

## Annual Parish Meeting 2019

Minutes of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR HIGH KELLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019** in the Constance Gray Room at the Village Hall, High Kelling, commencing at 7.00 pm

Councillors Present: – Robin Johnson, David Carter, Gordon Lane, John Mangan, Gordon Lane, Jan Kemp and Patrick Kelly.

Clerk: – Harry Marks – Present Public: – 6

1. The outgoing Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Administrative:**

1. *To receive* apologies for absence.

2. *To receive* declarations of interest in relation to any item on the agenda. There were no declarations of interest.

3. *To receive & approve* the minutes – The full council meeting held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were approved and signed as a true record.

4. Two representatives from the NNDC planning department (Sarah Ashurst and Philip Rawson) gave a presentation on the current planning legislation and how it had an impact on decisions made at Parish council and public levels. The council asked for certain clarification between national and local planning guidelines, especially relating to the Warren Barnes application and outcome. An item was raised regarding dialogue with developers and sought their response. The Chief Planning officer supported the idea but agreed that they would remain 'open-minded' to any application. The current chair thanked them for an interesting talk.

5. **Public participation.**

Members of the public present asked questions regarding the Warren Barnes proposed development. They also raised concerns that current developers working in the village were not adhering to safety rules and were putting residents at risk.

6. **To receive the Parish report**

The current chairman stated "I began my report last year saying some things change and others remain the same. This year some things have changed and others remain the same!

Harry Marks has proved to be an able and cheerfully supportive clerk. He has with determination attended courses to learn the technical side of being clerk to a Parish Council and I thank him for all he has been doing.

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Sarah Butikofer as our County Councillor has again been very supportive during the year. She has attended most of our Parish Council Meetings and has kept us well informed of the goings on at County Hall and the problems that are faced – mostly financial. Sarah has also implemented her promise last year to provide a SAM2 device to show motorists their true speed and this is shared with a number of other Parishes – and pops up on a pole in our patch from time to time.

David Young has served us well as our District Councillor and (like Sarah) has attended almost all of our Meetings and has provided us with a very

full report of the goings on at Cromer. Due to reorganisation of boundaries, High Kelling now shares 2 District Councillors with Holt and Letheringsett and David has taken this opportunity to retire. We are sad to lose him and thank him – and wish him well.

We look forward to working with our new District Councillors, Georgie Perry-Warnes and Duncan Baker.

The personnel of the Council have not altered during the year, but at this year's elections we have had to say farewell to Bob Prescott and David Knowles, who decided not to offer themselves for re-election. Bob in particular has served as vice-chairman.

Thank you, Bob and David.

This does mean that we presently have 3 vacancies on the Council. One will probably be filled by Val Moss (a technicality resulted in her not being re-elected) but we will have to try to find 2 more to be co-opted.

Business as usual apart from that? Well yes, but there have been some things that need to be mentioned.

We have of course considered all planning applications affecting the village. Many of these were additions or extensions to existing houses and have often been allowed to pass by with 'No Objection'.

There have been 2 Planning applications that we have considered to be especially controversial. One of these relates to conversion of buildings at Warren Farm Barns to residential. We opposed this on several grounds, not least as it is in contravention of both the policies relating to the Area of Outstanding Beauty and the District Council's policies for rural areas – but the District Council permitted the development.

The other is on-going. The bungalow 5 Avenue Road that was the home for decades of Geoff Knights' family was sold to a developer who applied for consent to build up to 3 houses on the site. More than one replacement dwelling is bitterly opposed by many residents. Your Council resolved to oppose the application but this has not yet come to a decision-making meeting in Cromer. Some possible bat droppings were found on the site and matters were put back until this could be investigated further this summer.

Dong Energy's plans (now Ørsted) to construct a huge off-shore wind farm and bring their cables ashore and partly through High Kelling and certainly very close to some Pine Heath

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Road properties are going ahead, though I do not believe that all the legal and government hurdles have yet been overcome. Some Councillors have attended meetings with Ørsted to keep up-to-date with their plans.

The thorny issue of the Wind Turbines proposed for Bodham and Hempstead won't go away. After the NNDC refused planning consent, the owners appealed and won their appeals. NNDC succeeded in getting a Court Order invalidating the appeal decisions, but the Appeals Office are now referring the matter back to another Inspector to redetermine the issue. Efforts were made to have the cases dealt with afresh, but the Department wanted the new inspector to decide the

appeals on the basis of the evidence obtained by the original inspector. In August the District Council decided to take legal action to have the matters dealt with in a second public enquiry – watch this space!

We have been in touch with the County Council's Highways Department on several occasions concerning the condition of roads, footpaths and verges.

Pine heath Care Home after it closed was due to be up for auction some time ago but was withdrawn prior. It has been empty for a long time now and we have been concerned about the future of this and presently have no definite information.

At our November Meeting we set our Precept for 2019-2020 at £6,000 – the same as the previous year.

I apologise for anything I have forgotten! But just to say that I have been pleased to serve as Chair to the Parish Council for some years and wish my successor – whoever that may be the very best.

Further more detailed information on the activities of your Council will be found in the Minutes of the various Meetings, which are all available on the Council's website.

7. **To receive any other community group reports.:**

The was an item under this item but the Chair decided to move it to the next meeting.

MEETING CLOSED 8.57pm