by emailing NWLPlanning@norfolk.gov.uk or by post by writing to Planning services, Communities and Environment, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2SG.

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Take care

Cllr Fran Whymark

Lucy Care – Churchwarden Horstead PCC

Horstead Church and the Upper River Bure Study Centre

Aims and objectives:

1. To welcome more visitors to the church and make the church more visible with good signs and displays about the heritage of the church, the village, and the locality.
2. To repair and restore the church making it a meeting and information point for locals and visitors.
3. To provide a base within the church for study and research into the history and ecology of Horstead Mill, the river and canal and Horstead and the villages of the Upper Bure.
4. To provide an information centre at the church to disseminate information and education on heritage and sustainable use of power and research into the local environment.
5. To start a whole village scheme for collecting data on the river and its eco system. (Ted Ellis Norfolk Biodiversity files NRO)
6. To enable the church to have a new purpose the whole area in addition to its primary function as a Christian worship centre. To inspire a love of creation and knowledge of the witness of previous generations.

Objectives

The above aims will help the bodies in charge of these ancient and precious buildings, to pass on the knowledge and history of the people of Horstead and other villages on the River Bure which are parts of our heritage.

It will ensure that the church at Horstead can continue to provide a spiritual heart to the village and a place for prayer and worship of our Creator God. We want it to be a place where everyone can come and find out more about the faith that has sustained worship in this place for more than 1000 years. As a church, we want to learn more about looking after creation and we can use the aims of the Eco Awards for churches run by de Rocha as a guide to doing this. We also want to provide information about our beautiful stained glass.

Having a study centre specifically about the Upper Bure valley will encourage research into sustainable ways of providing power and preserving chalk rivers by being a centre for education for all ages and for all users of the river. So that we can all learn how to leave the area in a better way than it is now. It is particularly suitable as Horstead had three mills, one of which is recorded in the Domesday book. They were powered by wind and water, just as transport was and we can learn from our past. We will work with the Horstead centre to make the church a place where schools can visit and learn more about Broadland.

It will provide for all our visitors an interesting and entertaining way to learn more about this area and its needs past and present and hopefully, give them ideas for a sustainable future in their own area. The river Bure is especially important as it is a chalk stream but rivers all over the British Isles need conservation for a sustainable future.

It will help us to obtain grants to preserve them for future generations.

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Horstead Church, and Upper Bure Visitor Information and Study Centre

Horstead church stands in the old heart of the village near the river. It is the repository of the history of the village and stories of its people, their industries and how they lived. The PCC recognise that it needs to change if we are to meet the needs of the 21st century.

Working with the Horstead centre we have been trialling community events that invite visitors to explore the church and also the centre. The PCC are working to provide interpretation exhibitions at the church so that both visitors to the Horstead centre and the whole village can find out more about the place where we live and the environment that we live in.

The church is the heart of the village, and we want it to remain the spiritual centre it has been for over 1000 years. In addition to our regular programme of services we want to reach out to visitors by providing a quiet and comfortable place for reflection and prayer. Our church has a beautiful window showing Julian of Norwich with her words encouraging us to care for 'every little thing that ever was'. We want to learn more about how we can do this practically.

The church would easily house facilities for hospitality, a toilet and kitchenette and storage for activities. In addition we can house a history of the village and interpretation for the wealth of materials in the church relating to the village's past. We can encourage exhibitions and speakers on both the village and the beautiful stained-glass windows in the church.

In addition we can host an area for 'Forest school' type activities. For example use of identification charts, foraging and medicinal use of plants, environmental arts, and crafts etc. We would provide tools and activities for visitors and locals to try out with their families or for our school visitors from the Horstead centre or from the local playgroup mums and tot's or primary school to try out.

The first research part of this would be simply to keep records of the creatures, plants and birds we and our visitors see in the area, how many and when, year by year. This will build up a database so that we can see what is in danger, and what is flourishing. With help, we could use the work of Ted Ellis in the 1960's as a base for this. We can ask in speakers and experts to help us with this.

We also intend to set up 'river monitoring' with the Horstead centre so that swimmers and other river users can find online what the condition of the water is that week. We all know that sometimes water quality is not good so we think finding out why and when this happens would be a priority.

The plan is to provide facilities but also to provide a living example of how to live in a world where we increasingly need to know how to look after our planet – not just globally but locally, providing an example in which local children can see models of how power was generated by water and how we used to build. Even better, they can see how we can use old technology and new technology in tandem to solve problems caused by climate change.

We want to start a group for young people to get involved with the study centre and the place where they live. There is a residential centre for outdoor pursuits right next door to the church, the Horstead centre. We also want to work with local schools and other groups. Their input and response to the project will be an integral part of our way forward. We want to leave a group who know how to look after their local environment. Then we leave the village and the river in excellent hands. For example, visiting schools could get on the water, study the environment, learn how to build mill wheels and boats and we can connect to the National curriculum and provide useful information (which they can add to), on our website.

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Within the villages of Horstead and Coltishall, we have both the Activity Centre and the Guides centre, a camping site and a river used by many craft but also the Canoe man and many paddle boarders. There are two churches, a staithe, two mills, and a canal with a lock. The church is on the River Bure with footpaths all around. There is a bicycle company as well. We also have a converted Tithe Barn and businesses keen to see the village come to life. We also have many visitors each year and providing for their needs in this sensitive environment can be a problem. Providing another visitor site with both information and public toilets in the village would be of great benefit for both residents and visitors.

We can provide routes for bike rides and walks, bus timetables and things to see and do in the area.

We want to get people in the village and visitors enthused with the thought that we can provide, right here, a model for integrating local community groups for the betterment of both environment and village.

Lucy Care

Horstead PCC