

**Minutes of the Meeting of Tunstead and Sco-Ruston Parish Council held at the Horse & Groom
on Tuesday 30th July 2024 at 7:30pm.**

Present: Chris Oakes, Chairman
Rob Hetherington,
Gilly Foulds
Liz Powell
Robert Cole
Neil Coston
Jimmy Miller, Clerk

Also present: Nigel Dixon; four members of the public

1 Public Forum –15 minutes for comments from members of the public

None

2 Report from Nigel Dixon, NNDC

Nigel spoke about the poor response times for ambulances in certain parts of Norfolk and the possibility of promoting the First Responder scheme to assist the ambulance service.

3 Report from Norfolk Constabulary

None.

4 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Place and North.

5 Declarations of interest for items and applications for dispensations

None.

6 To approve minutes of 18th June 2024

Cllr Powell proposed approving the minutes; seconded by Cllr Cole; unanimous decision in favour.

7 To receive and note the Clerk's report

The Clerk's report was noted.

8) Planning

a) Applications received

PF/24/1366

Turners Farm Crowgate Street Tunstead Norwich Norfolk NR12 8RD

Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension to dwelling.

Cllr Foulds proposed that TPC support the application; seconded by Cllr Hetherington; unanimous decision in favour.

b) Applications received since 25th July 2024

None.

(c) Planning decisions

PF/24/0989

11 Laurel Farm Barns Market Street Tunstead Norwich Norfolk NR12 8QY

Construction of detached annexe

APPROVED by NNDC.

NMA/24/1236

Greenways Mill Lane Tunstead Norwich Norfolk NR12 8HP

Non-material amendment of planning permission PF/23/2033 (Two storey side extension, single storey side/rear extension, replacement detached garage, porch and alterations to external appearance of dwelling) to allow minor alterations to size and location of proposed replacement detached garage

APPROVED by NNDC

(d) Planning Decisions received since 25th July 2024

None

9 Correspondence – To consider and respond to the following correspondence:

Correspondence list to be issued

The correspondence list was noted.

10 Finance

a) To note Bank Reconciliation

b) To note Accounts

Cllr Hetherington proposed that TPC accept the bank reconciliation and accounts; seconded by Cllr Powell. Unanimous decision in favour.

c) To approve items for payment:

Payee	Item	Amount
J. Miller	Salary for July 2024	£299.00
J. Miller	Overtime for July 2024	£89.70
J. Miller	Home office July 2024	£10.00
J. Miller	Mileage (meeting July 2024)	£15.30
NNDC	Emptying of dog bins	£887.52

Cllr Coston proposed that the items for payment be approved; Cllr Hetherington seconded; unanimous decision in favour.

d) To approve payment of invoices received since 25th July 2024

There was a BHIB invoice for insurance which was received. Cllr Powell proposed that the invoice be paid; seconded by Cllr Cole; unanimous decision in favour.

11 Removal of polling station from the Parish with no consultation

To contact the Electoral Commission to complain about the removal of polling station and assist TPC in getting the polling station re-opened.

Cllr Hetherington said that the turnout for the general election in 2019 was 351, or a 68% turnout, and for the general election in 2024 the turnout was 280, or a 54% turnout. Cllr Hetherington also said that Rob Henry, the Elections Manager, at NNDC had informed him that they were going to send

out an independent health & safety officer to undertake a health & safety check at the Horse & Groom. Cllr Hetherington said he found this strange since Steve Blatch had not mentioned any health & safety concerns when closing the polling station at the Horse & Groom. Cllr Hetherington said that Rob Henry had said that the independent health & safety officer would be the health & safety officer who is employed at NNDC. Cllr Hetherington said that he went back to Rob Henry for further information and, to date, has not had a response.

Cllr Hetherington said that the changing of the polling station appeared to have been made outside the normal appropriate procedures. Cllr Hetherington said that the chief executive of NNDC made a decision of his own accord without consulting anyone and then came to the TPC meeting in July to try to justify the decision, which he couldn't.

Cllr Hetherington suggested that if no review, TPC should ask for a review and also ask who gave the legal authority for this decision to be made.

He also said that TPC can also go to the Electoral Commission and appeal against the decision that was made.

Cllr Hetherington proposed that TPC lodge an appeal regarding the closure of the polling station to the chief executive and the monitoring officer of NNDC; seconded by Cllr Foulds; unanimous decision in favour.

Cllr Hetherington proposed that TPC put in an appeal with Electoral Commission; Cllr Cole seconded; majority vote in favour with one abstention.

The Clerk will also get some advice from Norfolk ALC on this issue.

12 Caravan in back garden of Manor Close

A discussion took place regarding the caravan which has been placed in the back garden of a property on Manor Close. In the discussion, it was mentioned that the caravan needs planning permission plus a licence for someone to live in it. However, at the end of this discussion, it was concluded that this is now with NNDC so TPC will wait until they are consulted as a statutory consultee on the matter.

13 War memorial

The war memorial was discussed, in relation to adding the six fallen from Sco Ruston. This had already been agreed previously and everything is now ready for the names to be added.

14 Grass cutting near pavements and public rights of way

The Clerk said that he had reported the path along Market Street and the public rights of way in Tunstead. Cllr Foulds said that the quality of cutting along Market Street was poor and that the grass was tickled rather than cut.

She said that the footpath down to Crowgate has been cut by farmer but the hedge covers the footpath completely in places making the footpath inaccessible.

The Clerk said that he has reported all public rights of way in Tunstead to NCC and asked them to look at all of them and contact landowners as required.

Cllr Hetherington said that the paved footpath near the level crossing on Market Street had lots of brambles etc coming off private land. The Clerk will report this to Highways.

15 Flooding

Cllr Foulds met with the Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance, Anglian Water and other drainage agencies to discuss areas of flooding within the parish. They looked at areas of flooding within Tunstead. One particular area is foul water drainage. One of the main concerns they have is that the foul water drainage in Tunstead is being overwhelmed by surface water when heavy rain occurs. The foul water drainage system in Tunstead is going to be improved with the aim of avoiding surface water going into the system. This should improve drainage in Tunstead. Therefore the pumping station should be able to cope better without having to deal with surface water as well as foul water..

Cllr Foulds asked whether TPC could write to landowners in the Parish thanking them for the riparian works they have undertaken to help drainage in the Parish. The Clerk said that, upon receipt of landowners' contact details, he will write to them regarding riparian responsibilities and thank them for clearing ditches in the past and their continued clearing of ditches.

The Clerk also offered to put something on the TPC website to inform people of riparian rights and responsibilities.

16 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Hetherington said that the application for further funding has gone in.

17 Agenda items for meeting in September 2024

Cllr Hetherington said that it would be more of the same.

Meeting closed at 9:15pm.

Date of next Parish Council meeting: 17th September 2024