



**MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF NARBOROUGH
PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2021**

Present:	Mr D Williams JP	Chairman
	Mr P Wilkinson	Vice Chairman (also Breckland District Councillor)
	Ms J Bentley	Councillor
	Mr J Collins	Councillor
	Mr S Davey	Councillor
	Mr R Hayes	Councillor
	Mr Ed Colman	Councillor Norfolk County Council
	Mrs E Durrant	Temporary Clerk to The Council

1. **Apologies.** Apologies were received from Councillor Ed Colman (Norfolk CC) who later joined the meeting.
2. **Minutes of Meeting Held on 4th January 2021.** It was proposed by Councillor Davey, seconded by Councillor Hayes, and unanimously resolved to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4 January 2021.
3. **Chairman's Declaration.** Councillor Williams informed the meeting that the clerk had resigned with immediate effect shortly after the last meeting. A temporary clerk had been appointed until a new clerk could be recruited. The Parish Council will have a busy time over the next 6 to 7 months to ensure that Policies and Action Plans are updated and where necessary new ones adopted.
4. **Declarations of Other Registrable Interests.** Under the Breckland Code of Conduct there were no declarations made.
5. **Opportunity for members of the public to speak on Agenda Items.** There were no members of the public present.
6. **County and District Councillors Report.**
Councillor Colman, Norfolk County Council: The County Council had faced challenges due to the recent bad weather with numerous calls on Highways and Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service due to flooding.

Two vaccination centres had opened on the west of the county: Manor Farm, Swaffham; King's Lynn Corn Exchange. Other vaccination centres were opening up as well as roll out to GP's practices. People will be contacted by the various centres regarding attending for a vaccine and it is requested that people do not contact them, GP's or Norfolk and Waveney CCG as there is a programme in place to contact people based on the at risk group classifications decided by the government.

The County Council were in the final stages of setting the budget. There will be an increase of 4.9% on Rates. Even with this the County Council still need to make £48million in savings. The County Council were in discussions with the government to discuss a fairer funding due to the ageing population of the County and the extra pressures this puts on social care.

The County Council have extended free school meals into February half term for those families eligible. This is being organised by Children's Social Services and details are on the Council's website.

The Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services report highlighted the improvement from 83% to 92% operational capability. Also praised the staff wellbeing rates as one of the highest in the country.

Councillor Wilkinson, Breckland District Council: The Joint Strategic Partnership with South Holland District Council has come to an end and Breckland District Council are now looking to set up a new partnership with another Norfolk District Council or if this is not possible to be a stand alone council. In the interim a temporary structure is in place to continue with the delivery of council services. The Strategic Partnership had been in place since 2015 and after an initial £4.5million savings the partnership saved £740,000 year on year since.

7. **Community Defibrillator:** Due to there being no permanent clerk this has been put on hold.

8. **Chalk Lane:** Receive information on need for a road crossing in this area. Councillor Colman advised the meeting that at this time the development would not be adopted and that the entire scheme is under review. It is down to the developers to provide appropriate road safety infrastructure. Item to remain on Agenda should there be a need to comment on it.

9. **Traffic Calming Policy:** Councillor Wilkinson advised the meeting that the new SAM2 sign was back up. One was placed at leaving the village at Westfields/Skipper Meadow and one west on Main Road. It was suggested that the Parish Council may need a policy for traffic calming to make it clear what is and what is not supported by the Parish Council. There are currently two SAM2 signs and speed reduction measures in place near the school. Councillor Bentley advised that she would make contact with a clerk she knows as she believes that Parish Council have such a policy.

10. **Highways:** Skippers Meadow resurfacing was nearing completion. Councillor Colman advised the meeting that there should have been a completion date on the original proposal.

Councillor Colman advised the meeting that David Jacklin was no longer the Highways Engineer. The new engineer is Jack Griffiths.

11. Planning: No decision has been taken at this time regarding the proposed site for the showmen traveller site at land of Meadow Road. No further information is available.

12. Finance. The following invoices were approved for payment:
Proposed by Councillor Bentley, seconded by John Collins and unanimously agreed.

A	Westcotec – Street Lighting	£167.79
B	Anglia Computer Solutions	£11.28
C	Computec – Horizon telephone app	£15.00 DD
D	Scribe Accounting	£265.20
E	Councillor Hayes Financial training	£30
F	Westcotec	£225

The accounts had been audited by Susan Nairn for the three months ending 31 December 2020.

Not sure when VAT was last claimed. Councillor Hayes was working on this as from records the last claim appeared to be early March 2020.

The Parish Council had now moved to Unity Trust Bank which is an online bank.

The Parish Council have a healthy balance and it is proposed that possible projects be looked at to utilise these funds for the good of the village.

13. Village Matters: Councillor Davey reported that he had contact with a gentleman in the village who had volunteered to walk all the public rights of way in the village and surrounds and will report any issues. Councillor Davey agreed to collate these and report to the appropriate authorities.
Councillor Williams asked that thanks be passed onto the Highways Team for the work they had carried out in the village as there had been no flooding in the area during the recent bad weather. Councillor Davey stated that unfortunately some residents had parked there before it was fully set and there were now ruts. Councillor Colman asked that some photos of the ruts be sent to him so he can pass them onto the new Highways Engineer to see what could be done.

Councillor Wilkinson stated that it looks like the Rivers Authority were dredging the river near to the garage so hopefully this will stop the flooding in future. It was noted that chewing gum had been stuck on the floor of the bust stop.

Councillor Colman left the meeting 8.38pm.

14. Next Meeting. It was noted that the next Meeting will be on Monday 1 March at 7:30pm.

The Meeting Closed at 8.55 pm