



RUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Reading Room, East Runton Cromer NR27 9PE. Tel: 01263 512214

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Minutes of a Meeting held by the above on Tuesday 24th September 2024 at East Runton Reading Room. Commencing at 7:15pm

Present: Councillors: Ms. C. Davidson (Chair. Mr. S. Gurney (Vice-Chair. Mr. R. Annis, Mr. K. Jonas, Mr. C. Hawkins, Ms. A. Debacker, Ms. T. Edwards, Ms. C. Rennison, Mrs. B. Memish, Mr. M. Lerego, Mr. P. Nichols.
The Clerk Ms. B. Emery. Cllr. K. Toye (NNDC)

24/139. To agree open session for parishioners/guest speakers. Agreed.

The Chair explained that items could not be discussed unless they were on the agenda, but concerns would be listened to and noted.

A spokesman for the Lugger Stile allotment tenants spoke out on behalf of some tenants concerned that allotments were becoming more of a commodity than being rented to support the people.

Communication face to face would be helpful and a gentler approach taken over plots which are a little overgrown before any drastic action is taken.

Owners of the Beach Café in West Runton spoke about their concern for the toilet facility on The Gap being closed if no one will take it from District Council which will exclude the many schools etc who visit the beach.

A parishioner wishing to apply for the co-option told the meeting about himself. The Chair explained that the co-option would take place at the next meeting.

A parishioner had a complaint about issues in the village which is out of the control of the parish council and not an issue that can be dealt with.

Cllr. Kim Toye for NNDC then gave her report and was in favour of keeping the toilet facility spoken of above. Cllr. Annis asked if the situation regarding the temporary “tent” building at the Links Hotel is being resolved soon as it should have been removed by now. Cllr. Debacker asked why communication especially about the “WR toilets etc” were delivered so late.

24/140. To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllr. Eric Vardy NCC

24/141. To receive any declarations of interest in forthcoming

items. None declared. The Clerk then clarified exactly what the above means and explained that if something discussed on the agenda could be seen by a member of the public as being of an interest to any councillor, that is if it could benefit a councillor in any way either pecuniary or personal, it must be declared. If in any doubt then it’s better to declare than not.

24/142. To agree as correct the minutes of meeting held 23rd July 2024.

Having been circulated beforehand the above minutes were agreed as a true record. Proposed SG seconded RA and signed by the Chair.

24/143. Matters arising for information only.

Chair suggested that the idea for a drone photograph of Lugger Stile plots be placed on the October agenda. Also regarding the RoSPA report and recommendations that councillors had all been furnished with asked that it be placed on the October agenda for discussion.

24/144. Clerk’s report for information only.

Still trying to get the SAMS returned and will put it on the agenda for discussion at to what is to be done with it. It has not proved a success as there is no response from the police when they are sent the report and it is difficult to find a person willing to monitor and move the apparatus. Also the clerk asked if anyone would like the Good Councillor Guide which had been circulated by email, to

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be printed for ease of use. Twelve copies would cost £95.00. There were no takers, but a suggestion of some for keeping at the office. The Chair asked if anyone want a copy to indicate. None. Suggested five.

Negotiations ongoing with Hazelbury review.

National trust are registering one of their footpaths above Renwick Park. Finally, NCC highways have sent a letter to request that we consider taking on the cutting of verges. Agenda for October. The Clerk was asked to chase up Highways to find out how the WR speed changes were going.

24/145. **Planning**

To consider applications; The following were presented to the meeting or had been circulated.

PF/24/1680 Constantia Building, alterations

LA/24/1160 Inleborough Ho. Replacement windows

PA/24/1863 Sea Acres, Mill Lane Solar panels.

PF/24/1656 Pinebank WR. Rear extension,

PF/24/1732 The Ivies ER. Extension.

PF/24/1791 Tarver ER. Extension

Refusal for 106, Cromer Rd WR.

Bernies club and bar, outline planning for changes.

Members had no objection to all above, having perused them beforehand.

24/146. **To discuss the co-option date and consider a co-option policy circulated.**

The Clerk explained the policy which had been circulated. Cllr. Gurney suggested that the policy should be reviewed every two years. Agreed. The Clerk had also generated a form and it was agreed to accept this for use also to formalise the process. Co-option 22nd October meeting.

24/147.. **Commons to discuss contractors for commons cutting for 2025 season.**

Chair suggest a commons committee meeting to bring to the October meeting. Agreed.

24/148. **Playing field contractor to discuss cutting contractor for 2025 season**, whether same as commons or separate from. The Clerk explained that the field had been cut within the commons contract and because it was needed for the football club the local business man Mr. Stairs had arranged for it to be cut by his contractor and was to be thanked. There may be a price from the contractor for the field for the future. It was agreed that the Clerk would sort out the cutting for the last cut.

24/149. **Footpaths. To consider taking on newly registered footpaths in the parish. Maps etc had been circulated.**

The allocated footpath “walkers” were asked to report at the next meeting.

The Clerk had shared information about the possibility of taking on the newly registered footpaths and that some help was offered. Explained that a Service Delegation Agreement could be taken on to help with cost of cutting all footpaths. Deferred. Agenda October.

24/150. **To discuss the future of West Runton gap toilet facility letters have been circulated to councillors.**

Some discussion took place about the situation and NNDC had suggested two dates for meetings.

The Chair reported that at the cabinet meeting (NNDC) it was put forward that the toilets could be transferred to another body. Cllr. Kim Toye reported that it could be offered to the Parish Council, but this has not yet been offered by NNDC. It was understood that the District Council want to offload this particular building. The concern was that hundreds of children and groups use the beach because of the mammoth bones find which is of international interest and without the facility a massive amount of schools, groups, outward bound centres and families will be unable to visit and the blue flag would also be lost as would the lifeguards.

Chair suggested a working group to meet with District council. The dates would be decided in collaboration with NNDC.

The group allocated consisted of Cllr. Davidson, Cllr. Rennison, Cllr. Nichols and Cllr. Annis.

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24/151. Allotments

- i. to hear report on activities and request for budget arising from meeting on 29th Sept. The budget has not been decided on going forward but will bring figures to the next meeting.
- ii. to ratify acceptance of estimate for work on Moyes Close of £1500 to clear large and dangerous trees etc. Work to be done 10th October. Accepted and ratified estimate.
- iii. to hear report on Wyndham Park latest meeting with tenants held 3rd sept 2024. A meeting was held with tenants and produced favourable results and a document outlining future work was produced and sent to tenants and prospective tenants in addition . Some plot numbering has taken place at Lugger Stile.

24/152. Finance

The report from the External Auditor was that all accounts were consistent with proper practices and no matters had come to attention which needed rectifying.

The Chair asked if any payment had come from the Battery Box lease/land. The Clerk had not received any contact since the lease was signed.

Receipts:

Cheque 090622 for allotment rent	£25.00
Wayleave cheque for electricity sub station	£100.00

August Payments agreed

Tax and NI 3 months April May June	£1,022.11
Donation	£300.00
Reading Room water	£37.76
Waste and dog bin emptying WR	£1,350.90
Waste and dog bin emptying ER	£1,907.10
Grasscuts commons- footpaths	£490.00
West Runton commons cut	£162.00
Office electricity	£86.82
	£5,356.69

September Payments agreed

For ratifying.

Street lighting electricity	£87.66
Allotments water on various sites	£132.46
Salary and any reimbursements	£1,198.73
Repair to lamp Station Rd WR	£348.48
External audit fee	£378.00
Commons and footpath WP	£240.00
Hazelbury review	£1,200.00
Street lighting maintenance oct-nov-dec	£48.28
grass cutting at £40 per hour	£336.00
Salary and any reimbursements	£1,202.78
Broadband electricity etc	£124.03
Runton church donation	£700.00

The Clerk suggested that £8000 be transferred from the capital account to the current account to offset the money sent to Highways for the initial work to further the West Runton speed reduction. This was proposed by the Chair and agreed by all.

24/153. **To agree a donation towards the maintenance of Holy Trinity Church West Runton** graveyard. requested £700 at the previous meeting on their behalf. Cllr. Jonas proposed that it should be paid as it has always been supported. Seconded by Cllr. Memish. Agreed by all.

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24/154. To consider a request for funding for Runton volunteer group

Chair explained that the volunteer group is very successful and some safety equipment is necessary. Many people are using strimmers etc and tools. Items needed: a first aid kit, twenty safety goggles and twenty high vis jackets would amount to approximately £250.00. Mr. Hipkin of the Beach Café offered to donate the amount to cover those costs as they would like to support the community. Chair thanked Mr Hipkin and it was accepted gratefully. Cllr. Nichols informed that petrol needed to be reimbursed. The Clerk would do this when sent a bill by the operator.

24/155. To respond to a request to support the re-opening of Benjamin Court. Other councils have written letters of support. It was agreed that this was a much needed facility and a letter would be written by the Clerk.

24/156. To discuss ownership of East Runton village hall

Discussion took place and there was concern that ownership was in doubt since the land had been registered. Cllr. Lerego has investigated the situation and is concerned that the Hall may now belong to the Parish Council as it's incorporated within the land. Cllr. Hawkins reported that the hall has always been owned and operated by the Village Hall Committee without involvement from the Parish Council and insures the property. The Clerk confirmed that the land was registered by our solicitor. The Clerk was asked to contact our solicitor to get clarification of ownership. This was agreed.

24/157. Members reports - for information only or items for next meeting.

The Chair reminded members that this is for reports only and not for discussion.

Cllr. Edwards brought up the subject of notice boards which had been discussed before but not finalised in decision. Agenda October.

Cllr. Annis had been in contact with David Mack of the company concerned with possible housing on the Kraft Land. An application was likely to be submitted within the next month or so. Mr. Mack would come to a meeting to answer questions if it was wished. Cllr. Annis would pursue this.

24/158. To agree closure to the public on the grounds of this item being prejudicial to public interest at the moment.

To consider initially a request for purchase of a small parcel of land owned by the parish council behind the village hall. Information had been circulated with agenda.

This was discussed and it was decided that the request would be rejected.

24/159. Confirmation of date time and place of next meeting. Confirmed as below.

To be held on October 22nd 2024 at West Runton Church hall commencing at 7:15pm.

Signed

Chair Date.