

Minutes of the Meeting of Stokesby with Herringby Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7.30pm at Stokesby Community Centre

Present: Richard Youngs (Chairman)
Richard Ager
Philip Crane
Rob Lloyd
Stuart Ward
Ed Wharton (from 7.40pm)
Catherine Moore, Parish Clerk

Also present: Borough Councillor Adrian Thompson and 2 members of the public were in attendance

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Leigh-Ann Medhurst. It was **agreed** to approve Leigh-Ann Medhurst's extended absence, proposed by Stuart Ward, seconded by Rob Lloyd, all in favour.

2. Public Forum

a. Public

A member of the public spoke as the owner of some of the common land in the village, asking what his obligations were to the common land. It was noted that they were looking to put a boardwalk in as the land regularly flooded. It was suggested that he should contact the Broads Authority to check whether any permissions were needed. It would not be fenced or gated, and public access would be maintained.

b. County Councillor

Not present.

c. Borough Councillor

Borough Councillor Adrian Thompson reported that it looked like the Burial Ground concurrent function should remain for 2025/6. GYBC needed to make cuts of £1M to balance the books, and council tax would be raised by the maximum amount allowed. The new safety matting had been installed at the play area. There had been a site visit to look at Riverside House with a few amendments to satisfy neighbour concerns, so a revised application was expected.

The total cost of the seesaw was just over £6,000, with £3,500 from the ShedShop, and £2,700 GYBC contribution. A breakdown of the costs was highlighted.

There had been changes to the County Council divisions, with Stokesby becoming part of South Caister division. The Borough boundaries were now being reviewed.

Ed Wharton joined the meeting.

The Borough Plan was being reviewed, and the targets had been met to keep the existing housing targets instead of the new government targets. The Nova Scotia development at West Caister would have an impact on surrounding infrastructure and roads.

A member of the public asked whether there was any further news on the proposed development on Filby Road. It was confirmed that this had gone to appeal, and a decision was expected by Christmas.

Philip Crane noted that he felt that money had been wasted unnecessarily on the seesaw, and that the job could have been done for significantly less. He thanked Adrian for finding out the information and for bringing the project forward.

A member of the public noted that the new booking system to use the Caister Tip had been very poorly advertised.

The upgrading of the Vauxhall roundabout in Great Yarmouth had been cancelled, and instead average speed cameras would be installed on the Acle Straight, together with a 50mph limit. This would have an impact on the surrounding rural roads.

d. Police

Police reports were circulated as received. PC Callum Ball had replaced Gary May, and had sent his apologies for the meeting.

3. **Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda**

None.

4. **Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 12th August 2024**

The minutes of the meeting were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman, proposed by Stuart Ward, seconded by Rob Lloyd, all in favour.

5. **Matters Arising**

a. Overgrown Hedge at Muck Fleet

The Clerk reported that Norfolk County Council had asked the contractor to cut the verges, but the trees were the responsibility of the land owner. The Clerk was asked to report back to Norfolk County Council that they were the willow trees that held up the road, and were owned by NCC as part of their infrastructure. **ACTION: Clerk**

b. Damage to Flood Wall

The Clerk reported that the Environment Agency had inspected the damage to the flood wall, which was cosmetic and had not affected the structural integrity.

6. **Village Maintenance**

a. Quarterly Report

Richard Youngs reported that he had a couple of posts at the play area to straighten. The roadway around the Green would be monitored over the winter. The asbestos could be disposed of in the next few dates.

7. **Finance**

a. Financial Update 2024/25

The accounts for 2024/25 to date were **noted**, with £23,707.11 in the bank at 31.10.2024. Of this, £16,335.51 was in reserves. Receipts since the last meeting were:

- £3,870.00 – Precept and Concurrent Functions Grant
- £139.66 - Bank Interest

b. Payments

It was **agreed** to pay the following, proposed by Richard Ager, seconded by Rob Lloyd, all in favour:-

C Moore	Salary & Expenses Sept – Nov 24	£505.32
HMRC	PAYE June – August 24	£122.80
Maple Tree Services	Grounds Maintenance	£1,275.00

8. Correspondencea. General Correspondence

None.

9. Planninga. Applications

None.

b. Applications Considered Between Meetings

06/24/0547/HH 4 Filby Road: Proposed part two storey, part single storey rear extension.

NO OBJECTIONS

BA/2024/0351/HOUSEH Riverside House, Mill Road: Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of two, single storey rear extensions (one with balcony), single storey link extension, part conversion of existing garage, removal of chimney and addition of single bay cart lodge.

NO OBJECTIONS

BA/2024/0364/HOUSEH The Camber, The Green, Mill Road (track): Single storey rear extension.

NO OBJECTIONSc. Decisions

None.

10. Other Mattersa. SAM2 Sign – Deployment and Results

Richard Ager summarised the results from the SAM2, noting that one location was picking up higher speeds as it was close to the speed limit, however it was proving a good deterrent. It was suggested that there were some other sites that would be useful to apply for permission to use.

ACTION: RA / Clerkb. Tree Work Prices

The Clerk reported that she had sent the report to four additional contractors, and chased up prices. Two had declined to quote and one had not replied at all. The Clerk was asked to check with one contractor whether their price included a replacement tree, and what species they would recommend given the spores could be in the ground.

ACTION: Clerkc. Damage to Flood Wall

Covered earlier in the meeting.

d. Charging for use of Public Mooring

It was noted that if charging was introduced, this would need to be for a years mooring rather than daily charges. The person currently mooring their boat was understood to be removing theirs. It wasn't clear whether the Parish Council could be permitted to charge for the mooring as it was a public staithe, and was on Common Land. The Broads Authority did not want to include it within their 24 hour moorings. The Parish Council wanted to bring it back into being a 24 hour mooring. The Clerk was asked to find out what other parishes did.

ACTION: Clerk

e. Meeting Dates 2025

It was **agreed** to bring the February meeting forward to Wednesday 22nd January 2025. With this amendment the meeting dates were **agreed**, proposed by Richard Youngs, seconded by Stuart Ward, all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk

f. Parish Partnership Scheme 2025/26

There were no schemes put forward.

The Clerk was asked to find out more information about public rights of way on the river banks that the Broads Authority planned to close for safety reasons, as this included Stokesby.

ACTION: Clerk

g. Draft Budget 2025/26

The draft budget was considered, noting that the tax base had not yet been received, together with no firm clarification on the concurrent function grant. The budget would be agreed at the next meeting.

11. Reports from Parish Councillors

It was noted that overgrown hedges were still an issue, particularly the willows at Muck Fleet which had been mentioned earlier in the meeting.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 22nd January 2025, 7.30pm at the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

CHAIRMAN