

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 16 April 2019 at 7:30pm at
The Mill Centre**

Present

Chairman Mr David Hook, Mrs Liz Allen, Mr Richard Delf, Mr Mike Turner, Mr Peter Workman and the Clerk Mr Ian Nelson.

Members of the public present

There were none.

Apologies

Apologies were received from County & District Councillor Alison Thomas and Mr Roger Parker, Mr Kevin Cunningham and Mr Hamish Rose.

Declarations of Interest

Mrs Allen declared an interest in the following matters:

- Affordable Housing/Millfields
- Land off Bungay Road Development

Minutes of the previous meeting

Mr Workman proposed, Mr Turner seconded, and it was unanimously agreed the minutes of the meeting on 19 March 2019 be approved subject to a couple of changes.

Public Participation

County and District Councillor Alison Thomas had submitted the following report to the Clerk before the meeting:

“Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank any members of the Parish Council who are standing down this year and congratulate those who are re-elected for another term.

Work on the Hempnall roundabout will recommence in mid-May with completion expected in the autumn.

County Council is moving to a Cabinet system at the AGM but this should not impact residents too noticeably but should enable decisions to be taken in a more timely manner.

Fairstead Lane is currently closed due to a burst water main but will hopefully be open again soon.

South Norfolk has completed restructuring of senior officers which will be ratified by both South Norfolk and Broadland Councils next week. Obviously with the Council currently in purdah for District elections there is not much happening.

A pleasing outcome on Farmland Road, Costessey planning appeal shows inspectors are willing to endorse member decisions to refuse applications that are outside development boundaries that are inappropriate.

As you will all be aware I am not seeking re-election in Hempnall this year. I am standing in Long Stratton to hopefully (if elected) ensure the Bypass/housing plans take resident's concerns into full consideration.

I will of course continue to serve you as your County Councillor and would like to thank the Parish for the positive way they engage with me and the understanding afforded to me during my recent family bereavement. Look forward to catching up in May”

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Delf seconded, and it was unanimously agreed the Clerk should write to Mrs Thomas to commend her on her past performance, information relay and attendance at meetings and to state we hope to see her regularly in the future as our County Councillor.

IN

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Planning Applications

New applications since the last meeting:

2019/0351 - Mrs Barbara Jeffery, Lime Tree Cottage, The Street, Hempnall - First floor rear extension over existing rear single storey extension – Mr Workman proposed, Mr Turner seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the application be approved.

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Applications approved since the last meeting:

There were none.

Applications refused since the last meeting:

There were none.

Applications withdrawn since the last meeting:

There were none.

Applications outside the parish boundary since the last meeting:

There were none.

Affordable Housing/Millfields

Mr Watts of Saffron Housing Trust Ltd had apologised for not getting in touch sooner. He is still waiting for an update from Stuart Bizley who is managing the land negotiations for Big Sky (SNC) and Saffron are reliant on them responding to the land offer they made last year. Mr Watts continues to chase. The Clerk to monitor.

IN

Land off Bungay Road, Hempnall – Development

NCC had responded re road safety measures on Bungay Rd as follows: *“Thank you for raising with the Highway Authority the concerns of the Parish Council, which I note have already been seen by the local Highway Engineer. I have copied South Norfolk District Council into this email, so they so are aware of our correspondence.*

About off-site highway works the tests for planning conditions are clear that they should be required in direct mitigation of the development, be reasonable in scale and be reasonable in cost. Conditions should not be applied for works that are knowingly unachievable or make a development unviable. For a development of the scale proposed, approximately 20-25 dwellings, I consider it unlikely that the developer of a new roundabout would be considered reasonable in scale and cost.

As with any planning application the developer would be expected to demonstrate they can achieve a safe access onto the highway that meets local and national guidance. We will consider your Council’s concerns should any formal application be submitted together with all other information submitted by the applicant.”

District Council candidates’ attitude to housing development

Mr Hook suggested it would be an appropriate time to write to all candidates seeking election to South Norfolk Council on May 2nd to make them aware of the parish council’s policies and goals and to ask for their support, if elected, in assisting the parish council to achieve outcomes that coincide with its policy aims and goals. Mr Hook specified that the candidates should be asked if they would: 1) support our efforts to secure affordable housing, via the proposed scheme with Saffron Housing, on land adjacent to Millfields; 2) support our requests for traffic calming at the entrance to the HEM1 site and at other places in the village, and 3) support our policies opposing housing outside the development boundary and the phasing of housing.

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Turner seconded, and it was agreed the Clerk should send such a letter – 3 votes for, 1 against and 1 abstention.

IN

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Matters arising from previous Parish Council meetings – for discussion

Parish Partnership 2019-20

We await the Parish Partnership decision for funding for the SAM2. The Clerk had chased. IN

NCC Petition/Action Day re. Traffic Problems in the village

Mr Hook reported the petition now had 412 signatures which included representatives of 310 of the 400 households located in the main village of Hempnall. The 123 households located in Hempnall Greens (including Lundy Green) had not been canvassed. The response to the petition revealed the depth of concern in the village about traffic problems with over ¾ of households asking for action to be taken. The wording on the petition was as follows:

“We the undersigned residents of Hempnall, call on Norfolk County Council, our Highways Authority, to install effective traffic calming measures (preferably chicanes/road narrowing) along the B1527 road through Hempnall and the Street/Broaden Lane. We feel strongly that this is the only way to reduce the dangerously high speed of traffic through our village, which has caused many accidents and threatens the safety and wellbeing of residents.”

Due to the deep level of concern expressed in the petition and the increasing likelihood of somebody being hurt or killed, Mr Workman proposed, Mr Turner seconded, and it was unanimously agreed (Mrs Allen was unable to vote due to her declared interest in the HEM 1 site) that the Clerk writes to our MP, the leader of NCC, (copying in NCC Highways), Alison Thomas and district council candidates with the results of the petition and outlining the numerous accidents to date in order to secure their support for traffic calming measures **AND**, given that NCC has said a mini roundabout at the entrance to HEM 1 is not likely to be considered a proportionate developer provision to a development of this size, to ask what traffic calming measures can be practically installed at the entrance to HEM 1, as part of that development, to reduce the accident rates on the B1527 in this part of the village (including the Bungay Road bends). IN

Correspondence from Parishioners

Swan Meadow Litter bin

Mrs Franks had written to ask if there was any chance of a rubbish bin on the Krons, near the meadow entrance.

It was agreed that the Clerk should respond to Mrs Franks indicating the area concerned was in Morningthorpe, so she should contact their Clerk. IN

Konnect Bus

Mr Waddington had asked Mr Turner if it was possible for the parish council to contact Konnect Bus to request a smaller bus as the present buses are damaging his verges.

Mrs Allen proposed, Mr Delf seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should write to Mr Waddington to point out the bus was often full and thus there did not seem to be any scope for a smaller bus. IN

Parish Council Elections May 2019

The Clerk had previously informed councillors and placed a notice on the noticeboard to indicate there would be no parish council election in May as the 8 positions available were fully filled and uncontested.

The Clerk reminded councillors of his email giving details of the requirements to submit declarations of acceptance of office and update registers of interest. ALL

Mr Hook expressed his gratitude to Mr Cunningham, Mr Burley and Mr Parker, who did not stand for re-election, for their service as councillors over many years. The Clerk to write to each expressing the councillors' gratitude. IN

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Items for next newsletter

The Clerk to draft and issue covering the following matters in the next issue:

- Use of petition
 - Litter on the Krons / fly tipping – encourage reporting of culprits
- IN

Items for next main meeting

- Appointment of Chair and other Officers
 - Internal Audit
 - Annual Accounts to 31/03/19
 - Notice of expenses
 - Review of Policies and Procedures
 - Standing Orders Review
 - Risk Assessment Review
 - Declaration of Interests Review
 - Action Plan
 - Information Audit
 - Start time of meetings
 - Speed watch zero activity
 - MUGA repairs
- IN

Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council main meeting will be on 14 May 2019 at the Mill Centre at 19:30. IN

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:53pm.

Signed _____ Date 14 May 2019