



**Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Emneth Parish Council, Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 6.30pm, Emneth Central Hall**

**In attendance:** Councillor Wiles, Councillor Howard, Councillor Harper, Councillor White, Councillor McCourt, Councillor Groves (Chair), Councillor Curtis, Councillor Purchase, Councillor Pearson, Councillor Leakey, Borough Councillor Crofts, County Councillor Humphrey

**Apologies:** Councillor Oliver, Councillor Fry

**Parish Clerk:** Kate Bennett (email: [emnethparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:emnethparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk) Mobile: 07825 634 672)

**Public:** 0

## **MINUTES**

### **1 Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **2 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were given as above and approved.

### **3 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

Councillor Howard declared an interest in Item 8b) and 12d) on this month's agenda; *issues surrounding future burial ground for the parish.*

### **4 Minutes**

It was resolved to accept the Minutes of the last meeting as a true record and these were signed by the Chairman.

### **5 Public Forum<sup>1</sup>**

The meeting was temporarily suspended to hold a Public Forum. Councillor Howard took this opportunity for the benefit of new Members to brief them on the history of her planning application associated with the gifting of a piece of land for future burial ground for the parish and her points were noted.

The Clerk reminded Members that this planning application for a residential development of 7 dwellings with the gifting of a piece of land for further burial ground had been *refused* by the parish council and the borough council and a separate planning application for *change of use* for the gifted land for burial ground had been *approved*. For the purpose of the Minutes it should be noted that the gifting of the piece of land to the parish is only relevant if the planning permission for the 7 dwellings is granted. As the application was refused the parcel of land for future burial ground cannot be gifted to the parish due to loss of revenue by the applicants.

### **6 Reports**

**a) Police Report;** no report.

**b) Borough Council Report;**

- A new Chief Executive has been appointed: Lorraine Gore. Mr. Ray Harding is leaving at the end of August.
- The new Community Infrastructure Levy rate is £44.82 per square metre. CIL monies received by a parish must be spent within a five-year period on the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure within the parish or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area. There are typically three broad categories of infrastructure; *physical* infrastructure (highways, transport links, cycle ways, energy supply, water, flood alleviation, waste management), *social* infrastructure (education, health, social care, emergency services, art and culture, sports halls, community halls) or *green* infrastructure (parks, woodlands, play areas, public open space).
- Planning permission has been granted for the Corn Exchange in King's Lynn to build a cinema at its premises.

**c) County Councillor Report;**

- The main change is the return to the Cabinet system from the Committee system. Cabinet Members have responsibility for their portfolio and Cabinet make decisions on behalf of Council apart from overall policy changes, which rest with Full Council. Scrutiny of decisions rests with a Scrutiny Committee led by an opposition Chairman. There are three committees to aid and review policy development. The first round of meetings has now taken place and Agendas and Minutes are available on the Norfolk County Council website. "Together for Norfolk" launched at the Royal Norfolk Show. A County with ambition, beauty and contrast

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<sup>1</sup> The Public Forum is 15 minutes.

that's growing, joining forces with District Councils, other partner agencies and Norfolk businesses for a growing economy, thriving people, strong communities and improving infrastructure.

The County's *Green* ambition is to increase the use of available green energy, reduce single use plastics, investigate the use and feasibility of electric vehicles when considering fleet changes.

Adult Social Services is launching a "Healthy Ageing" campaign to which central government is giving one off cash sums of money to help in the short term, but this makes future planning difficult.

#### d) Parish Councillor Reports/Correspondence

- It was resolved not to progress a *Parish Plan* for Emneth at this time. A plan such as this has been investigated in the past and it was generally felt that it is a lot of work and a very expensive exercise for a document that will effectively only be relevant for a very few short years. It was felt that this was not a good use of tax payers' money at this time with so many other issues in the parish requiring financial assistance such as a new cemetery for the parish, major works to the trees in the cemetery (£5,000) AND at the playing field (£10,000).
- Some suggestions for revisions to the current Standing Orders were considered but mostly felt not necessary. It was resolved to arrange for an allotment inspection soon for the benefit of new Members and any current Members who would like to attend. Date to be confirmed at the August meeting.
- The Minutes of the Planning Meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were signed as a true record of the meeting.
- Ex-Chairman, Robert Waterfield, conveyed his thanks via the Clerk to all councillors for his gift upon leaving the Council.
- A resident of Meadowgate Lane had passed on her thanks via the Clerk for flowers sent to her following the sudden death of her husband who was a Councillor in the parish.

### 7 Finance

a. It was resolved to approve the payments list since last meeting.

<b>Payments - July 2019</b>					
<b>Payee</b>	<b>Goods/ Services</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>dd/chq</b>	<b>Supplier/Service</b>
Employment	1,347.32	0.00	1,347.32	dd	Monthly wages for staff
Kate Bennett Expenses	87.88	5.65	93.53	103180	Mileage, stamps, photocopying, mobile, stationery etc
Jean Eady	0.00	0.00	0.00	103181	50.5 hours
Nicola Lane	0.00	0.00	0.00	103182	55 hours
HM Revenue and Customs	207.00	0.00	207.00	103183	PAYE
Westcotec	87.66	17.53	105.19	103184	Street lighting maintenance fee for July 2019
E.on	57.67	2.88	60.55	103185	June 2019 energy charges
Advanced Payroll Services	15.00	0.00	15.00	103186	May payroll services
CGM Group	270.25	54.05	324.30	103187	Grass cutting to the cemetery and churchyard
Veolia	96.88	19.38	116.26	103188	Trade refuse collection - 4 weeks
Borough Council	49.64	0.00	49.64	103189	Election recharge costs
Terry Wiles	130.00	0.00	130.00	103190	£40 Betsy Pad, £90 cemetery
	<b>2,349.30</b>	<b>99.49</b>	<b>2,448.79</b>		

\*salaries reported together (data protection).

- b. Income since the last meeting was noted at £640.00 from the cemetery.
- c. A letter from Norfolk Age UK requesting a donation was noted. It was resolved not to offer a further donation to this charity at this time.

### 8. Planning Applications

#### a) To receive and consider *Planning Applications* since the last meeting

- **Planning application 19/01278/F**, two storey rear extension and alterations at Pearl Cottage, 30 Gaultree Square, Emneth. It was resolved with all in favour to *approve* the application.

#### b) To note any appeal notifications since last meeting

- To note receipt of Appeal paperwork **APP/V2635/W/19/3232219**, Outline application (18/01148/O) for a residential development of 7 dwellings and to discuss whether any further comments, withdrawals or modifications on earlier comments are to be made. It was resolved to make *no further comments* regarding this application.

#### c) To note any decisions made at the Borough Council since last meeting

- **Planning application 19/01047/F**, Land East of 10 The Wroe, Emneth, residential development of a detached bungalow with rooms in the roof and a detached garden room – application *withdrawn*.

- **Planning application 19/00792/F**, Land South East of 8 Ladys Drove, Emneth, residential development of 3 bed bungalow with associated access, garages and hard and soft landscaping – application *approved*.

9 **General Correspondence**; no report.

**10 Norfolk County Council Highways Issues**

- a) Correspondence from Cambridgeshire County Council regarding the Wisbech Access Strategy namely scheme EH3B (the possible relocation of the A47/Elm High Road Roundabout) confirmed that additional technical work is ongoing including the consideration of other options to relocate this roundabout following local feedback. Delivery of this scheme would be 2026 at the earliest (if at all). Currently, no funding has been agreed for this scheme and with the potential widening of the A47 by Highways England may prove that this suggested scheme is no longer needed at all.
- b) Clerk to progress the installation of a dog waste bin for Elmside with Councillor White.

**11 Playing Field issues**

- a) A quote from CGM for works to the poplar trees had been noted last month at £5,788 + VAT to reduce trees to 6ft high and leave all materials on site or £11,820 + VAT to remove all materials from site. A further quote had been received by Councillor McCourt for £10,000.00. Clerk to progress a third before a decision is made. As works to the trees is a high priority and has not been budgeted for, a suggestion was made to borrow this money from the Claude Coates fund (which was left for the benefit of the playing field) and pay back over a two year period (the parish council could precept for the cost of the trees over the next two years): ongoing.

**12 Cemetery Issues**

- a) Approval from the Diocese to carry out works to the high-risk trees in the churchyard is still awaited.
- b) It was noted that there is a wasps’ nest in the churchyard. The Clerk and Councillor Curtis have visited and deemed it not a health and safety issue due to its location.
- c) It was resolved to approve expenditure of £665.85 + VAT to CGM Group to remove the tarmac path at the cemetery and turf it.
- d) Discussions regarding future burial ground covered the suggestion of creating a Commemorative Wall in the cemetery for cremations only. In principle it was agreed that this could be a possible way forward with the limited amount of burial space now available in the parish. It was also suggested to offer burials/cremations to *residents* of the parish *only* i.e. prohibit non-resident burials; this to be discussed further at another meeting. It should be noted that the provision of cemetery services within a parish is a discretionary service and if burial space cannot be offered within Emneth then residents/non-residents will have to go elsewhere, maybe a neighbouring parish.

**13 Agenda Items for the next meeting**

- Future burial ground for the parish – non-resident burials, commemorative wall
- VE Day
- To arrange a date for an Allotment inspection for councillors
- To agree a location for a new dog waste bin at Elmside
- To consider further quotes for works to the poplar trees at the playing field

**14 Date of Next Meeting**

- a) The next meeting will be Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at 6.30pm at Emneth Central Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm

Chairman’s signature .....