

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.00pm  
At the British Columbia Hall, Salthouse.**

**1) Attendance** Cllrs Clark, Griffin, Hartnett, Holliday (Vice Chairman) and Wright.

**Apologies** were received from Cllr Harris and Cllr Vardy

**2 ) Election of Chair** following the resignation of Cllr Curly. It was proposed by Cllr Hartnett and seconded by Cllr Wright that Cllr Clark be the new chair . Vote was unanimous and Cllr Clark was duly elected.

**3)Casual Vacancy** – After February 16<sup>th</sup> if no election had been called the council will co-opt a new councillor. This will be done at March meeting.

**4) Declaration of interest** - None declared.

**5) Comments and questions** – There were no questions or comments from the public as most people had not seen agenda or minutes . The council are working on getting the website up and running .

**6) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024** – proposed MH, seconded JW

**7) Matters Arising**

- a) Cllr Griffin reported one of the nets on playing field is missing and the other very worn . Suggests taking both down Unanimously agreed.
- b) Training – not organized yet but John Stibbons has suggestions.

**8) Reports**

- a) County Councillor Vardy not present but has reported there is to be increased resources for child mental health. There is to be a refreshed strategy for social care to enable people to live independently. Full report to be attached to minutes .
- b) District Councillor Holliday indicated full report will be done next week and include tax rates to rise in line with increased cost of living.  
The future of Blakeney Surgery to be discussed tomorrow Feb 13<sup>th</sup> .Further consultation to be asked for.

**9) Heath-** Neil Featherstone gave a report

- a) In High Level Stewardship scheme- lowland heath management . Has obtained funding until 2027
- b)Asked by police to install barriers entrances to heath to limit vehicle access.
- c) Fence damaged fire 2 years ago not mended yet . ? next few weeks.
- d)No stock grazing at present  
Open access to pedestrians – signs to advise dogs on leads in breeding season.
- e) If parishioners collect wood to do so 75 yards in from road.
- f) Public meeting in future ? autumn.
- g)Cross Street Marl Pit not in their schedule . Concentrating on other ponds.
- h) In response to question from Cllr Griffin said Natural England advised them.
- i) Funding from Natural England via RPA
- k) Management committee still only the Parish Council nominees ie Clifford Large,Neil Featherstone, Charles Elsdon . Cllr Holliday is Parish Council representative. There have been no meetings for past 2 years . They are in process of inviting new committee members . People do not have to be resident in Salthouse but have to have local knowledge , conservation expertise etc.

- l) Cllr Hartnett asked how did one become a committee member . Neil suggested contact him.  
m) Cllr Clark asked why delay in barriers , could they give a definite date for the AGM, and could the Parish Council see the accounts for the past 2 years.

**10) Planning .** PF/22/2626 Affordable housing Purdy Street approved .

**11) Financial Matters**

- a) Bank Balance 1/2/24 was £5594.37 current account  
b) £258.96 paid to NNDC re dog bin emptying (overdue from Sept 2023)

**12) Allotments**

- a) John Stibbons has got all the invoices out .  
b) We are a member of Allotments Association.  
c) Cllr Clark has emailed County Estates telling them that we do not wish to move the allotments, we do not wish to have the track hardcored , and reminding them that the track is designated for agricultural access only .  
d) An allotment meeting will be held and an allotment working group formed to decide how to progress .  
e) There is no waiting list to be found and so it is suggested that anyone wishing an allotment formally applies to John Stibbons at johnstibbons@gmail.com  
f) County estates have indicated that they have no plans to sell or move the allotments.

**13) Clerk** – It was decided to formally advertise for a new **permanent** clerk . Proposed MH, Seconded BG. John Stibbons has kindly agreed to help out in mean time with the allotments and banking. He wishes to end in May however.

**14) Correspondence –**

- a) Cllr Holliday said that the levels in the duck pond were very high but had been reassured by NWT all was well. The council felt they would like to understand more about the drainage on the marshes and will contact NWT .  
b) Complaint that bins being left in road . Letter to NNDC to be sent  
c) Colin Horwood had asked for a financial contribution to the 4 new improved ‘Toad Rescue’ signs . This will be decided at the next meeting after consultation.

**15) AOB –**

- a) Member of the public suggests the Parish Council writes to the Salthouse parishioners not paying Council Tax for a voluntary contribution of say £100. The Parish Council will discuss this option.  
b) Cllr Clark and Cllr Griffin had been to a NNDC planning forum and found it very instructive, Learnt that need to be more precise about why they are turning down planning . This will give them more power .  
c) Cllr Clark also said that she was keen that Salthouse develop a Neighbour hood Plan . NNDC are having another forum for this. A member of the public indicated he had looked into it and found the process very time consuming and expensive and not sure has any effect .  
d) Cllr Clark thanked Sarah Dawson , Colin Horwood and Cllr Holliday for their work over several years leading to the the TRO signs for Beach Road which will restrict overnight parking.  
e) Cllr Hartnett thanked the Singers for their very generous gift of cakes and tea , coffee etc . It was much appreciated .  
f) Sarah Dawson had also been involved in the affordable housing for Salthouse . She wished to pay tribute to Ivan Large a past chairman who had worked tirelessly to make this a reality. It had taken many years to get to this point . She wished the council to ask if the road/close could be named in memory of him .

**16) Date of next meeting - 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.00pm**