

BURNHAM THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 20th May 2024 at 6.00 pm at The Nelson Memorial Hall, Burnham Thorpe

Present:

Councillors: William James (Chair), Chris Yardley (Vice-Chair), Mima Garland, Barbara Linsley, Clerk: Sarah Raven

Members of the Public: 6

1. Minutes of the last council meeting held on the 18 May 2023.
Minutes were circulated before the meeting. The Minutes were AGREED to be signed as a true record with no amendments by the Vice-Chair, C Yardley.

2. Chairman's Annual Report:
None

3. Clerks Financial Report: -
[Report Attached.](#)

4. Report from Borough Councillor:
[Report Attached.](#)

5. Report from County Councillor:
[Report Attached.](#)

6. Speaker – Victoria Crerand – Anglian Water
Unable to attend.

7. Report from Friends of Burnham Thorpe:
No report

8. Report from Playing Field Committee:
[Report Attached](#)

9. Report from Nelson Memorial Hall:
[Report Attached](#)

10. Report from Church:
[Report Attached.](#)

11. Report from Holkham Estate:
None

12. Report from Tim Fisher River Fly Scheme
Ten months of data now from the location on the Common from the River Burn. The Environment Agency has set a trigger level of 6. The lowest score received is 7 the highest score is 10. They also testing the water for ammonia and phosphates. Despite there being invertebrates in the river these levels are high.

Discussion on inviting Anglian Water/ Environment Agency to next meeting.

13. Norfolk Constabulary:
None.

14. Questions and Statements from Parishioners:

- Planning application for a change of use for dog park on Creake Road. Applicant would answer any questions in relation to this.

Meeting Closed: 6.35pm

..... Chair Dated:

REPORTS:

Clerk Financial Report

Bank Balances as at 1st April 2023 Current £3370.18

Reserve £9893.14

Total Receipts £10867.77 plus interest of £123.68

Total Payments: £9111.56

Leaving a Balance of £15143.21 of which £9343.96 is earmarked for projects as at 31 March 2024.

Annual Parish Council Meeting report from the Borough Councillor

Thank you for the invite to the annual Parish Meeting.

The last year at the Borough Council has seen a new administration taking over and the Chief Executive Lorraine Gore retiring. With a new administration I lost my cabinet role.

Over the last year I have sat on many panels and attended many meetings.

I am the Chairperson for the Homeless and Housing Delivery Task Group and I am the Vice Chair of the Standards panel. I sit on the Environment and Community Panel, CIL Spending Panel, Local Plan Task Group and I attend Full Council meetings and Parish Council meetings when I can. I have 6 Parish Councils. I receive many emails from members of the public, planning agents and I work with Parish Clerks. I do visit residents as its sometimes easier to see issues first hand. I have subbed on the Planning Committee. I keep up my planning training and I attend any courses that the Council offer. I am appointed to two outside bodies as a Councillor one is the Burnham Overy Harbour Management Committee and the other one is the West Norfolk and Kings Lynn Girls School Trust. I am also the Chair of the Burnham Market Surgery Patient Participation Group.

In the last few months, I also now have a job working Bank shifts at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Last year I was very fortunate to get picked to a once in a lifetime opportunity to attend a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. The Prince and Princess of Wales and Princess Anne were in attendance. Stunning Gardens and Stunning food and perfect weather.

Going back to the West Norfolk and Kings Lynn Girls School Trust, this is a trust for girls of school age who come from low - income families who take on extra-curricular activities for example music, dance drama the fund can also be used to buy equipment for girls who need it. This is means tested and the parents and children are asked to keep the trustees updated on

their progress. We have helped many children with gradings of musical instruments and gain awards in Drama.

The Jacks Lane windfarm Committee are sitting on the 10th June to decide on the applications submitted.

There are no grants from the Borough Council for the 80th anniversary of D Day this year. I have spoken to the Cabinet member for finance who said they were looking to make grants available for next years celebrations.

Being a Borough Councillor is a varied and sometimes challenging role. A role I thoroughly enjoy. I cannot please everyone, but I do give it a 100%.

If you have any issues, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Wishes

Sam

Borough Councillor for Burnham with Docking

Andrew Jamieson Norfolk County Council - Parish Report May 2024. County council's performance and priorities

Norfolk County Council's annual review report and a delivery plan for 2024-25, showing its priorities for this year, has now been published.

I would encourage everyone to read our plan for this year, to be aware of all the work that continues to be done.

You can read the reports at

<https://norfolkcc.cmis.uk.com/norfolkcc/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=Nrf4%2fUO5zvT574gqsv2FnmkjSVBhu20FeieBFNJVWCVS44BJyV9tZg%3d%3d&rUzwRPf%2bZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJFLDNlh225F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d&mCTIbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlg%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=ctNJff55vVA%3d&FgPIIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5olA%3d%3d=NhdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmyB7X0CSQK=ctNJff55vVA%3d&WGe wmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNJff55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNQ16B2MHuCpMRKZMwaG1PaO=ctNJff55vVA%3d> .

Highlights of the council's performance over the last year include:

- Agreeing a £600 million-plus devolution deal to bring powers and funding from Westminster to Norfolk
- Spending £1.5 million per day on adult social care, including help for 11,000 people to return home from hospital.
- Securing £49.5 million of Government funding to improve bus services, with an 18 per cent rise in passenger numbers.
- Delivering ultra-fast broadband to more than 6,900 premises, with superfast broadband now covering 97.3 per cent of properties.
- Serving more than 1.8 million library customers.

Key priorities for this year include:

- Delivering the devolution deal and an economic strategy for Norfolk
- Delivering better quality, local and affordable care for children, including more foster carers
- Continuing to deliver supported living housing programmes for adults
- Delivering library hubs, including a range of services, in King's Lynn and Great Yarmouth
- Completing the roll-out of LED streetlighting, to cut costs and carbon emissions

Cabinet has also discussed the start of its budget planning process for next year. The council's current savings target is £44.7 million.

Economy-boosting Local Enterprise Partnership to continue under County Councils

Business support and other economy-boosting services delivered by New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) are to continue following its integration into Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils.

Key functions and employees of the LEP transferred to the authorities on 1 April 2024 as part of the Government's devolution process. Its functions include business representation, strategic economic planning, and responsibility for the delivery of government programmes.

Business support will continue to be provided by New Anglia Growth Hub - which delivers the LEP's business growth programme, including the administration of grant schemes.

Major construction and infrastructure projects across Norfolk have received significant funding thanks to the LEP's Growth Deal with Government, which secured £223.5m for the region to 2021. These include the recently opened Herring Bridge in Great Yarmouth, the Digi-Tech Factory at City College Norwich, and Productivity East, the centre for engineering, technology and management at the University of East Anglia.

Great Yarmouth's Operations & Maintenance Campus for the offshore industry, and the North Walsham Town Centre improvements were among the shovel-ready schemes for which the LEP secured £32.1m from the Government's Getting Building Fund.

The LEP's work can also be seen in the projects supported via its Growing Places Fund, such as Broadland Food Innovation Centre at the Food Enterprise Park at Honingham.

The economic development team, now working within Norfolk County Council, will be continuing this work following finalisation of Norfolk's Devolution deal.

Details of Norfolk's Climate Plan

A range of initiatives to support Norfolk's climate plan have been revealed, including:

- A pilot to develop a sustainable and viable seaweed industry in Norfolk - the project will work with partners in the Netherlands, already implementing sea farms
- Supporting the development of nature-based solutions to help secure Norfolk's long term water resilience
- Further walking and cycling improvements in places including King's Lynn, Norwich, Great Yarmouth, and Dereham

- The Council has released its Pollinator action Plan, designed to enhance pollinators on County farms and roadside verges, as well as helping to inspire wider action across Norfolk.
- This sits within our Local nature recovery strategy. These reports can also be read via the above link.

Andrew Jamieson
County Councillor for North Coast
Deputy Leader and Member for Finance at Norfolk County Council.

Burnham Thorpe Playing Field

We have had Michelle Forshaw as our chairperson for the last year.

We have had difficulty applying for any more funding as we had a large spend last year for new equipment. By accepting a £10,000 CIL grant for new equipment in the previous year as well as spending a large amount on the first phase of our new play equipment, we triggered a threshold meaning our yearly income and spend was over £5,000 and so had to register as a charity with the Charity Commission. The Charity Commission then did not like our 60 year old governing document and refused our application. We were also then de-banked as Barclays didn't believe that we had fundraised and managed to bank over £1,300 in cash in a year and so they froze our accounts for 6 months. We are having to seek advice to revise our governing statements.

This effectively all led to us being unable to apply for grants, fundraise or spend money for most of the last year.

On a day to day basis, we have been suffering from very wet ground which has made maintenance and grass cutting near impossible. Large machinery has been unable to get onto the field. We hope this will improve soon, so that we can get onto the main part of the field and do some planned maintenance.

The bowls green project has not been able to go ahead as planned. As well as planning from the Norfolk Rivers Trust, we have had excellent support from Holkham Estate who kindly helped start the project with us by providing machinery and manpower free of charge, but it has been too wet to continue for the time being.

We hope to be able to resume as soon as we can access the area, remove the pavilion, tidy up and continue with the planned wildflower area.

The Nelson Memorial Hall

The Hall has struggled to get over the effects of COVID and the loss of many of its regular bookings as a result. We have also lost our Rector and Chairperson Steve Wood as he left the Parish.

The Management Committee have worked towards essential repairs and maintenance.

In August last year we replaced the Crittall windows at the front and side of the hall that were draughty and in poor repair. We thank the Parish Council and the Borough Councillor Sam Sandell for their support to help get a grant towards the cost.

We have upgraded the external lights at the front of the building to make the outside more aesthetically pleasing to hirers.

Our next large project will be to replace the wooden windows. We have obtained quotations to replace the main hall windows with double glazed sealed units. This should make the main hall more thermally efficient.

The cost of window replacement of these traditional wooden windows will be in excess of £30000 and so we hope to apply for funding to cover much of this cost.

This should make the hall able to retain warmth and therefore more hireable in winter months as well as save on heating costs in winter.

Most recently we have had redecoration from the community service volunteers in the foyer, toilets and kitchen. This work is still ongoing but has made a huge difference and freshened up the area. They even repaired holes in our ceilings from historical leaks where we hadn't had the funds to fix the cosmetics of past damage.

We have also set up a new website and link for bookings. We have had a lot of success from this so far. We have a good amount of summer bookings as well as some regular table tennis happening in the hall again.

We continue to be challenged by the extreme price of energy, with the cost of heating per hour in winter, way in excess of our hire fee. This is the case with most traditional and older village hall venues now. This means that as well as continuing to offer and provide a service to all users regardless of season, we now focus on the promotion of day time use in the summer months when energy use is lower.

As well as our dedicated team of hall trustees, I would like to thank Jason Byard of May Construction and Mark Bevington for assistance and advice with projects on the hall grounds and with the building fabric.

Church Report for Annual Parish Council Meeting

2024 still finds our Church and the Benefice without a full time Vicar. Sadly the prospect of getting one is no closer. There is talk from the Diocese of this Burnhams Benefice amalgamating with Holkham. Despite having no vicar the Diocese continues to ask for unfeasibly large parish share from the Church, leading to a rather unhappy financial situation. There are difficulties in organising other clergy to take regular services, as the same thing is also happening in many other parishes, and this means that there were

no services in our church at either Christmas or Easter. Another factor is of course the dwindling congregation.

The Fabric Officer is trying to catch up with overdue necessary works to both the church and the churchyard. limewash repair in the church, work to the tower and tidying the graveyard. We have a gardener and with the help of the Fabric Officer much tidying has taken place in the graveyard. He personally has removed all the ivy from the church walls with the help of one volunteer. Another volunteer has removed most of the moss from the bottom half of the church.

Our church is a beautiful and historic place but it needs support from the village. Luckily to end on a positive note, unlike some other local churches, we do have a Parochial Church Council which keeps its affairs working and looks after this marvellous building.