

Oxborough Parish Council

Correspondence received and made for meeting 17 Nov 2021

a) Norfolk Police

1. See website

b) Breckland Council (see website)

c) Norfolk County Council (see website)

d) Kristina Carrington, Regional Employer Engagement Director, confirmed receipt of the signed Armed Forces Covenant Pledge.

e) Regarding the AFC, received an email from Elizabeth and Colin Mason: 'Colin and I are both ex RAF Officers, in fact Colin is now an Honorary Commander for the USAF at Lakenheath, and don't forget Paul Smythe opposite the VH is ex RAF too. Cllr Allison also advised that Charles Howard-Vyse is also ex-military.

f) NALC: "asked by our patron The Lady Dannatt MBE, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk, to help with the distribution of a Plaque to all rural communities to mark what has been a truly unique and remarkable year which brought great pain for many people in so many ways, but through which shone our communities' care and thought for each other. The plaque is made of weather-proof, long lasting, enamelled aluminium and comes with pre-drilled holes (and screws) for fixing indoors or out. We will start planning the presentations which will largely be by one of Lady Dannatt's deputies (a DL). The designated DL will liaise directly with you. As this is for the community your council serves - you may wish to have it presented at another community event and so you have an opportunity to give details of any other such events". The Clerk has passed on this information to the VHC, to request their consideration on the possible location of the commemorative plaque, as the Village Hall building would be most fitting. The VHC considered an area on the outside wall to the righthand side of the main doors and Georgina Roberts will make the presentation at the start of the PC meeting scheduled for 17 Nov 2021.

g) Chairman (Paul Elmhirst) Stillingfleet Parish Council: "Our planned play area looks very like yours, with maybe six or seven modest items in wood. However, none of the quotes we have had, including fencing and surface where required, get anywhere near the cost of £20,000 quoted on your web site. Could you tell me what that figure covered and whether you got any special deal from a warm-hearted contractor or rich parishioner to reduce your cost. The best quote we have got is £60,000 which includes fencing and surfacing. (I think it should be grass except under the equipment, but others think differently).

h) Village Hall Committee email from the secretary, Julie Wood: The AGM is being held on 28 October. The constitution of the Committee requires that the Trustees should include representative members from village organisations. Would the Parish Council therefore like to nominate their representative to serve on the Village Hall Committee?

i) Treecare Consultants completed a second inspection of the tree - conclusion is that the tree should be felled.

j) The Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons (2 June 2022). As part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations Bruno Peeks, the Pageant Master, is organising a National chain of Beacons with the ambition of 70 beacons to be lit across Norfolk.

k) Maggie Oechsle, Chairman of NP4Yaxham Working Group: Breckland District Council - Local Plan Review Overview and Scrutiny Commission hearing 28 October 2021. "As it stands, the Local Plan will be out of date for 3 years from 2024 - 2027 or until it is adopted. This will massively impact the whole district by leaving all our communities open to every kind of developer whim."

l) Frankie Watkin reported a damaged public footpath sign on Eastmoor Road (the sign has fallen down). Clerk reported the problem also (ENQ900195546).

m) OVH Chair, Cathy Warnock, emailed to offer to purchase a replacement waste bin (located by the bus shelter) - a mock wooden effect and suggested the addition of the words 'Sponsored by the Oxborough Village Hall' and a smaller sign 'no dog waste'.

n) Email from Mr. David Hotchkin, concerning the follow-up report on the Beech Tree, which recommends felling: 'I also understand that Oxborough Parish Council may be seeking a loan to cover the costs of the exercise. In my considered opinion, this is not a healthy state of affairs with regard to the PC funds and the precept requirement. Therefore, I am now formally making an offer to OPC to pay the complete costs of the felling operation (if permitted by Breckland Council) and the subsequent replanting of a new tree'.

o) Parish Precept Requirement 2022/23 - to be returned to Breckland Council by 31 January 2022

p) AGDJ Brown - Site inspection carried out 10 Nov. Cllrs Simon Willies, Bernie Chapman and Graham Allison attended. Chair reported as follows: The plan is 29-30 December to clear the fallen branch and debris and 3 January 2022 onwards to fell the tree. They cannot do it any sooner. Browns will sort out the traffic management - cost is around £460 plus VAT. Safety seems fine with plenty of signage all around. OPC would put a notice out that the Green will be closed for the duration of the works. Fence around tree will be taken down and replaced when the work is completed. OPC consider planting a hedge to fill the gap. Need to make sure both double gates are unlocked. Browns will use their own padlocks whilst on site. Also include on the notice that Browns are willing to providing clippings if anyone in the village wants them. Browns will email across a copy of their public liability insurance for our records and also email Susan a couple of days before they start work. They can source a replacement tree(s) if we would like them to.

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Planning

1. Discharge of Condition 9 on 3PL/2021/0248/F (Discharge Conditions): Oxborough Lakes House, Oxborough Lakes, Oxborough Road PE33 9QH
2. Oxburgh Hall TRE/2021/0252/TCA: T1 on application plan - southern magnolia - reduce in height by approximately 2- 2.5 metres, proportionately reduce length of lateral branches, crown lift to approximately 1 metre above ground level. Breckland Council decision: No Objection
3. TRE/2021/0217/TPO Beech (T3) - fell because of consistent and dangerous branch fall. Replant with one beech tree in the same position. **Permission refused:** The supporting evidence provided with the application recommends pruning work rather than felling. No additional supporting evidence has been provided that would indicate that the only option is to fell the tree and that it cannot be made safe by undertaking the work as recommended in the professional tree survey provided with the application
4. Clerk submitted a new application (TRE/2021/0299/TPO) to have the beech tree felled, based on the new report from Treecare Consultants (which recommended this). BC acknowledged the application, decision by 16 December. Permission granted on 28 October.
5. TRE/2021/0303/TCA T1 - silver birch. Fell, showing signs of die back, one stem is split and leaning towards road (Fairway). BC granted permission on 28 October.

Accounts

a) Payment:

1. TSB bank fees =£10
2. Treecare Consultants - follow up beech tree inspection- £250 plus VAT
3. CGM invoices for grass cutting (5 cuts) - total £164.80 plus VAT
4. Royal British Legion - Poppy Appeal - donation request of £17.

b) Receipts:

1. Breckland Council Precept (part 2 of 2) £1583

Highways

- 1.