

Minutes of the Rackheath Community Council Meeting Monday 18th March 2024 at 7pm at The Pavilion, Green Lane West, Rackheath, NR13 6LT

Councillors in attendance: Pippa Nurse (Chairman), Brian Gardner (to 20.26), Nicola Kerr, Sharon McKim, Steve Nurse, Fran Whymark (from item 3) and Julie Hunt (from item 6)

Staff: Aileen Beck, Clerk and Gareth Duffin, Projects and Events Officer

Members of the public: 3

- 1. To consider and approve any apologies for absence** None.
- 2. To receive declarations of interest and consider dispensations for items on the agenda** Nicola Kerr declared an interest in matters relating to Crest Nicholson & Rackheath Park. Gareth Duffin also declared an interest in Crest Nicholson (although he has no voting rights)
- 3. To adjourn the meeting for public participation and receive reports from the District & County Councillors**
Fran gave an update from Norfolk County Council: nominations for the Norfolk Rural Business awards open until 19th April 2024, see <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/55315/Norfolk-Rural-Business-Awards>. Norfolk County Council has awarded Norfolk Screen a 2-year contract to represent the county as its official Film Office. The aim is to maximise the potential of the screen sector in the county and provide a coordinated gateway for productions considering filming in Norfolk. Norfolk County Council is working with Homestart Norfolk to deliver a new volunteer peer support service to Norfolk families as part of Norfolk's Start for Life and Family Hub approach, funded through the national Government Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme.
<https://homestartnorfolk.org/>

A member of the public raised concerns about flooding of the land earmarked for the new Health Centre in Plumstead and how it will be affecting existing residents – Fran confirmed that all flood mitigation documents will be available to view via the planning portal on the Broadland District Council website.

Query raised about the cycle path from Sole and Heel, leading onto private driveway – Brian explained this was the showhouse for the development so assumed to be temporary access.

Also reported that the red and white reflectors on pinchpoint at Green Lane West are pointing the wrong way and bollard is missing. Fran confirmed this could be reported direct to Highways for attention
<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/39652/Report-a-problem>

Leaders from Salhouse Scout confirmed that they are looking for a piece of land suitable for a scout hut. Pippa confirmed that council are mindful of their needs.

- 4. To agree and approve the minutes of the Council meeting of 19th February 2024**
The minutes of the RCC meeting held on 19th February were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 5. To report progress on items not on the agenda from the last meeting (Clerk's Report)**
On-site Fire Safety training arranged – attendees to be the Clerk, the Facilities Co-Ordinator, Steve and Fran. Consideration to be given as to whether any regular hirers would benefit from the training.
New defibrillator cabinets received and arrangements being made for them to be fitted.
Woodchip for the trees at Stacey Park to be delivered and spread by volunteers.

3 members of the public arrived, Council agreed to revisit item 3 to allow public participation.

- 6. Stracey Sports Park and the Pavilion**
 - a. To review and agree hire fees for the Sports Park and the Pavilion for 2024/25**
Council agreed to increase fees by 2%. Cost of a football training session to remain at £25.
 - b. To agree football provision for the 2024/25 season**
Interest has been received from several adult football teams who would like to use the facilities.

An application form will be sent to those interested and applications considered after the quoted deadline. Youth provision can then be reviewed and included where possible.

- 7. To receive an update on existing projects from the Projects Officer (to include agreement to incur costs):**
- a. **Newman Road woods and the Liberator Strip:** Provisional budget £2,500 agreed – quote in at £2,225 plus VAT. Lead time approx. 2 to 3 weeks. AGREED
 - b. Grasscutting around Rackheath: two quotes received. Identical specification issued: Garden Guardian appointed at £10,444 plus VAT.
 - c. **Play equipment at Stracey Park and Jubilee Park:** tender exercise for play and out door gym equipment. AGREED to proceed and publish tender. Short time scale to enable review and revision at May meeting. Tender includes equipment for older children. Consider use of benches on level concrete plinths, seating for families and picnics. To be instructed to complete work during term time where possible. Supplier to be responsible for safety during construction.
One quote in for cableway at Jubilee Park – check whether includes wet poor work. Not included in formal tender so other quotes to be obtained and decide best location.
 - d. **Jubilee Park**
 - i. Footpath: ongoing
 - ii. Trees: ongoing
 - iii. Lighting: work to be carried out after 28th May 2024, but awaiting confirmation.
 - e. **Pavilion**
 - i. Hall flooring upgrade: s106 can be used, quote can now be accepted.
 - ii. Car parking and drainage (main, overflow and Stracey Park): one quote in, approached another company to look at the track as well, awaiting response. Will be followed up. Stracey Park re access and existing trees. NCC to clarify whether 4.5m or 8.5m away from tree. Awaiting clarification. Searching for documentation to prove that planning was granted for use of land as a carpark, if none found then permission required. Drop kerb already in place. £950 + VAT plus architect, survey and planning permission fee. Projected costs to be put together and brought back.
 - iii. Bowls Club upgrades: door for safeguarding purposes. £2,100 start 1st week of April. Awaiting costs for outdoor work. Rail and resiting of the bricks to be completed.
- 8. Planning Matters**
- a. **Review and comment on Planning Applications**
 - i. 2024/0535: 36 Luscombe Way Rackheath NR13 6SS. Garage conversion. No objections.
 - ii. 2024/0494: Land Adj Green Lane West Rackheath. Reserved matters submission pursuant to Outline planning permission 20172208. No drainage information available. Objection based upon criteria based upon the Neighbourhood plan.
 - b. **To receive any updates on GT16 following the meeting with Broadland District Council on 14th March 2024:** Nicola reported positive move to all come together. 2.5 hectare site for leisure facility (not necessarily a swimming pool) tbd at a later date. Secondary school to be built when around 1000 houses built. First new school in several decades adding to uncertainty. Expecting pupils from Beeston park and further afield of perhaps 10 coaches a day. Concerns raised about school drop off/collection. If no safe route those closer than 3 miles will be offered transport. Taylor Wimpey wanting to know when facilities are needed, to ensure infrastructure in place, so wanting clarification from NCC re timescales. Wroxham Road issues raised by RCC, NCC expecting traffic to go south. Cycle routes and pathways under review to ensure all joined up together.
List of issues collated by Nicola ready for meeting with Highways that will be rearranged by Fran, working with the neighbouring parishes.
 - c. **To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan review and associated costs.** Few more hours to be billed, remainder of grant will need to be handed back. Apply to Broadland for grant funding of around £3k, Localilty may provide more funding at a later date, but CIL may need to be used in the meantime. Housing Needs assessment agreed, report towards end of May. Design Code has yet to be agreed – it is in discussion. BDC does support RCC taking GT16 into account, advice given that it should cover the entire village so additional costs from CIL may be incurred to do so if BDC won't fund. Agreement signed.

- d. **To receive a report from the multi parish meeting held 21st February 2024:** education of speed limits which affect all parishes.

9. Accounts

- a. The payments for March 2024 were agreed (see appendix).
- b. The receipts totalling £1,526.66 for February 2024 were noted.
- c. The monthly bank reconciliations of £694,839.10 to 29th February 2024 was noted.
- d. **RESOLVED:** An internal auditor from the Norfolk Association of Local Councils was appointed for 2023/2024 at a cost of £250 plus VAT
- e. Existing banking facilities/providers reviewed. Signatories to remain as is currently in place, with two councillors and one member of staff. Clerk to be added to have access to view accounts.

10.To receive correspondence and agree on response (if any)

Noted

The Council RESOLVED that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following item due to its confidential nature:

11.To continue discussions from last month's meeting regarding asset strategies and agree terms of negotiations

Council continued discussions to inform the new clerk of developments.

Meeting closed at 21.47

08/2024