

Minutes of Nettlestead Parish Meeting

7.30 pm Wednesday 30th May 2024 at Nettlestead Church

Present: Nick Cooper (Chairman), Fran Cooper (FC), Jeanna McCarthy (JM), Neil McCarthy (NM), Mark Oliver (MO), Frances Gilmour (FG), Ken Southall (KS), Dan Fournier (DF), Sarah Fournier (SF) and Emma Evans (EE).

District Councillor Adrienne Marriott
County Councillor Kay Oakes

The Meeting was opened at 7.30pm.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Sue Southall, John Pratt and Anne Pratt.

2. Election of Chairman.

The Clerk asked for nominations for the office of Chairman of the Meeting. NM proposed Nick Cooper. This was seconded by KS and approved unanimously by the Meeting.

3. Approval of the Draft Minutes of the Meeting of 26th June 2023

JM proposed that the Draft Minutes be accepted as a true and correct record of the Meeting. This was seconded by NM and approved unanimously by the Meeting.

4. Matters Arising from the Meeting of 26th June 2023

None.

5. Reports

a. To receive the Chairman's Report.

The Chairman gave his report (copy available on Meeting website).

b. To receive the County Councillor's Report (if present)

Planning - a lot of new electricity generation applications are being received.

Highways - a new contract has been signed.

Cllr Oakes made the Meeting aware of her locality budget and invited applications.

County level Fire Control has returned to Suffolk.

c. To receive the District Councillor's Report (if present)

Two local solar farm applications - Enso at Flowton and EDF at Bramford - have been approved. New rural transport grants and flood recovery support funds have been announced by BMSDC.

Higher council tax rates for empty properties and second homes will be introduced.

BMSDC has formally objected to National Grid's proposals for the new pylon line to Norwich

d. To receive the Church Report

JM reported that the application for funding from Valencia had got through to Stage 3 thanks to hard work from several individuals. Major work is planned for the church and it will be closed for some months. Lady Blakenham has also given financial support to the project. The deadline for starting work this year has been missed because of bats.

The font has been removed from the church for restoration work.

6. To consider any response to the Statutory Consultation 2024 on the Norwich to Tilbury Grid Upgrade Project

The Meeting discussed the damage that overhead power lines and more pylons would do to the rural landscape and felt that their previous objections on these grounds were still valid.

Suffolk, Norfolk and Essex County Councils have written to National Grid demanding that the process is paused to allow for a review of proposals and further consultation. National Grid want everything completed by 2030. This is felt to be unrealistic and the County Councils have been informed that by 2035 it is likely that the cost of the pylon line will be equal to that of putting the line undersea/underground.

The Chairman asked if the Meeting wished to make a strong objection to the existing proposals and echo the County Councils' demand for pausing and reviewing. KS proposed that the Chairman write to National Grid with such an objection. This was seconded by GM and approved unanimously.

ACTION: Chairman.

7. To receive a report from the Chairman on the most recent communications between the Meeting and Barclays bank.

The Chairman gave an update on the difficulties that the Meeting had experienced with Barclays. These appear to be resolved at present, although they have not yet actioned the Meeting's request to send letters, statements etc to the Clerk. However, it will be important for the Meeting to respond promptly to any further requests for information.

8. Finance

a. To approve the Meeting's 2023/2024 accounts. NM proposed that the Meeting approve the 2023/2034 accounts. This was seconded by FC and approved unanimously.

b. To note the Internal Audit Report 2023/2024

The Meeting noted this.

c. To approve the Annual Governance and Audit Return for 2023/2024

Section 1: Annual Governance Statement for 2023/2024

JM proposed that the Meeting approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2023/2024. This was seconded by EE and approved unanimously by the Meeting.

d. To approve the Annual Governance and Audit Return for 2023/2024

Section 2: Accounting Statement 2023/2024.

NM proposed that the Meeting approve the Accounting Statement 2023/2024. This was seconded by JM and approved unanimously by the Meeting.

e. To approve the issuing of a Certificate of Exemption from External Audit for 2023/2024.

KS proposed that the Meeting approve the issuing of a Certificate of Exemption from External Audit for 2023/2024. This was seconded by FC and approved unanimously by the Meeting.

f. To approve the reappointment of SALC as internal auditors for 2024/2025.

The meeting agreed that the internal audit had been thorough and helpful. JM proposed that SALC be reappointed as internal auditors for 2024/2025. This was seconded by NM and agreed unanimously by the Meeting.

g. To receive the Meeting's Financial Report and to approve any payments to be made.

The Meeting noted the Financial Report, including the scan of the most recent bank statement that had been emailed out and verified the balance figure stated in the Financial Report. The Chairman signed the Financial Report to confirm this.

9. Planning

To consider any response to the following applications:

a.DC/24/01853

Address: Coach House High Hall Road Nettlestead Suffolk IP8 4QT

Proposal: Application under S73a for Removal or Variation of a Condition following grant of Planning Permission 3295/16 dated 14.09.2016 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) - Conversion, alterations and extension of studio/garage to form 1no. dwelling - To vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents).

A resident raised the issue of a boundary dispute which BMSDC Planning are aware of.

The Meeting unanimously agreed that they had no objection to the application.

b.DC/24/01872

Address: Coach House High Hall Road Nettlestead Suffolk IP8 4QT

Proposal: Application under Section 19 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for Listed Building Consent 3296/16 dated 14.09.2016 - Conversion, alterations and extension of studio/garage to form 1no.dwelling -To vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents).

The Meeting unanimously agreed that they had no objection to the application.

10. To receive any comments on the Meeting's website.

The Meeting unanimously agreed to pass on their thanks to Adam Cotterell for giving permission to use his photo of the church on the website.

11. AOB

The Meeting noted that the junction white lines at Westley Green are faded and there have been several near misses.

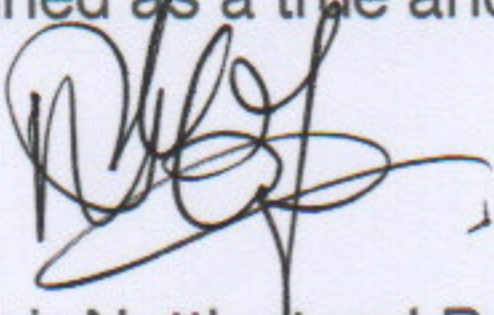
There is no news on about the Valley Ridge site.

A resident reported that they had put up five notices about littering/fly tipping Four of these have disappeared. The Chairman noted this and said that it should be recorded how disappointing this is. The Meeting unanimously agreed.

NM expressed thanks on behalf of the Meeting for all the Chairman and Clerk's hard work.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.02 pm with thanks to all who attended.

Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting



Chair Nettlestead Parish Meeting

Date:

13-11-24