

RINGLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Ringland Village Hall, The Street, Ringland
on Monday 13 January 2025 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs N Adams (Chairman), L Cooper (Vice-Chair), M George, K Stone, M Turner.

Officer: L Trabucco (Clerk).

Members of the Public: Six members of the public were present including Norwich Road Runners Race Direct and Chairperson and Norfolk County Councillor Greg Peck.

1. Apologies

It was agreed to approve apologies for Jill Baker - Bereavement, and Simon Addington - Unwell.

2. Declaration of Interest

None.

3. Minutes

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11 November 2024

Upon the proposition of Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr George the minutes were unanimously agreed as a true record of proceedings. The Chairman signed the minutes.

4. Matter Arising from Minutes

To hear an update and to consider any necessary action with regards to the following:

- a. *Village Hall:* Margaret gave a general update on Village Hall matters and of the recent successful Christmas Fair event. Thanks were expressed to L George and Margaret who led the organisation of the event and made it a success.
- b. *Church Mound:* Malcolm informed Council that at the request of the Church an additional water chamber near the Church Mound had been installed. **It was unanimously agreed to invoice St Peter's Church for the total amount of £286.10.**
- c. *Graziers Committee:* Simon had sent his update ahead of the meeting to inform that the invite for application was issued on 8 December 2024 and the Clerk had received only one application.
- d. *Management of Common Land:* Lindy gave a general update of the meeting with the Norwich Fringe Project and highlighted the importance of having a management plan with guidance put in place. A quote has been received for the management plan/guidance for both the upper and lower common from Norwich Fringe Project for the estimated cost of 3 to 4 days at £350 per day to around £1,400, and also to provide costings for any external contractor work linked to the management plan, including a quote for the stock fencing work and installation of a cattle coral, on the boundary of the lower common estimated cost for half to a full day at £350 which includes a site visit with the fencing contractor.

Upon the proposition of Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr Adams it was unanimously agreed to go ahead with the Norwich Fringe Project above quote. It was also agreed that the Parish Council would like the Norwich Fringe Project to liaise with Mr A. Brown from Norfolk Wildlife Trust where appropriate, on this project. Lindy will contact the Norwich Fringe Project and the Norfolk Wildlife Trust directly.

- e. *Recycling update:* The Clerk informed Council that the metal paper container has been removed.

5. Public Participation and Reports (15 mins max 3 mins per speaker)

- i. *Norfolk County Councillor (NCC):* NCC Greg Peck gave an update on matters relating to Norfolk County Council and mentioned that in December 2022 it was agreed an in-principal devolution deal with the then Government, this would have seen powers and funding transferred from Westminster to Norfolk. In September 2024, the newly elected Government halted the Norfolk deal, talks were offered on an alternative model to see a Norfolk and Suffolk mayoral combined authority. On 16th December 2024 the Government published its devolution white paper and announced a priority programme for areas interested in devolution and local government reform. The Government wants to replace county and district councils in two-tier areas like Norfolk with unitary authorities, which run all services. On 9th January 2025, Norfolk's full council discussed it and then the cabinet agreed to submit an application to be part of the priority programme. An update will be available on the Norfolk County Council website once they hear back from Government.
- ii. *District Councillor* Peter Bulman had sent his apologies prior to this meeting.
- iii. *Police Matters.* **None.**
- iv. *Members of the Public:* Two volunteer members of the Norwich Road Ranners (non-profit organisation) attended, and the Race Director gave a general update of the upcoming Royal Norwich Half Marathon event on Sunday 23 February 2025 and voiced the plans for road closure around Ringland and neighboring parishes, water stations points, and the large number of marshals that will be on a various positions on the day able to advise and assist on any vehicles movements that are urgent. Ambulance vehicles will be present and will give priority to runners. He mentioned that residents affected by the road closure will be informed by letter two weeks prior to the start of the race and thanked Ringland Parish Council for agreeing to hire the Village Hall/toilet facilities/parking.
- Questions were raised from Councillors and members of the public to enquiry more details of road closure and what procedures have been prepared in case a resident has an emergency on the day. An explanation was given to reassure that the road closure duration is not the true reflection of what will happen on the day, as the race will start at 9.30am and will be a half marathon distance where most runners should be finished within two and half hours, however there may be some slower entrants therefore the closure, it is hoped to be lifted by 1pm at the latest.
- In the event of a true emergency a number will be made available on the day, also available to marshals. It was mentioned that details of the road closure and emergency number will be sent to the Clerk prior to the start of the event. A suggestion was made to ask if Councillors could be given the designated emergency number available on the day, in case residents contact them instead.
- A resident reported that most of the road marking around Ringland are still faded despite reporting this before. The Clerk informed the resident that it has been reported numerous times and highlighted the importance for residents to keep report it online via the Norfolk County Council website: [Report a highways problem - Norfolk County Council](#). Greg informed the Clerk that he could be included in any correspondence to highways.

6. Planning

- a. To consider responding to planning application. **None received.**
- b. To receive a report on plans refused/accepted by Broadland District Council. **None.**
- c. To hear an update and to consider any necessary action with regard to enforcement issues on planning appeals. **None.**

7. Highways Matters

- a. To receive a report on any issues.
The Clerk will contact highways via email to report the faded road markings around Ringland.
- b. To receive an update on the NWL and A47 projects.
Nick mentioned that the local liaison group meeting should be scheduled for the end of January 2025, and he will be able to give a general update after that meeting. He will be speaking to NCC regarding the confusion over the closing of Honingham Lane Prior to the closing of Easton roundabout. He mentioned that there has been rumours to suggest that the NWL is either on hold or dead, and Greg informed that NCC has no money to fund such project under the current Government.

8. Finance

- a. To receive the bank reconciliation as at 31 December 2024
The bank reconciliation as at 31 December 2024 had been circulated ahead of the meeting and **was agreed.**
- b. To approve the budget for 2025/26 and set the precept.
The budget was reviewed and the forthcoming expenditure was predicted. **Upon the proposition of Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Stone the Budgetary need was unanimously agreed at £17,390 and the precept was set at £8,700 resulting with a slight increase for a band D property of £4.72.**

- c. To following payments made since the last meeting were **noted:**

George	Ringland Christmas event – Santa’s Grotto	£ 27.64
M Andrew	Ground works on 12/11/24	£210.00
DM Payroll Serv.	Administration of payroll Oct’24 to Mar’25	£ 60.00
CountryStyle	Recycled collection of bottle bank	£ 29.99
Little Melton	Additional water chamber near Church Mound	£286.10
Wave	Anglian Water for Village Hall	£ 23.40
Tesco	Monthly contract	£ 10.00
HMRC	PAYE month 8 for year ending 24/25	£ 99.80
AF Affinity	Village Hall electricity (14/7-13/10/24)	£100.76
L Trabucco	Salary for November’24 and backpay	£405.24
L Trabucco	Salary for December’24	£ 321.71

- d. The following payments were **approved:**

Prevent Fire	Annual Service x 4 extinguish.s/refills/disposal	£163.20
M Andrew	Ground works on 23/12/24	£210.00
L Trabucco	Salary for January’25	£321.71

a. To following payments received since the last meeting were **noted**:

Village Hall	Hirer of Village Hall	£ 130.00
RPA	Commons Land remediation	£2,895.00
RPA	Commons Land remediation	£2,487.48
Ringland PC	Christmas Event	£ 140.00

9. To consider correspondence received. NOTED

Email	South Norfolk and Broadland District Council	Helping to recruit Town & Parish Councillors <i>Become a Voice for Your Community</i>	For information / leaflet available at Ringland Village Hall
Email	South Norfolk and Broadland District Council	Guidance on the six-month rule for Councillors	For information
Email	South Norfolk and Broadland District Council	Safety Advisory Group have introduced a scoring system (matrix)	For information on any proposed events to be held in 2025
Email	WSP.com	Non-intrusive ecological survey of the bridge and its surrounding area.	For information / should have taken place on 17/12/24

10. The date of the next Parish Council meeting was **CONFIRMED** as Monday 10 March 2024 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.53pm

Chairman's signature

Date