

MARLINGFORD & COLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Colton Village Hall, 12th November 2024 at 7pm

Minutes

John Morse	JM	Chairman
David Woods	DW	
Debbie Perfect	DP	
Mark Pfeiffer	MP	
Maria Hutson	MH	Parish Clerk

Margaret Dewsbury, District and County Councillor

- To consider accepting apologies for absence*
None
- To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations*
None
- To consider co-opting a Councillor*
None at this time
- To agree the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th September 2024*
DP proposed and DW seconded that they are a true record
- Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from the public*
Reports have been circulated by Cllr Dewsbury she added the following key points;
58 gritters have now been upgraded with sensors to grit more effectively.
From 18th November it will be necessary to book a slot at recycling sessions
- Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting*
None
- Any time limited correspondence – for information only*
Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan – publication of proposed main modifications and additional modifications
Annual Street Count South Norfolk 2024
South Norfolk design code – 2nd public consultation
These were noted and a nil return to be made for the Annual Street Count
- To receive and consider the Tree Survey report and what action needs to be taken.*
A report has been received from Norfolk Trees which had been circulated.
There was a discussion on what needs doing and what work needs priority as per the report.
MP to meet with a tree surgeon next week for a quote. Norfolk Trees has been approached for a quote for the work and other companies were also suggested which will be investigated.
- To consider any training needs of Councillors*
None at this time

10. *To receive an update on footpath issues and consider any issues that have arisen*
 A concern has been raised regarding the accessibility of footpaths in the village by a resident. DP has been looking into the condition of the paths and the work that would need to be done to make them accessible. The number of kissing gates and the bridge crossings would make this both practically and financially a very significant project. If access was granted through a padlocked gate by the landowner giving the lock code to the resident who uses a wheelchair this would allow additional access along one of the paths. **MH to get more information from DP and contact the landowner.**

11. *To receive an update on the Marlingford amenity area and conservation area and consider what repairs need to be undertaken*
 MP stated that there are 4 gates at Marlingford Amenity Area. The play area/amenity area gate has broken with unrestricted access between the two areas. Another gate onto the road is deteriorating with the other 2 gates rotting. **Quotations from multiple sources will be sought for this work.**

12. *Consideration of a gov.uk website with Parish Online*
 This was discussed and it was agreed to pursue moving to a gov.uk website with Parish Online and to be included in the 2025/26 budget. **MH to contact Parish Online.**

13. *To receive an update on Defib funding and consider other funding streams*
 MH updated that the funding application to the National Lottery had been unsuccessful. Other funding has been investigated but there seems no funding available at the moment for replacement machines. MH has spoken with London Hearts and have advised that as the machines have recently had new batteries. It was decided to continuing maintaining the machines and look to replace then when the batteries expire (2 – 3 years). Provision to be made in the budget for a “sinking fund” to replace the machines and cabinets at a approximate cost of £1000 for each.
JM to speak with local doctor regarding possible first aid /CPR training for interested local residents. MH to continue to look for funding for both the Defibs and first aid/CPR training

14. *Planning*
- a) *Any received after the publication of the agenda*
None
 - b) [2024/0885 | Retention of 1 additional caravan on existing plot to make a total of 3 caravans of which no more than one will be a mobile home | Mobile Home West Of Cobweb Cottage Norwich Road Colton Norfolk NR9 5BX](#)
Comments expressing an objection were lodged.
 - c) *To hear of any planning decisions made by South Norfolk Council*
None

15. *Financial matters*

a) *To authorise payments for November 2024*

Clerk, November Salary and Expenses & Back pay	£442.02
HMRC, PAYE month 8	£20.20
Norfolk Pension fund, November 23	£131.22
Community Heartbeat Trust	£146.34
Norfolk Trees, Tree Survey	£660.00
NPTS, Planning Training x 4	£208.00

These were agreed and will be authorised on the banking

b) *To note payments made since the last meeting*

Clerk Salary and Expenses, October 2024	£381.58
Norfolk Pension fund, October	£102.93
Unity Trust, Bank service charge	£5.40
Community Heartbeat Trust	£59.94

These were noted

c) *To note the annual salary uplift of the clerk*
This was noted

d) *To note receipts received*
None

e) *To receive the 2nd quarter accounts*
This was noted

f) *To discuss a draft Reserve Policy*
JM proposed and DW seconded policy, all in agreement. It was discussed and agreed that it would not be possible to meet the required level of reserves in 25/26 but that provision will be made over the next few years to meet the level stated.

g) *To consider the draft budget and set the precept for 2025/26*
MP proposed, DP seconded and all in agreement to proposed budget and set the precept at £18,490. This includes the Clerk being employed for 7 hours a week from April.
It was decided that the agreed budget and precept would be formally presented to the residents at the next meeting, residents will be encouraged to attend

16. *To receive any questions to be asked at the Town and Parish Council Submit on 13th November*
None

17. *To set the meeting dates for 2025*
These were agreed

18. *To invite submissions for any items for inclusion on the next agenda*
Precept presentation to residents

19. *To confirm that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 14th January, 7pm, Colton Village Hall*

Meeting closed at 20:54