

TERRINGTON ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

Serving the villages of Terrington St John and St John's Fen End

Minutes of the meeting held 6th November 2024

Parish Councillors

Chair: Angela Bishop Vice Chair: Jo MacCallum

Aidan Hoey Chris Gibbs Bob Dye Jillian Ware

3 Vacancies

1. To record the names of those present

Cllr A Bishop - Chair, Cllr J Ware and Cllr B Dye

2. To consider accepting apologies for absence

It was **resolved** to accept apologies from Cllr C Gibbs, Cllr A Hoey and Cllr J MacCallum.

3. To consider co-option applications

There were no co-option applications to consider.

4. To record declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interest from members in any item to be discussed and consider any requests for dispensations

There were no declarations of interest.

Cllr MacCallum declared an interest and did not take part in discussions via email on planning application 24/01756/O, which had a deadline prior to 6th November. See item 13a, to ratify the decision.

5. To approve the minutes of the last ordinary council meeting held Wednesday 2nd October 2024

It was **resolved** to accept the minutes of 2nd October 2024 as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair.

6. To allow public participation – to include information from developers, Police representatives, or any other person invited to speak

No members of the public were present.

7. To receive reports from Borough and/or County Councillors

No borough or county councillors present.

8. To receive the Clerk's report, including matters arising from last month's meeting

- The Clerk noted that P Everitt will give a report at a future meeting, maybe new year as he was unable to attend this meeting.
- A parishioner has put in a request for fencing behind the Scout Hut to be replaced with 6-foot panelled fence for the entire back length of the field. It was agreed that as no evidence of arson on the field, the area beside or behind the Scout hut has been provided, seen on the CCTV or reported to the police then

this is not something the Parish Council can consider. The parishioner should be advised to continue to report any concerns to police and the Clerk.

- Parish partnership – A site visit with Andy Wallace the local highways engineer has been arranged to look at the area on School Road suitable for the remaining, phase 5 of the footpath. The Clerk noted that Phase 3 has been completed, which goes up to the Wryde Croft property. But phase 4, which goes from Wryde Croft up to Willow Barn has not been started but the Parish Council contribution has been paid. The Clerk noted that a request for a start date from the Locality Designer has been made and will follow up on this with A Wallace.
- Grounds maintenance quotes – specification details, should they stay the same? After review and discussion of the 2024 seasons ground maintenance schedule it was agreed that the corner of the car park/playing field entrance and front of the hedge should be added to the grass cutting schedule to increase visibility at that area. The Clerk noted that there are some areas of all the stretches of footpaths in the village, both on the new footpaths and old existing footpaths that have weeds coming through or weeds encroaching them which are destroying the surface and narrowing the width of the footpaths. The Clerk suggested that perhaps quotes could be sought in conjunction with the grass cutting schedule and existing weeds spraying to have the footpaths sprayed a couple of times a year too. It was agreed this would help maintain them for a longer period of time and make them more accessible. The footpaths would be on Main Road, Church Road, School Road (both at TSJ and SJFE), those that were funded by the Parish Council and those that were previously there. It was agreed that Cherry Tree Drive would not be considered for spraying at this time as it is very new.
- The Clerk noted that the builder that laid the base of the village sign at TSL has been asked to provide a quote for the SJFE sign.
- Arrangements for 11th November act of Remembrance at St John's Church, as in previous years Cllr Gibbs and Derek will kindly lead the arrangements for this.

9. To receive and consider reports and updates from Councillors regarding the areas they have been delegated to take a lead responsibility on previously

- a) Councillor B Dye: None
- b) Councillor C Gibbs:
 - TSJ Consolidated charity trustees (other Trustees J MacCallum) Must meet with those available.
- c) Councillor A Bishop:
 - Norfolk Association of Local Councils
 - Planning (other link J MacCallum and J Ware)
 - Cllr Bishop noted that the Smeeth Bank hearing was held last Tuesday and she attended. Two people are objecting to it being a public right of way. The British Horse society is in favour of this to be a restricted byway. This will make it limited to horse riders, walkers and mobility scooter users. Once in place, it must be legally kept open to a passable standard.

- Cllr Bishop noted the charge being made by the Scouts for using the use of the Scout hut for the coffee mornings. It was felt by those present this was both reasonable and expected.

d) Councillor A Hoey:

- SAM2 – Batteries changed recently; one unit moved to the edge of village leaving the other at the school. Again, Cllr Hoey ask other Parish Council Members to let him know if a unit is inoperative so that he can check and change the batteries.

The Clerk noted that the Speed awareness sign outside the church entrance is still not working even though the light has been repaired. The Clerk has sought the view of Cllr Hoey as to if he thinks it could be repaired. It was agreed that if it cannot be repaired it should be replaced as this road is known from Speedwatch data to have traffic that goes beyond the speed limit regularly. Councillors agreed that the 'Smiley face' type should be the speed sign preferred.

- Police – The village continues to receive a good level of support from the KLBC Speed Camera team which is encouraging. Two visits since last meeting and Safety Camera Operator noted an improvement in drivers' behaviour. Cllr Bishop noted that the police had followed up on an incident she had reported.

e) Councillor J MacCallum:

- Internal audit control

f) Councillor J Ware:

- Village Hall/Methodist Church and village activities

Cllr Ware noted that from the very vague information given by the Methodist church authorities it seems like the Parish Council has not been successful in their bid to purchase the old Methodist church building. However, no absolute negative answer has been received. It was agreed that the Parish Council should get the support of ward and borough councillors, MP and perhaps the solicitor next month to find out a definitive answer.

Village hall

A coffee morning was held and made £92.70. About 15 people attended. £62.70 was made after expenses. Remembrance display was made. £1247.59 in total has been raised so far to contribute to a new village hall. Christmas tree fayre preparations are being made and is going to have quite a lot happening.

Flooding survey – 10 responses.

Clerk to add survey to website, Facebook and Nextdoor to encourage more feedback. Clerk to add flood line phone number to the website.

It was agreed the Parish Council would have a table at the Christmas fayre to provide information and an opportunity for feedback. Clerk to bring the laptop for the fayre on the 7th December 10.00am till 2pm. This may help recruit more people to the Parish Council. Parish Council to have a Christmas tree at the festival too.

10. To consider Parish Partnership application

It was agreed to make an application for, phase 5 of School Road footpath, car park resurfacing and Speed awareness sign for Church Road. If successful, the Parish Council can further consider going ahead with these.

11. To consider Methodist Church/Village Hall matters

Considered earlier in the meeting at item 9.

12. To consider financial business

- a) To receive bank account balances

As at 30th October £89,390.35.

- b) To receive details of income received

No income received since the last meeting.

- c) To consider the recommended payments

Cozens Inv 8889	£30.00
Wages	£980.0
HMRC	£42.20
HHA – seasonal Inv 10739	£334.85
Vodafone DD	£17.37
Electric	£122.84
Userone DD 151124	£3.60
Church donation	£20.00
Training SLCC	£39.22
Safety signs 4 less Inv 4209146	£7.20
Safety signs 4 less Inv 4240333	£71.28
Birketts Inv 1006522	£120.00
Cozens Inv 8796	£474.00
I Westbrook – Plants Moad Road Nursery	£29.00
BCKLWN	£110.29
Scouts October and November coffee morning	£60.00

- d) To consider net position and budget discussed

The Clerk discussed the net position as at 6th November, noting there is still £19,817.32 left in the budget for the remainder of the year and felt this is sufficient. Clerk discussed the Reserves Policy and increase to budgeted capital items from those included for 2024/25. The tax base information, provided by the Borough Council has not been given yet. Last year it was received late December. Clerk to circulate a draft budget to be considered at the next meeting. The deadline for approval is 31st January 2025.

13. To consider planning matters

- a) Applications

Any applications that appear on the Borough Council planning portal up to the date of the meeting that require the consultation of the Parish Council will be considered by the Councillors at their scheduled meeting, even if they are not listed on the agenda.

24/01756/O - OUTLINE PLANNING PERMISSION WITH ALL MATTERS
RESERVED FOR: Up to 3no. dwellings at Field Opposite 3 Gambles Terrace
School Road Terrington St John Norfolk

To ratify decision made via email to object application. – It was resolved to ratify this decision.

24/01899/AG Terrington St John 553970 315270 Agricultural Prior Notification:
Proposed portal frame agricultural shed. The Grange Church Road Terrington St
John WISBECH Norfolk PE14 7RY

It was agreed to ratify this decision.

b) Decisions

Decision - non-material

22/00153/NMA_2 Terrington St John Sunset View 150 School Road TSJ
PE14 7SG - NON-MATERIL AMENDMENT TO Planning Permission 22/00153/F:
Construction of 2 number self-build dwellings (Plot 2only). Application Permitted
30 September 2024 Delegated Decision

c) Address notification

d) Correspondence

e) It was noted that the Clerk had made an enforcement notice for the entrance on
School Road.

14. To receive general correspondence via email during the month and consider any further actions required:

a) To note and discuss the news of the closure of Burman house

The Clerk noted that she has spoken to 'Sam' at Norfolk Property services. The property is owned by NCC and leased to NORSE. NORSE will probably be surrendering the property in the next 6 months. After that it may be empty for a year while checks are done on files and the building by NCC, and as part of that they will find out if there are any local agreements. I have asked that the Parish Council is kept up to date of any changes and Sam will give an update in Spring 2025.

There have been some social media discussions, which have suggested the building needs to be used in the community. Clerk to direct people to these minutes to keep up to date with information.

It was agreed that Cllr Gibbs would be asked to look at old minute books to see if there is any evidence for a covenant on the building. Clerk to see if there is a commemorate slab on the building to say when the building was built as a starting point to this research. Clerk to get the deeds if under £30 if more come back to councillors. Cllr Dye feels it was built in the 50s or 60s.

b) Misuse of disabled parking bay on car park – parishioner report.

Councillors discussed the report of a vehicle parking overnight in a disabled bay of the car park. It was noted that blue badges only have to be displayed for street parking and at the moment the Parish Council does not require someone to be a blue badge holder to use a bay. Clerk to ask Cllr Hoey to take this matter up the police.

- c) Highways van on car park

Clerk to request that the van is parked away from the gate entrance to the playing field.

15. To receive items for next month's agenda

Budget

Set meeting dates for 2025

16. Date and time of Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – Will be held on Wednesday 4th December 2024 at 7pm

Councillors noted the date and time of the next meeting.

17. To resolve on the moving into a closed session, on the grounds of confidentiality in accordance with the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s.1(2)

It was resolved to move into a closed session.

- a) To consider quotes for work required

Quotes to have the ground cleared for the new village sign at St Johns Fen End were considered. It was **resolved** to accept the quote from Johnson's and Rose for £260.00. However, the work should not be started until a firm decision has been made on the business putting up the new sign.

- b) To consider and resolve upon actions relating to Methodist Church/Village Hall matters:

No matters to consider in confidential.