

Meeting Minutes of Emneth Parish Council

Tuesday 29th November 2022 at 5.30pm held at Emneth Central Hall

Parish Councillors present: Councillor Michael Pearson, Councillor Roland Fry, Councillor Mike Wiles, Councillor Lloyd Groves (Chairman), Councillor Yvonne Howard, Councillor Steve Curtis, Councillor Dan Finnis, Councillor Mark Purchase, Councillor McCourt, Councillor Tingley and Councillor White. Also present: Kate Bennett (Parish Clerk), Borough Councillor Chris Crofts and County Councillor Chris Dawson and three members of the public

Apologies: Councillor Kok and Harry Humphrey

1 Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies for this month's meeting were received as above.

3 Members' Declarations of Interests in items on the agenda and any dispensations required considered

No declarations of interests were given for this month's meeting and no dispensations requested. It was noted that Councillor White's planning application decision is to be reported at Item 11b).

4 Open Forum for Public Participation: 15 minutes

No report.

5 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2022

It was resolved with all in favour to approve the Minutes of last month's meeting and these were signed as a true record by the Chairman.

6 To discuss Playing Field issues

a) Works required to unblock the drains at the pavilion

It had previously been reported that the toilets wouldn't flush and following investigation one of the pumps had disintegrated and the drains were full of paper towels. Bates Environmental had been instructed to replace the pump (2-year life span) and the invoice is on this month's payments list. All paper towels have now been removed from the pavilion.

b) To discuss purchasing new hand dryers for the pavilion

It was resolved to purchase x9 hand dryers (5-year shelf life) for the pavilion at a total cost of £3,050.00 including the rewiring works required; funds to be transferred into the Community Account from the Claude Coates fund. It was resolved to set up a direct debit from the Community Account to repay this amount to the Claude Coates fund over a 2 year period. The Parish Council will purchase the hand dryers and the nominated contractor will install them.

c) To discuss payment arrangements for a new set of goal posts

It was noted that a new set of goal posts for the 'reserves' pitch will cost £4,430.00. It was resolved to apply to the Borough Council's Community Infrastructure Levy fund once more when it opens up again for bids on 1st January 2023.

7 To receive a report from our Norfolk County Councillor

- a) It was noted that highways improvements to Ladys Drove are ongoing.
- b) The Upwell to Wisbech Tram Memento for Bird's Corner in Emneth has now been approved by the local planning authority and a further site along the highway adjacent to The Peel Centre at Elm High Road is currently being progressed also.
- c) The County continues to push and promote for a new hospital / car park in King's Lynn.
- d) It was noted that the 28-day turnaround period to address reported highways issues is now 84 days.

8 To receive a report from our Borough Councillor

- a) Just 8 out of 24 planning appeals have been successful this year.
- b) The planning application for a large *house of multiple occupancy* at Elme Hall has been approved.
- c) The Community Infrastructure Levy fund is open again for bids 1st January 2023–1st February 2023.
- d) 200 adult Ukrainians are being hosted by local families & supported by the Borough Council.
- e) The Local Plan is with the Planning Inspector; it is hoped that it will be approved by Spring 2023.

9 Clerk to provide an update on matters not included on this month's Agenda

- a) Awaiting approval from Norfolk County Council to install a dog waste bin at the top of Elmside.

10 Finance

- a) It was resolved with all in favour to approve the payments per the November Payments List.
- b) Income since the last meeting was noted at £4,029.18 (agricultural land rents), £1,170.59 (Community Infrastructure Levy payment), £725.00 transfer from Claude Coates fund for the Bates Environmental invoice on this month's payments list (to clear the drains at the playing field).
- c) It was resolved to delegate authority to the Finance Committee to approve the payments due in December as there will not be a Parish Council Meeting until 31st January 2023.
- d) A letter to Unity Trust was signed to update the Clerk's details for the Corporate Card Statement.
- e) The parish council's bank balances at 29th November 2022 were noted at: Community Account £63,744.99 and the Savings Account at £35,968.39.

11 Planning

- a) To consider planning applications since last meeting:

Planning application 22/01670/O demolition of existing agricultural building and erection of a residential dwelling on land East of Meadowgate Lane at Crickle Farm, Meadowgate Lane, Emneth: it was resolved to refer this to the local planning authority for their expertise and will concur with their recommendations for this proposal.

Planning application 22/02091/F erection of a 2 storey 3-bed dwelling at Land South of 37 – 39 and North East of 33 Gaultree Square, Emneth: it was resolved to submit a comment in line with the comment from a previous application with the suggestion that the roof height should be subservient or at least no higher than the adjacent property.

Planning application 22/02069/F erection of a substation, 6 ultra-rapid electric vehicle charge points and associated electrical equipment at @ WM Morrisons, The Peel Centre, Elm High Road, Emneth: it was resolved to approve this application.

- b) To note any planning decisions made by the Local Planning Authority / appeal notifications

Planning application 22/01605/F Stoneycroft, 95 Hollycroft Road, Emneth: convert existing garage to a habitable room and remove existing flat roof and remove and replace with hipped end roof to match existing building – permitted.

Planning application 22/01476/LDP The Laurels, 48 Elm High Road, Emneth: Lawful Development Certificate for siting a mobile home for use ancillary to the main dwelling – permitted.

Planning application 21/02327/F Whiteacres, 54 Elmside, Emneth: retrospective change of use from shared agricultural / commercial fireworks business land to dog training area and polytunnel to be used as an indoor dog training area – permitted.

Planning application 20/01658/F Farm Buildings and land North of Little Fendyke field, Fendyke Road, Emneth: proposed workplace home / caravan (retrospective – permitted).

Planning application 22/01014/F Elme Hall Hotel, 69 Elm High Road, Emneth: proposed change of use from hotel (C1) to large house of multiple occupancy – permitted.

Appeal for Planning application 21/01688/F Former College of West Anglia, Wisbech Centre, Meadowgate Lane Emneth change of use and conversion of former teaching block to 5 dwellings – appeal *dismissed* by the Planning Inspectorate.

Details of all planning applications can be viewed on the Borough Council's planning portal by visiting <https://online.west-norfolk.gov.uk/online-applications/>

12 To discuss Parish matters

- a) A Councillor Training Session is planned for the evening of Tuesday 21st February 2023 at Emneth Central Hall to be hosted by Norfolk Parish Training Support.
- b) It was noted that Emneth Central Hall hire charges have increased for 2023 to £16.00/hour.
- c) A new 45 litre dog waste bin has been installed at Hawthorn Road.
- d) Councillor McCourt is progressing with the purchasing / planting of a *King Crimson Acer* tree for the playing field from a donation from the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- e) It was resolved to confirm the Parish Council's interest with Norfolkcalc in setting up a '*gov.uk*' domain name and email address in 2023.
- f) It was noted that there are currently 4 defibrillators in the parish; one at the playing field, another at the Spar Shop, another at the Hidden Secret Spa on Hollycroft Road and a fourth at the school.

13 To note general correspondence received since last meeting

An email had been received from Liz Truss MP requesting a meeting with local councillors. It was resolved to try and arrange this for early 2023.

14 Cemetery Issues

- a) It was resolved to approve the draft agreement / contract as presented for DJK Services for the grass cutting in the cemetery / churchyard in 2023.
- b) Clerk to obtain a quote for the removal / spraying of the ivy in the churchyard and along the church wall.

15 Allotment Land issues

- a) The annual land rent invoices have now all been paid.
- b) It was noted that there are still some scrap vehicles on parish council land at Grays Lane.

16 To discuss Central Hall issues; no report.

17 To discuss Norfolk County Council issues including highways

- a) Clerk to investigate the reported *narrowing of the road* in parts along Hungate Road.
- b) Residents are reminded to report pot holes themselves via the Norfolk County Council website / link here refers; [Potholes - Norfolk County Council](#)

18 To note any communications from the Police since last meeting

- a) The Police & Crime Commissioner is hosting a live Q&A in King's Lynn on Tuesday 13th December 2022, 6pm to 8pm at 23 New Conduit Street.
- b) Emneth's Beat Manager is PC Andy Wise.
- c) The Community Engagement Officer for Emneth is Paula Gilluley
paula.gilluley@norfolk.police.uk
- d) The next Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel meeting 17 January 2023, 7pm; venue to be advised.
- e) Residents are encouraged to report any anti-social behaviour issues on the Police 101 non-urgent number.

19 Items for the next meeting agenda

- The former canal towpath (Councillor Wiles)
- Community Infrastructure Levy funding for new goal posts at the playing field
- Adult Exercise Equipment (Councillor Howard)
- To consider a quote for spraying the ivy in the churchyard / along the church wall
- To note an increase in price for the collection of waste from the church

20 To consider excluding the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the items to be discussed

21 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 31st January 2023 at 6.30pm in the Committee Room at Emneth Central Hall.

Meeting closed at 6.40pm

Chairman's signature