

ASHWELLTHORPE AND FUNDENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 15th April 2025
at Thorpe Hall, Ashwellthorpe

Present: S Allen (Chairman)
C Eastwood (CE)
J Ives (JI)
C Wood (CW)
R Morris (RM)
R Burridge (RB)
Mrs T Higlett (Clerk)
District Cllr B McClenning and County Cllr C Rowett
Four members of the public

1) Apologies.

S Tyree – Council accepted apologies

2) Declarations of interest for items on the Agenda and Dispensations for Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest.

None

3) Public Open Forum

a) Input from public.

Local farmer had come to speak about their concerns around dogs being allowed to run free on farm land. Dogs have been seen to attack deer and worrying other wildlife, such as water and red deer. One deer had to be put out of its misery due to being severely attacked by a dog. Dog owners have been approached and asked to take charge of their pets but they don't take any notice, which is very concerning. People are not sticking to designated pathways. There are good footpaths and they are well used by some walkers. Signage could be erected by landowners but this will probably get ignored. It was asked of the parish council if they would consider erecting appropriate signage on designated trails. Councillor Rowett advised she would speak to NCC Footpath Warden to see if they could assist perhaps supply notices, which could be erected on the Rights of Ways and field margins. Chair proposed designing a poster which must comply with the legal authority on controlling dogs in public and on leads. Suggested perhaps log incidents and report to police. Discussion followed around social media and how the parish council shares information. Clerk has already placed editorial on the parish council's website.

b) Report from District Councillor

Available on website

Cllr McClenning spoke of concerns around devolution and less democracy. Parish Council could find they have more power.

c) Report from County Councillor

Available on website.

4) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2025.

These were approved and duly signed.

5) Matters arising from the Minutes

a) VE Day

Clerk advised she had corresponded with Thorpe Hall lettings administrator regarding the application for the Temporary Events Notice. Personal information is required about the

Clerk: Tina Higlett

April 2025 Minutes

Chair.....

Ashwellthorpe & Fundenhall Parish Council

applicant and clerk felt it would be better for them to apply and council reimburse them for the cost which has been covered by the grant. JI advised everything was coming together for the street party but asked for assistance with donations of food for the buffet. VE Day banner now in place at Muskett Road/The Street. Chair advised that although Cllr Tyree was not in attendance, he had requested that when council takes part or organises events that they include reference to the parish council on any advertising. Some residents may be unclear what the parish council does and opportunities to raise councils profile should not be missed. Council felt on this occasion banner contained more than enough information, but will consider for the future. ~~JI stated that on this occasion the event is being funded by South Norfolk and would not be appropriate to reference the parish council. Although funding had been received from a South Norfolk VE Day grant the parish council had organised the event.~~

b) Tree maintenance around pond

As no further quotations have come forwarded it was proposed that Broadland Tree Services should carry out the work.

Proposed by S Allen – seconded by C Eastwood – all in favour.

Clerk to follow up on a grant from District Councillors towards final costs.

c) Removal of building materials on land opposite Wood Farm development

JI had spoken with the owner and they had advised the materials would remain on the land for the foreseeable future. There is also no hazardous material kept on site.

d) Councillor attendance to South Norfolk Town and Parish Forum.

RB advised that she found the forum very interesting and that District are up against a deadline. It is the intention of South Norfolk to contact communities to gauge feed-back of the electorate.

e) South Norfolk Litter Pick

JI advised that this year's Litterpick had been carried out on the 14th April. Six ladies took part clearing rubbish from ditches and verges. Any bottles found were placed in the recycling bins. The £20 which council will receive for taking part would go to the horticultural club. It was proposed that additional litter bins which come with liners should be erected on parish land. These are currently in storage at Thorpe Hall.

JI advised that the Kynvett Green playground owned by South Norfolk Council is to receive a refurbish.

6) Planning

a) Planning applications

2025/0544. Location: Former Post Office Stores, 94 The Street Ashwellthorpe.

Proposal: Increase dropped kerb at front of the property to facilitate parking and improve access. Council spoke of their concerns with the future parking issue for residents who currently use the layby to park their vehicles. Once the business is open there will then be an issue with staff (3 dentists) and patients vehicles parked in the area, not just in the layby. How will this also affect pedestrians. Council felt that further clarification as to why the applicant wishes to drop the kerb, what purpose will it serve and the long term use of the layby should have been communicated in the application. Council unanimously agreed to object to application.

2025/0833. Location: The Bungalow Church Lane Fundenhall

Proposal: Demolition of existing chicken sheds and garage and erection of a single storey building. Council had no objection.

2025/0737 Location: Wellington House, The Street Fundenhall. Proposal:

Erection of outbuilding to store caravan, tractor and associated agricultural/garden implements. Council could see no reason to object. The building will be situated to the rear of Wellington House and the design/build sympathises with the area. The outbuilding will be

well screened by native hedging and set back from the highway as with similar buildings on the curtilage.

2025/0955 Location: 1 Greenwood Close Ashwellthorpe. Proposal: Two storey side extension, catslide roofs over existing flat roof dormers, new stove flue, cladding to walls, and new duo-pitched roof over garage. Council had no objection.

b) To receive a report on plans accepted/refused by South Norfolk Council.

Nothing to report.

7) Finance

a) To note councils current financial standing.

Bank statement - £7521.79

b) To approve payments.

I. Clerks salary April - £298.75

II. HMRC – £72.00

III. Omache Gardens - £357.50

IV. Thorpe Hall - £155.97

These were approved unanimously.

c) To note direct debit payments.

I. N Power £67.50 streetlighting electricity.

8) Administrative Issues

a) Policies

I. Biodiversity policy and Councils Action Plan – Clerk to draw up a policy and present at a future meeting.

II. Revised policy – ‘How council deals with planning applications’ - This was agreed unanimously.

b) Subscriptions

I. Norfolk Parish Training and Support – Council approved renewing subscription at £132.99

c) General

I. Parish Council schedule meeting dates for 2025/26 were approved. Clerk to arrange the hire of the community area at St Nicholas Church Fundenhall for the months of June and July 2025.

9) Village – Maintenance and Highways.

a) Dogs roaming free on farm land – this was discussed within the public forum.

JL advised she had tidied up the paintwork on the benches around the village.

10) Correspondence

a) South Norfolk Community Awards 2025

b) South Norfolk Nature Conservation Fund – Expressions of Interest

c) CPRE Norfolk response to the creation of a new town in South Norfolk.

d) NCC Highways – Old Hall Close. Clerk advised that the drains had been cleared after reporting on NCC Highways Portal.

11) Date of next meeting – 20th May 2025

Meeting closed at 21:05