# **HOLME HALE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MONTHLY UPDATES DURING THE CORONAVIRUS CORVID – 19 EMERGENCY / SUSPENSION OF MEETINGS**

**Report from 4th to the 29th May 2020**

**Any decisions made by email during this time will be put on the agenda to be minuted at the first Parish Council Meeting when public meetings are allowed**

**General information**

Sadly Cllr Julian Pearson informed the Parish Council that he will be resigning from the Council at the end of August 2020.

**Cheques/ Payments approved for May 2020**

The following payments were authorised 7th May 2020 and agreed by e-mail due to the suspension of Parish Council Meetings during the Covid 19 emergency (The cheques were signed by Mrs P Angus and Cllr N McBrien)

**Balance Current Account for April 2020 £10,442.80**

**Plus the following receipts**

Precept £4,000.00

**Total Income £4,000.00**

**Grand Total before cheque payments £14,442.80**

**Cheques Description Total**

907 E-On Street lighting £222.88

908 TTSR Grass Cutting Contract £912.42

909 Came and Company Parish Insurance £615.85

**Total Cheques paid £1,751.15**

**Balance in Current Account for May 2020 \* £12,691.65**

**Balance in Savings Account (inc interest paid in April) £4,804.69**

**GRAND TOTAL £17,496.34**

**MAY 2020 BANK RECONCILIATION**

Bank Statement Balance as of 9/4/2020 - current a/c only £14,764.29

Unpresented cheques todate £2,072.64

**Balance in community account (always match balance marked \*) £12,691.65**

**Ringfenced restricted funds for volunteer group £574.25**

Less payments for volunteers £0.00

**Balance left as of 7/5/2020 £574.25**

**Brief Planning updates**

**Vattenfall –** Letter to be sent to Breckand Planning department – letter to be co-ordinated with other Parish Councils, Cllr Pearson has drafted a letter and is speaking to other Parish Councils.

Cllr Pearson had one response from Ashill saying “*My Chairman has already spoken about our concerns and Ashill P C has joined NorfolkALC asking planning officers to ensure the offshore wind farms are connected to the National Grid with the least possible interference to life in Norfolk”*

With regards to Bradenham Mr Chris Allhussen is the point of contact there.. NO OTHER Parish Council (including Necton) has responded.

Further report from Cllr Pearson as follows

1. I have registered to speak at the virtual open floor hearing in June
2. I shall draft a SHORT presentation on visual impact reduction.. or Building “Signature” as the industry refers to it
3. To give weight to the advice, I shall point out that the specialists I approached were contact details provided to me by “Lieutenant General Sir Nick Pope KCB, CBE, recently retired deputy Chief of staff at the MoD and the specialists come from SAAB .. Swedish, just as Vattenfall is) and (potentially), a company called Fibrotex, which specialises in 3d textured camouflage coverings..
4. SAAB R&D are looking into the challenge for me.. I have provided the 3D videos and files.. they will investigate paint patterns and textures, but are aware that netting is not likely to be accepted in case it broke free and short circuited 3.6GW at the substation, or the 12GW capacity of the overhead pylon systems.. so they are looking at the potential of stripping back their existing multi-sensor camouflage (electronic, heat, radar camouflage) to the visual only level and creating small tiles of it, so that no pieces, should they break free, would be large enough to cause a problem.
5. If it gets too technical, I hope to have them present their findings directly to the examining authority at the virtual open floor meeting
6. My approach has been that if they help us out as a community and include a generic cost estimate for the various options they come up with, they can provide just enough information and evidence to the Ex Auth for them to show what can be done, without giving so much that Vattenfall has their job done for them… but can then take them on directly for a complete plan and potential commission of the mitigation.
7. It’s all VERY EARLY stages of investigation, so no hopes are up yet.. and as always, I shall leave the ‘put it somewhere else’ argument to the multitude of voices in Necton and elsewhere.. our arguments should stand out, because they are constructive

**3PL/2020/0352/F Hunters Lodge, Hale Road**

New menage area with field shelters.

**Received 21st April – comments by 13th May**

22/4/20 Clearer and better location plans were requested from Planning and these have since been supplied

**No objections received from the Parish Council.**

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**Highways updates**

* Pothole re-appeared in Church Lane along with another in same area – *done*
* Pot hole outside the entrance to Yaxley Meadow- *done*
* Western edge Cooks Road – Subsidence – Same as last month -*Highways have said that this is programmed but at the moment they have a reduced capacity for works due to issues with the supply chain, materials and the reduced gang capability, they also said - please be assured they will get to it when they can.*
* Flooding in Cook Road / St Andrews Close – letters to Highways to complain and letter to residents asking that they complain. Same as last month - *Cllr Scarlett has since informed me that he saw 3rd party (i.e. non-Highways) contractors attempting to jet the drainage system in question during the last week of March. They were raising manhole covers & attempting to do it properly, but he fears this approach is likely to achieved little. Whilst it shows willing on the part of Highways, he fears it may only allow them to tick a box and delay further complaints from us. Given the current dry weather forecast, it will not be known if the works have been successful for some time to come.*
* Browns Lane – Pot hole reported on the 4th May 2020 – *done but Cllr Lyndsay has said that it looks like a temporary fix and he will keep an eye on it.*

O**ther matters outstanding**

* Muddy footpath - Eastern entrance to the footpath in Church Road – meeting between TTSR and Cllr McBrien to discuss putting wood chippings down – to be arranged at a later date.

**Volunteer updates from Cllr McBrien**

**The following update was received for Cllr McBrien on the 18th May 2020**

* + We have some 20 volunteers in our group and the vast majority have been called upon to do some volunteer tasks. To date we have responded to just over 80 requests for assistance (so about 10 per week). The main two tasks have been shopping and collecting prescriptions, but also requests to top-up electricity keys for pay-as-you-go meters, posting letters/parcels, transport to medical appointments and even witnessing the signing of a will for a 91 year old resident. Also sorting out stuff-ups with delivery of Boris Boxes and Breckland Council food boxes to some of our shielded residents
  + As previously mentioned I was in discussion with Community Action Norfolk (CAN) about formalising the group under a ‘Good Neighbourhood Scheme’ so we could get public liability cover. After more information I decided the additional bureaucracy for all volunteers did not warrant what little cover it gave. I think we are functioning well in covering Holme Hale residents and I do not want to create unnecessary hurdles for our volunteers. We are using safe protocols and social distancing and I am maintaining GDPR rules as much as possible by acting as a go-between so phone numbers are not shared between residents and volunteers. Half of our group have current DBS certificates including myself and I use these volunteers for more sensitive tasks. I am participating in a weekly Zoom meeting of volunteer group coordinators in Breckland District (including Breckland District Council managers) to keep abreast of best practice and any useful local information for the benefit of running our Holme Hale volunteer operation.

Also I must especially thank Pauline in supporting me with information and advice in running the volunteer service.

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