

BRINTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

DATE: Thursday 25th July 2024
TIME: 6.15pm
PLACE: Sharrington Village Hall
PRESENT: Cllr D. Hyslop (Chair), Cllr. S. Gray, Cllr. R. Hyslop
IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. L. Jennings (Clerk)
 District Cllr. Andrew Brown
 6 members of the public

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 6.15pm who welcomed everyone.

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
 Apologies were accepted from Cllr O’Kane and County Councillor Dalby
2. **Declarations of interest and any dispensations of disclosable pecuniary interests**
 None

The meeting closed for Public Participation

3. **Public questions, comments or representations**
 1. A Sharrington resident felt that the question of whether to change the name of Brinton Parish Council should be called Sharrington and Brinton Parish Council. His reasoning was that Sharrington was the larger Parish and historically more important. it has the greater population, and that the Parish Council meetings are held in Sharrington Village Hall. A Brinton resident suggested that the Council name should be alphabetical i.e. Brinton and Sharrington. He also reported that Lower Hall Lane was in a poor state of repair with damaged road surface, verges crumbling into ditches, overgrown verges and grass growing up the middle of the road. Suggested there should be a weight restriction on this road with access to residents only. It was suggested that the Milestone should be lifted onto a plinth and his understanding was that it was Highways responsibility. It was also reported that two signs have been removed from the A148 and that there is a field full of Ragwort on A148 near the Crawfish at Thursford. A parishioner endorsed thanking Steve White for his many years of service. The Parish Council was also thanked for its work.

On the proposition of Cllr R. Hyslop, seconded by Cllr S. Gray the meeting reopened.

4. **Discussion towards Co-Option**
 Following a discussion, Councillors decided to continue to talk to Parishioners to hopefully get more interest and not co-opt at the moment. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.
5. **Approval of Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting of 14th May 2024**
 Proposed by Cllr Hyslop, seconded by Cllr Gray, approved and signed by the Chair.

6. Matters arising from those Minutes

6.1 The Milestone. The Chair reported That Norfolk County Council (NCC) did not have funding but were prepared to discuss how they could assist. They suggested in the first instance the matter should be taken up with our County Councillor. The Clerk will write to the Milestone Society and to County Councillor Dalby and also speak to Cllr O’Kane to determine the next steps.

6.2 Jubilee Corner and highways issues. A resident had previously asked if the Alexander cut had happened, this was completed late spring. Cllr O’Kane sent a report that Jubilee Corner flooding work has been carried out by landowners which appears to have relieved the problem. Also, Highways recently carried out work to reduce the build up of vegetation around the entrance of the road culvert (Old Chapel, The Street). The Clerk has written to the Highways Engineer regarding the finger posts but has heard nothing to date. Lower Hall Lane Sharrington issue with overgrown vegetation has been reported and photos sent. No further information received on state of Thornage Rd. Agreed Clerk would follow up on these matter.

7. Reports

To receive reports from County Councillor and District Councillor

County Cllr. Michael Dalby – no report received.

District Councillor Andrew Brown reported that County Council elections are to be held next year. Brinton and Sharrington will move into the Holt division with Stody, Saxthorpe, Briston and south Holt.

The new MP for North Norfolk is Steffan Aquarone who won the seat at the first attempt.

Benjamin Court in Cromer has been ‘Called in’ by the Council for not being compliant. The application had not gone out to public consultation.

The Local Plan – the Inspector had made his decision on what was good or bad. The housing numbers are not sufficient in the plan, North Norfolk District Council (NNDC) have offered to build 480 each year but the Inspector wants 557. NNDC have stated that further to the 2016 Census numbers in the district have gone down so fewer houses will be needed. The Local Plan is scheduled to be adopted in the Spring of 2025 with two more six-week consultations to come.

Wells-Next-The-Sea have now completed their Neighbourhood Plan

[Nutrient Neutrality](#) (click on the link for more information). Any resident who has a failing or antiquated septic tank can apply for help to replace it from [Norfolk Environmental Credits Ltd](#). If anyone would like further information on the above please contact District Councillor Andrew Brown. Regarding the enforcement matter on the A148 raised by a resident Cllr Brown informed the meeting that the applicant had gone to appeal the decision.

8. Planning

8.1 To discuss and make observations on any applications received after the date of this Agenda

PF/24/0619 Alteration and extension of attached garage and studio to facilitate conversion to habitable space to 1 The Street, Sharrington, NR24 2AB. The Parish Council offered no objection to the revised plans providing that the bricks, flintwork, windows and tiles match those of the existing property. They hope that compatible bricks, tiles and flints could be sourced to make any shortfall. The Parish Council feels that the revised plans for the extension are more compatible with the existing structure. The fenestration, provided it matches the existing property, also sits more comfortably with the existing house.

The Parish Council thanked the Conservation Department for their considered response, advice and recommendations and the owners of the property for their willingness to take on board the offered suggestions and amendments.

8.2 To receive update on other applications

PF/24/0388 – Installation of solar panels on roof of detached garage to The Village Hall, The Street, Sharrington NR24 2AB. This application is approved.

8.3 To consider any Enforcement Matters

The Clerk has written to the Enforcement Officer with regard to Knockovoe, New Road. The Officer is on Annual Leave and will respond on his return.

9. Finance and Regulatory

9.1 To receive balance sheet and report on bank reconciliation

The report was duly circulated before the meeting and approved by the Chair.

9.2 To approve payments

It was proposed and resolved to approve the following payments. The cheques would be signed after closure of the meeting:

9.2a) Printer ink purchase by R. Hyslop for Parish Council work - £51.98

9.2b) Sharrington Village Hall – Hire of Hall (April-May 2024) - £80.00

9.2c) NALC postage for Good Councillors Guide - £2.40

9.2d) NALC Payroll services 2024/25 – 1 employee for 9 months - £86.40

9.2e) Clerk attending the NPTS Autumn Seminar at a cost of £56 on 18th October 2024.

9.2f) Donation to the Local Lynx Paper - £25.

9.2g) Clerks salary and expenses - £748.99

9.2h) Confirmation that Sarah Haydon has agreed to act as Independent Auditor in the absence of a current Brinton Parish Councillor. A letter of thanks will be sent.

10. Policies for adoption and approval

10.1 Draft Biodiversity Policy - on the proposition of Cllr R. Hyslop, seconded by Cllr Gray this Policy is adopted. All in favour.

10.2 Draft Working from Home Policy – this Policy will be added to the next agenda as more work is needed.

10.3 Draft Standing Order's - this Policy will be added to the next agenda as more work is needed.

11. Change of name for Brinton Parish Council

Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk will do more investigation as to what impact this would have on the Parish Council i.e. costs relating to name change for insurance, website, NALC/NPTS. Councillors agreed in principle to a name change.

12. To receive any correspondence

12a) Councillors were notified of the Retirement of Steve White, (NCC) Highway Engineer. His replacement is Chris Purvis.

12b) Raising awareness for Himalayan Balsam. This was noted.

12c) To receive an invitation from (NCC) to bid for the Parish Partnership Scheme 2025/26.

12d) New draft Housing Allocation Scheme – views sought

12e) Safety of Lithium-ion Batteries and e-bikes and e-scooters – Cllrs agreed to support any tightening of the laws.

13. Report on proposed changes to the Hunny Bell PH, Hunworth

The Clerk had attended the Stody with Hunworth Parish Council meeting. Around 80 members of the public were in attendance to hear the proposals by Stody Estates. These were to change the front, main part of the existing pub to a 'Wet Pub' selling drinks only with very limited food, to demolish the central conservatory and to convert the rear barn section to residential. The car park and the adjoining land would be used to build 12 properties. Cllrs agreed that a letter should be written to Stody Estates supporting the residents and Stody Parish Council keeping the pub as a going concern. Cllrs are saddened by the loss of so many local pubs and restaurants and oppose any development of the site.

14. Matters for Information Only or Next Agenda

14.1 Draft Policies:

- I. Standing Orders
- II. Working from Home
- III. Financial Regulations
- IV. Disciplinary and Grievance

14.2 Other Policies and Priority list

14.3 Planning Enforcement – Knockovoe

14.4 Highways matters - updates on Thornage Road, Lower Hall Lane, Finger Posts

14.5 Change of Council name

15. Report on Flood Management Conference held by the Campaign for Rural England (CPRE)

The Chair reported that the conference was well organised and informative with a range of interesting speakers and attendees. The Chair gave a brief resume of some of the topics covered including useful tools to identify causes of flooding, who might be responsible, action plans, how to work in partnership with stakeholders and a useful list of bodies who may be able to help. The Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance brings together all partners and agencies involved in planning for and responding to flooding in Norfolk. The Chair has copies of the slide presentations and literature. The CPRE launched its publication entitled Measure, Monitor, Mitigate, Taking Action to reduce flooding in your local area, A toolkit for Parish Councils.

16. To agree date of next meeting

Agreed the next meeting would be on 26th September 2024 at 6.15pm.

17. TO MOVE THAT PUBLIC AND PRESS BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 1(2) OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

On the proposition of Cllr S Gray, seconded by Cllr R Hyslop moved that the public and press be excluded from the meeting under the provisions of section 1(2) of the public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960.

18. Staff matters were discussed and considered.

19. TO MOVE INTO OPEN SESSION

On the proposition of Cllr S Gray seconded by Cllr R Hyslop resolved the Council moves into Open Session.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.55pm

Signed

Date