

NEW BUCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11 April 2017 7.00 - 8.10pm in the Village Hall, Moat Lane, New Buckenham

Present: Karen Hobley (Chair), Andrew Bingham, Bella Chirodian, Don Crossman, Mary Dowson, Steve Highton, Mary Manning

Also in attendance: Trevor Wenman (Clerk); District Councillor Adrian Joel
Members of the public – 7

Agenda

1718/1 **Apologies:** There were none

1718/2 **Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14th March 2017, and the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 22 March 2017 be approved as a correct record

1718/3 **Declarations of Interest:** There were none.

1718/4 **Financial Matters**

a) **NPTS and NALC subscriptions**

The Council considered a report from the clerk on the merits of subscribing to either, or both of the Norfolk Association of Local Councils (Norfolk ALC) and Norfolk Parish Training and Support. Members considered that it would be worthwhile, at least in the first year of the new Clerk being in post, for the additional support and discounted training available from NPTS to be available to him and the Councillors. It was also noted that it was wise to continue the Council's membership of Norfolk ALC because of the access it afforded to the National Association (NALC).

Resolved: That the Council agrees to pay the following subscriptions for 2017/18, with a review of the relative value of membership of Norfolk ALC and NPTS being carried out before deciding on subscriptions to either or both organisations in 2018/19:

- a. Norfolk ALC Subscription 2017/18 £127.99
- b. NPTS subscription 2017/18 £125.00

b) **Financial Report for Year to 31 March 2017**

Members noted the following financial report:

wall was needed, which Cllr Bingham agreed to undertake when time permits. There was a need to rectify earlier repairs done with cement mortar, and to look at ways of addressing drainage issues which had led to deterioration. There was also discussion of the advice of Norfolk wildlife trust not to “over manage” closed church yards, but instead to manage them instead to encourage wildlife.

1718/6 Projects:

a. **Street Lighting Project**

The Clerk reported that he had the situation relating to the quotations sought and received for renewing the street lights in the Council’s ownership to bring them up to modern energy efficient standards. In the context of the Council’s financial regulations, it was appropriate to accept the quotation from TT Jones, the Council’s current contractor, as this was effectively a contract “for work to be executed or goods or materials to be supplied which consist of repairs to or parts for existing machinery or equipment or plant;” in accordance with paragraph 11.1 (a) (iii) of the financial regulations.

TT Jones had confirmed that they would honour the quotation they gave in September 2016 (which was in any event far lower than the only other quotation received). It is was therefore

Resolved: that the Clerk be authorised to issue an order for the work to be carried out on the basis of the quotation of 26 September 2016 for £275 per lantern (plus vat), at a total cost for 17 lanterns of £4,675 (plus vat).

b. **Play area Improvements:**

- i. Completion of works. As mentioned at 1718/4 (c) above there had been issues the execution of the works. However, Cllr Chirodian reported a very positive response from users of the play area. Councillors agreed that the end result was very pleasing.
- ii. Publicity for scheme – “ribbon cutting event” etc. Further consideration would be given to this in due course, in consultation with Breckland Council, to recognise their grant contribution.

c. **Notice Board**

Cllr Highton reported that he had now gained agreement in principle from the planning officer regarding the proposed siting of the new notice board, and would be happy to submit the planning application on the Council’s behalf, at a cost of £55 for the application fee plus £25 for the necessary map.

1718/7 Project Fund

The project fund group had met to consider the application received from the New Buckenham Junior Football Club for assistance in the provision of new portable floodlights. The club had received funding from Old Buckenham Parish Council of £640 towards a total cost of £2400. The project fund group had recommended that this Council also contribute £640

Resolved: That New Buckenham Junior Football Club be granted £640 towards the cost of floodlights from the New Buckenham Project Fund

1718/8 Commons Registration

The Council noted a notification from the Commons registration authority relating to a change of ownership of commons rights. It was agreed to raise not objection.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 9 May 2017 at 7.30pm

DRAFT