

**BRINTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting**

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**DATE:** Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
**TIME:** 7pm  
**PLACE:** Sharrington Village Hall  
**PRESENT:** Cllr D. Hyslop (Chairman), Cllr. S. Gray, Cllr. R. Hyslop and Cllr. E. O’Kane (part)  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs. L. Jennings ( Clerk)  
District Cllr. Andrew Brown  
10 members of the public

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The meeting was opened by the Chair at 7pm who welcomed everyone and introduced the new Clerk.

1. **To receive apologies for absence**  
None.
2. **Declarations of interest and any dispensations of disclosable pecuniary interests**  
None

**The meeting closed for Public Participation**

3. **Public questions, comments or representations**
  1. A Brinton resident reported that past Councillor Peter North had suffered an accident. The Chair thanked the resident for the update and asked for our sympathy/best wishes to be relayed to Peter North. The Chair had spoken with Peter North’s wife and the Parish Council had sent a card.
  2. Re: item 10. Daffodil bulbs, could they be considered in Brinton as well as Sharrington. Some Parishioners felt it was not the job of the Parish Council to pay for these bulbs.
  3. Could the Parish Council consider the broader maintenance plan - Brinton or Friends of Brinton hasn’t got the manpower to religiously commit to looking after the village assets. The Clerk and Chairman have visited the Assets in both Parish’s and are compiling a list.
  4. A Parishioner asked regarding Bale Road, why these areas are not swept and reported that although one side of the road is sinking the other side has been repaired. He will continue to chase Highways.
  5. A Parishioner reported an increase of the invasive plant ‘Alexander’. This needs a bi-annual cut to stop the plant seeding. The Clerk will contact Norfolk County Council (NCC) Highways. The Chairman was asked if she should speak to Albanwise regarding this issue and any on their land.
  6. A Parishioner stated that they wished to get Tree Preservation Orders (TPO’s) on trees in Sharrington and Brinton. Dist. Cllr Brown reported that trees in a Conservation area already had automatic protection.
  7. Could the Parish Council get the finger posts that identify the footpaths?  
One or two need attention. The Clerk will speak to the Public Rights of Way Officer.

Councillor O’Kane left the meeting.

**On the proposition of Cllr R. Hyslop, seconded by Cllr S. Gray the meeting reopened.**

**4. Approval of draft Minutes of the Meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Approved and signed by the Chair

**5. Matters arising from those Minutes**

5.1 The Milestone. The Chair stated that Cllr O Kane was very kindly working on this with Highways and the Milestone Society and we should wait for an update at the next meeting before agreeing any further action

5.2 Jubilee Corner – Cllrs D. Hyslop and E. O’Kane met with Steve White, the Highway Engineer for NCC. He suggested that concrete aprons from the pipe would help to stop the mud piling up. Mud on the road at Thornage has been reported. There are many potholes in both Parish’s and Parishioners can report these themselves. [Click on this link to report.](#)

**7. Reports**

**To receive reports from County Councillor and District Councillor**

**County Cllr. Michael Dalby** – no report received.

**District Councillor Andrew Brown** had sent a report that is annexed to these minutes.

Waste Collection Changes – these will commence from week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

Council Tax Changes - District Council Tax will need to increase by 2.99% and NCC Tax by 4.99%. Several discretionary services have been withdrawn as a result like the former Big Society Fund, Repairs Grants have been suspended and public toilets sold or closed due to the financial pressures on Councils nationally.

Flood Protection Reduction - The Government’s Environment Agency (EA) has announced 20% cuts in funding for river flood defences meaning tree planting and wetland habitats will be hardest hit.

Holt Bank Hub – Looking to source premises.

Cllr Brown was asked if the District Council could provide litter picking equipment for Parishioners to borrow. He confirmed this and asked that they contact [cleansing@north-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@north-norfolk.gov.uk).

**8. Planning**

**8.1 To discuss and make observations on any applications received after the date of this Agenda**

PF/24/0388 Installation of solar panels on roof of detached garage to the Village Hall, The Street, Sharrington, Melton Constable, NR24 2AB. Although these panels will be in the Conservation Area, they are not on the primary building, fronting the street. The garage is at the back of the hall. Following a discussion Councillors recognised the hard work carried out by the Committee to maintain the Hall, which is a community asset and felt that energy conservation benefits in this case outweighed conservation considerations. They voted to offer no objections to the application. All in favour.

**8.2 To receive update on other applications**

PF/24/0286 – Installation of ground mounted solar PV system in garden to Hill Farmhouse, Swans Croft Lane, Brinton, Melton Constable NR24 2QW. This application is permitted.

PF/23/1840 Conversion of agricultural building to single dwelling associated external alterations at land adjacent to Mayflower Cottage, Sharrington Road, Brinton – Pending NNDC decision. No further information.

**9. Agenda Item 12 moved to this point to allow District Councillor Brown to speak on the issue of exception/affordable housing.**

Cllr Brown gave an in-depth report on how the District Council operates especially when difficulties arise with affordable housing. The current District Council Plan defines between 25 & 45% of housing to be social. Currently there are 3000 homeless in the district.

The meeting closed to allow questions.

Cllr Brown left the meeting and the meeting reopened.

**10. Finance and Regulatory**

**10.1 To receive balance sheet and report on bank reconciliation**

The Clerk produced a balance of the accounts but is working through them for year end.

**10.2 To approve payments**

It was proposed and resolved to approve the following payments. The cheques would be signed after closure of the meeting:

10.2a) Norfolk Parish Training & Support – Clerk Year End Finance £60.00

10.2b) SLCC AGM & Training Day £10

10.2c) Sure Computers – Wireless Desktop keyboard and mouse £34.00

10.2d) Norfolk Parish Training & Support – Annual subscription £65.00

10.2e) Clerks salary £546.00 + £6.00 per week for 9 weeks working from home payment £54.00.

Total due to Clerk £600.00.

**10.3 To receive the Internal Audit report for financial year 2023/2024**

Proposed and resolved to accept the Audit.

**10.4 The Clerk and Chair have completed forms with Bank of Scotland for a change of correspondence address and for the Clerk to have access to view the Council's accounts online. Forms have been requested for the addition of Cllr Gray as a signatory**

**11. To discuss the purchase of daffodil bulbs to be planted around the village of Sharrington**

No further action at this time.

**12. To receive any updates on matters arising from the open evening**

The Chair has been discussing with Albanwise a number of issues raised, such as hedging, permissive paths, repairs to the flint pillar. Further updates will be given at the next meeting.

**13. To deal with any correspondence**

13.1 Defence Employee Recognition Scheme (DER's) Gold Award – North Norfolk District Council (NNDC)

The Clerk will speak to the officer at North Norfolk District Council regarding this.

**14. Matters for Information Only or Next Agenda**

14.1 All Councillors attended a Planning Seminar in Holt held by NNDC.

14.2 Training for Councillors

14.3 To consider future discussions reference incorporating Sharrington into Parish Council name

**15. To agree date of next meeting**

Agreed the next meeting would be on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 and will follow the Annual Parish Meeting which starts at 6.15pm.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm

Signed

Date