

**Heacham Parish Council
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2024
AT THE OLD FRIENDS HALL**

MINUTES

PRESENT Cllrs R Pritchard (Chairman), E Hammond, I Morrison and D Rawnsley .

ALSO PRESENT: Mr Norris Taylor, Mr Richard Brown and Liz Liddington (minute taker)

1 APOLOGIES Cllrs S Bolt, D Lewis, T Parish and P Rawlinson

2 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS BY COUNCILLORS IN ANY OF THE AGENDA ITEMS LISTED.

Please indicate if there are any interests, which should be declared. A declaration of interest should indicate the nature of the interest (if not already declared on the Register of Interests) and the agenda item to which it relates. If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared, the member should withdraw from the room whilst the matter is discussed.

None.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the 10th October 2024 were agreed and signed as a true record.

4 ACTION POINTS FROM 10th OCTOBER MEETING

None.

5 CHALK PIT

Mr Taylor told the Committee that as the undergrowth is now dying back the Wildfowlers have been able to pick up a lot of clays off the ground.

Cllr Pritchard said that the replacement trees still haven't been planted but he would be going up to check on all trees.

6 WILDFOWLERS

Mr Taylor told the Committee that as clay shoots had finished this year there was nothing to report.

7 BRAYS PIT

There was a discussion about the tree survey which concluded that work on the four trees highlighted in red on the tree survey done by Golden Tree Surgeons should be done as soon as possible. Liz to email three firms to obtain quotes to do this work.

Recommendation to Full Council – that 3 quotes be obtained to carry out work on trees highlighted in the tree survey.

Cllr Pritchard will be picking up the beech shrubs to breach the gaps left in the boundary hedge by British Gas workmen.

8 SALTINGS

Cllr Hammond has done the grass cutting that needed to be done. Cllr Pritchard informed the Committee that the replacement information board was now in place.

Cllr Pritchard asked for an update on the posts required and Cllr Hammond stated that he was having trouble sourcing posts as they usually come in packs of 50 and we only need 6 so this would be too expensive. Cllr Pritchard said that he would also look around for some.

9 RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Morrison enquired about the pending 'Thank You' sign and whether it was any where near going up. Cllr Hammond said that it was all in hand and would let him know when the sign was ready to in place.

10 FLOOD MEMORIAL

Cllr Pritchard said that Cllr Bolt has spoken to someone at Norfolk Landscapes about starting the work and it was felt that this could happen in a week or so.

11 HEAD OF COMMON AND SAND PIT

There was a long discussion regarding the old trees bordering the head of common and the school field. There was concern over trees towards the Rebecca Court end of the common as it is unknown who actually owns and are therefore responsible for them. It was felt that there should be a concerted effort made to establish ownership and perhaps Cllr Dear could look into land registry to see if any light could be shed. Failing that contacting NCC or the school to see if they can help. The trees are very large and it is felt that if we are responsible for them we need to know as soon as possible.

Cllr Hammond asked that when future trees surveys are undertaken that the Beech trees on the common be included in the inspection.

12 ALLOTMENTS

The road on the allotments was discussed as it is getting quite bad again. Cllr Hammond will source materials to fill the potholes.

13 AOB – Budget for 2025-26

Cllr Pritchard read out figures from the report he had produced for all aspects of responsibility of the NEC all of which were discussed and agreed. Cllr Pritchard will redo the list with agreed figures and this will be put into the folder for reference.

The overall total of the budget needed for the NEC for 2025-26 is £18,000.

15 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held on Thursday 9th January 2025, at The Old Friends Hall at 19.00hrs.

Meeting closed at 20.40hrs.

.....Chairman

.....Date