

Draft Meeting Minutes of Emneth Parish Council

Tuesday 27th September 2022 at 6.30pm held at Emneth Central Hall

Parish Councillors present: Councillor Michael Pearson, Councillor Roland Fry, Councillor Mike Wiles, Councillor Lloyd Groves (Chairman), Councillor Mick White, Councillor Yvonne Howard, Councillor Steve Curtis, Councillor Dan Finnis and Councillor Poole. Also present: Kate Bennett (Parish Clerk), Borough Councillor Chris Crofts, Harry Humphrey and five members of the public

Apologies: Councillor McCourt, Councillor Purchase, County Councillor Chris Dawson

1 Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 To receive apologies for absence

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

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.

4 Open Forum for Public Participation: 15 minutes

- a) A representative from Upp briefly outlined their plans for full fibre broadband for the East of England. It was noted that Diss, Thetford and Downham Market are already live. Further information available upon request.
- b) A resident of Church Road who was present at last month's meeting requested an update on the cutting back of the grass verges along Church Road and Scarfield Lane. The Clerk had submitted a request to Norfolk County Council to have these cut back but no response had been received to date; Clerk to chase.
- c) Three members of the public were present interested in the casual vacancy on the Parish Council and all three were given the opportunity to speak with councillors. Further discussions on filling this vacancy took place after Item 20 on the Agenda.

5 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 30th August 2022

It was resolved with all in favour to approve the Minutes of last month's meeting.

6 To receive a report from our Norfolk County Councillor

No report given at the meeting but numerous emails had been circulated during the month including information on filling the £60m budget gap, funding opportunities to improve bus services in Norfolk, the launch of a £110m prosperity fund via DEFRA and local resources in Norfolk for asylum seekers.

7 To receive a report from our Borough Councillor

- a) A meeting is planned to discuss the Inspector's findings from the Local Plan.
- b) Our new Prime Minister is the first from Norfolk for over 300 years.
- c) King's Lynn Town has received £25m in funding.
- d) The Budget for 2023/24 is being considered.

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

- a) A response from Highways had been received in relation to a speed reduction at Meadowgate Lane. They advised that the current limit is appropriate with their speed management strategy; there is

only very sporadic residential habitation leading to a dead end so Meadowgate Lane would not be considered for a speed reduction at this time.

9 Finance

- a) It was resolved with all in favour to approve the September Payments List.
- b) Income since the last meeting was noted at £600.00 from the cemetery.
- c) The parish council's bank balances at 15th September 2022 were noted at: Community Account £61,554.80 and the Savings Account at £36,588.26.

10 Planning

- a) To consider planning applications since last meeting;
Planning Application 1: Planning application 22/01627/F construction of 2 storey 3 bed dwelling at Sans Souci, Chapel Lane, Emneth: it was resolved to approve this application.
Planning Application 2: Planning application 22/01605/F convert existing garage to a habitable room and remove existing flat roof and remove and replace with hipped end roof to match the existing building at Stoneycroft , 95 Hollycroft Road, Emneth: it was resolved to approve this application.
- b) To note any planning decisions made by the Local Planning Authority / appeal notifications since last meeting:
Planning application 22/00256/F Little Orchard, 55 Elmside, Emneth: refused.
Planning application 22/00276/RM Land N of 73 Hollycroft Road, Emneth: approved.
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/>
- c) To note that Planning application 22/00495/O residential development at Pal-Mar, Chapel Lane is being considered at the Borough Council's Planning Committee on 3rd October 2022.
- d) Borough Councillor Crofts agreed to investigate the current position with the derelict semi-detached house at Ladys Drove which the Borough Council has a legal charge over. Members reported that the garden needs clearing and they would be interested to know if council tax is being paid on the property.

Councillor Howard left the meeting momentarily.

11 To discuss Parish matters

- a) It was resolved for the Clerk to write to some residents of Elmside requesting they cut back their hedges which are overgrowing onto the highway along Elmside.
- b) Remembrance Sunday is 13th November 2022; councillors will be meeting at the war memorial at 10.45am to pay their respects; all welcome.
- c) It was resolved with all in favour to purchase a larger dog waste bin for Betsy Pad at the Hawthorn Road end as the 25 litre bin currently located here is not sufficient. This 25 litre bin will be resited to the bottom of Elmside (as leaving the village).
- d) It was recommended to add up to 10% to the price quoted in 2022 for the bus shelter at The Peel Centre if works are not carried out until 2023.
- e) It was noted that *npower* has only just started selling contracts again following the outbreak of the war in Ukraine. The parish council has been paying default / out of contract rates since end May: Clerk to action.
- f) It was noted that antisocial behaviour continues outside the Spar Shop and at the Playing Field. Councillor Fry agreed to report these incidents at the next Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel meeting in October and obtain an incident number.
- g) Jubilee mugs can still be purchased at £2.50 each.

h) It was noted that some sapling trees have been cut down by a resident along the former canal towpath; Clerk to write to the resident concerned reminding them that these trees were not their property to cut down and to ask them to refrain from doing so again in the future. It was resolved with all in favour for a resident to plant an oak tree somewhere near to the dog waste bin along the towpath; Chairman of F.E.E.T. to action.

12 To note general correspondence received since last meeting

- a) Councillor White agreed to meet with a developer building a property at Elmside to discuss the short term housing of their welfare and storage facilities on Parish Council land; Clerk to action.
- b) Correspondence from a resident of West Walton was noted regarding the development of a new solar farm in the vicinity.

13 Cemetery Issues

The new grass cutting contractor has not been able to start this season due to the supply of parts for his machinery. Hopefully his mower will be repaired and in order ready to start in April 2023.

14 Allotment Land issues; no report.

15 To discuss Central Hall issues; no report.

16 To discuss Playing Field issues

Councillor Groves agreed to meet with the Chairman of the Playing Field Committee to determine the required measurements for a new set of goal posts and to follow up with a company for a quote.

17 To discuss Norfolk County Council issues including highways; no report.

18 To note any communications from the Police since last meeting

- a) Emneth's Beat Manager is PC Andy Wise.
- b) The Community Engagement Officer for Emneth is Paula Gilluley paula.gilluley@norfolk.police.uk
- c) The next Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel meeting is 19th October 2022.
- d) Residents are encouraged to report any anti-social behaviour issues on the Police 101 non-urgent number.

19 Items for the next meeting agenda

- Remembrance Sunday (Councillor Groves)
- To co-opt a new councillor
- To discuss payment arrangements for the new goal posts for the Playing Field (Councillor Fry)
- Budget 2023/2024

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

After discussion it was resolved to offer the casual vacancy to Mr. James Tingley of Fendyke Road, Emneth.

21 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 25th October 2022 at 6.30pm in the Committee Room at Central Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

Chairman's signature