

Nettlestead Parish Meeting

7.30 pm Thursday 29th April 2021. Due to Covid-19 Regulations, this Meeting was held by Zoom

Present: Nick Cooper, Fran Cooper, Jeanna McCarthy, Neil McCarthy, Ken Southall.

The Meeting was opened at 7.30pm

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Pat Cullen.

2. Election of Chairman.

Neil McCarthy proposed Nick Cooper. This was seconded by Jeanna McCarthy. There being no other nominations, Nick Cooper was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Meeting.

3. Approval of the Draft Minutes of the Meetings of 25th January 2021.

The Draft Minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Matters Arising from the Meeting of 25th January 2021.

Privacy Policy – on the Agenda.

5. Reports

a. To receive the Chairman's Report.

Copy attached. Members of the Meeting noted the Report.

b. To receive the District Councillor's Report

Not present.

c. To receive the Archivist's Report.

Covid-19 - the lockdown on 20th March 2020 meant all social activity in the parish ceased. There was an increase in walkers and cyclists in the parish, as well as residents working from home.

The rollout of optical fibre broadband to parts of Nettlestead meant increased internet speeds.

A number of willow trees were felled close to Nettlestead Chace, destroying the habitat for willow warblers. The ponds around the Chace were excavated.

Planning permission was granted for a small number of new dwellings at Watering Farm.

d. To receive the Church Report.

A new vicar has been appointed and he will be taking his first service at Nettlestead on 9th May 2021.

A grant has been obtained for the repairs to the Church roof. Work should start later in the year.

Consideration is being given to obtaining a grant for restoration work on the font.

Fundraising events – Covid-19 meant that only two took place - Burns Night at the Duke of Marlborough and the Historic Churches Bike Ride.

6. To receive the Meeting's Financial Report

The Meeting noted the Financial Report. The Meeting also noted that the bank balance figure stated on the Report agreed with the total on the scanned bank statement.

The Meeting unanimously agreed that funding of the restoration of the Church path to be considered at a later Meeting once the work on the roof is completed.

7. To consider Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils Action Plan to improve and strengthen biodiversity (wildlife and plant life).

The Meeting noted this with interest but agreed that it was not appropriate for Nettlestead at this time.

8. To receive an update on Valley Ridge (was SnOasis).

The Chairman updated the Meeting on the new ownership of the site. They are holding public consultations by Zoom. There will be a new planning application for the site as there are material differences in the new owners' approach to the leisure resort. A request for an Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Opinion has been received as part of the process.

ACTION: Clerk to send out a link to the EIA Scoping Opinion Request on BMSDC's website.

The meeting discussed the following areas of special interest to Nettlestead:

Emergency escape route from the site.

Fencing of the site - what will it be like.

Plans for the newt ponds.

Possible reinstatement of footpaths across the site.

The Chairman asked that any comments on be directed to him by 12th May (and copied to the Clerk) and he would make a submission on behalf of the Meeting.

9. To approve the Meeting's Draft Privacy Policy.

Neil McCarthy proposed that the Draft Privacy Policy be approved. This was seconded by Ken Southall and unanimously agreed.

ACTION: Clerk and Chairman to add a line to their email signatures to state that the Privacy Policy is available on request.

10. AOB

A resident remarked on the age range of those who regularly attend meetings and wondered how the Meeting could get younger residents involved. The Chairman asked people to think about this and let him know of any suggestions.

Neil McCarthy thanked the Chairman and Clerk for all their work for the Meeting.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.25 pm with thanks to everyone who had attended.

Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.



Chairman Nettlestead Parish Meeting

Date: 24th January 2022

