

MINUTES OF MARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 7.30 pm

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.40 pm because the Defibrillator training organised by the Parish Council with Heart2Heart Norfolk had run over time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Village Hero Award - will be presented at the next meeting. A discussion on the frequency of giving the award took place. The initial suggestion was for an annual award, so this matter will be discussed as an ongoing item.

Questions: Two questions were received from members of the public on the evening and two emails had been received with the same question regarding the Precept:

a) Precept

An explanation for the increase in the Precept element of the council tax bill was requested. The Chairman explained the reason for increasing the precept this year. This included the £11,000 removal of the concurrent functions grant by Great Yarmouth Borough Council and the increase in cost to deliver services such as village green grass cutting. He explained that some services had been removed to offset the increase in costs and reductions had been made across all cost centres where possible. Last year had seen an additional part of the concurrent grant of over £4000, removed.

b) Community Centre Gym Equipment

Equipment stored in the centre is owned by another organisation that still has not arranged to have the equipment removed. Most of the equipment is no longer fit for purpose and was used by an independent provider before the global pandemic. The Clerk agreed to chase the organisation once again as removal of this by the Parish Council would incur costs. **Clerk**

An email report was received from Norfolk County Council (NCC) and Great Yarmouth Borough Council (GYBC) Councillor Andy Grant:-

NCC Highways Visit

Cllr Andy Grant sent an email on 12.3.24 with an update. He apologised for the delay with a Norfolk County Council Highways update as he only met with the Highways Engineer the week before.

Footpath Crossing

He added that in terms of the village survey mentioned at a previous meeting, this relates to a new crossing proposed for Black Street in front of the Bistro to the triangle. Norfolk County Council (NCC) Highways will send over the main parts of the survey to share with the Council. A Crossing point is going to be installed and some additional footpaths will allow wheelchair access to the triangle and bus shelter. This will be in the new financial year of April onwards.

Parking near the Village Hall

In terms of parking in front of the Martham Village Hall, Cllr Grant confirmed that NCC Highways owns this land. He is working with the Highways Engineer to agree to have lines Painted down to prevent parking however this would be advisory only. Cllr Grant said he will speak at the next Parish Council meeting to gauge opinion and speak to the Village Hall themselves.

Flooding on White Street

Highways are going to have all the drains surveyed to see where they run to and ascertain why the flooding was so bad. They are also going to try and find out why the street lamp there is being replaced with a highway which was deemed odd.

203/24: ATTENDANCE

Present: Cllrs B Fossey (Chair), G Bye, P Hooper, I Bradford, T Watson, C Starkings, S Coates, V Smith, and A Sayer. The Parish Clerk was present.

Apologies: were received from Cllrs Huxtable and Pallett.

Members of the public: Two members of the public were also in attendance.

204/24: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

No new declarations were made to the current list made by Councillors.

205/24: COUNCILLORS CONTRIBUTIONS/UPDATES

An update was received from Cllrs present:

Cllr Smith - emergency planning - contact has been made but no response received at this time.

Website updates/improvements continue. Communications meeting notes and statistics report.

Cllr Coates – litter picking on the riverbanks, checking the village defibrillators, and support for the organisation and delivery of defibrillator training which had seen good levels of attendance.

Cllr Fossey - suggested using the 'What3words' App for reporting items and gathering the locations of Council assets or incidents. The work for two more Speed Awareness Group locations has been completed and approved.

Cllr Starkings – monthly finance tasks and support for the Clerk.

Cllr Sayer – ongoing work on the administration of the allotments and working with the allotments committee.

Cllr Watson – the bench seat on Thunder Hill has been removed and has been moved to a more suitable place with a better view close by. The metal on the SMEE has been removed.

Cllr Bye – attended the village hall meeting held on 19 March. They are waiting for an NCC Highways update which will be given at the next village hall meeting in April 2024.

Cllr Hooper – Another litter-picking visit on the permissive footpath. Rubbish continues to be a problem. A new treatment has been added to the Back Lane Pond pampas grass see if this works.

Cllr Bradford – ongoing social media updates. Attendance at the Communications meeting.

209/24: EVENTS

a) To receive an update and consider any proposals about planned village events.

Consideration was given to certain factors concerning the use of Toilets for village events. It was AGREED, event organisers should be directed to seek professional advice in line with the health and safety guidance issued for organising events. For example, any organisation supplying portable

toilets should be in a position to give further information. Communication for toilet provision should also be provided by the organisers. Requests for extending the opening hours of the village toilets should be sent to Great Yarmouth Borough Council directly.

210/24: PROJECTS

a) SMEE – update from Steve (previously circulated)

In addition to tasks on the Smees, there are a couple of other wildlife areas in the village that we sometimes do some raking on St Mary's Churchyard and the Dissenters Graveyard. The wet weather at the end of last year meant that we could not cut and rake these areas. So, there is going to be a spring cut instead on Wednesday this week on Thursday morning 21 March, to help rake up the cuttings and remove them. Start at 10 am and meet in the car park at St Mary's Churchyard - the car park is roped off but there is plenty of parking on Black Street. I look forward to seeing any of you who can help.

b) Speed Awareness Group

Cllr Fossey gave a verbal update. The group need a Deputy volunteer to support the current members and more volunteers are required.

211/24: PLANNING

a) Great Yarmouth Borough Council – consideration was given to applications and decisions received from [GYBC](#)

06/23/0706/F: Demolition of existing bungalow and detached garage and replacement with a new 5-bedroom chalet style house with integral garage. Location: Aranma, 48 Black Street, Martham, Great Yarmouth, NR29 4PN.

Council comments: No objection

b) Great Yarmouth - Preliminary consultation on potential Community Infrastructure Levy rates

Consultation period - 13 March to 8 May 2024.

Great Yarmouth Borough Council is preparing a new Local Plan to replace the existing Core Strategy and Local Plan Part 2. As part of the preparation of the plan, the Council is considering whether to introduce a community infrastructure levy. As such alongside the consultation on the First Draft Local Plan, the Council is consulting on potential rates of Community Infrastructure Levy. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a levy that local authorities can introduce to require developers to make financial contributions towards the provision of infrastructure to support new development.

It was introduced in 2010 as the Government's preferred approach for local planning authorities to secure contributions from developers. Most development has some impact on the need for infrastructure and services or benefits from them. CIL helps ensure the infrastructure that is needed to make development acceptable is funded and delivered.

We would welcome your feedback on whether the rates proposed are appropriate.

The consultation can be viewed at:

[Current planning consultations - Great Yarmouth Borough Council \(great-yarmouth.gov.uk\)](https://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk)

[Current Local Plan - Great Yarmouth Borough Council \(great-yarmouth.gov.uk\)](http://great-yarmouth.gov.uk)

Comments can be made by using the interactive document available at the above link or you can email a response to localplan@great-yarmouth.gov.uk. Please ensure all comments are received by midnight on 8th May 2024.

- c) Broads Authority applications – to consider applications and decisions received. None
- d) Norfolk County Council - to consider applications and decisions received. None

212/24: VILLAGE MATTERS

10.1 To consider any matters or requests raised in relation to the village.

213/24: SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN MEETING

a) A verbal update was received. The priorities set included a focus on speeding in the rural villages. The Police have confirmed use of the Martham Community Centre for their next SNAP Meeting on Thursday 13 June 2024 from 18:30 hrs to 21:00 hrs. (The meeting is planned to start at 19:00 hrs).

214/24: FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) It was AGREED to receive income, bank balance and reconciliations to 31 March next month.
- b) Expenditure payments of £4,568.64 presented were AGREED.

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Staffing	PENS/NI/HMRC/SALS	£3,386.14
Rodney Scott Gardening	Litter Picking/Hedge Cutting	£228.70
EKS	Litter Picking	£342.04
Plan Communications	Mobile Phone	£45.00
BT	Office Phone	£64.74
URM	Recycling costs	£79.49
Norse	Bin Rental and Empty	£6.00
Parish Clerk	Resources and Webhost	£84.00
Konica Minolta	Printing	£26.39
Flogas	Utilities	£306.14
		<u>£4,568.64</u>

214/24: ADMINISTRATION

13.1 To consider or note any items raised within the month. None

215/24: NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING – Wednesday 17 April 2024

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Chairman.....

Date.....