

Minutes of a Meeting of Knapton Parish Council held in Knapton Village Hall on Tuesday 9th November 2021

Present: Peter Neatherway (Chair), Pat Lee (Vice-Chair), John Lawton, Elizabeth Winter, Dee Holroyd (Clerk) Cllr Ed Maxfield (NCC), 12 residents. Cllr D Harding, Chairman Mundesley PC, Doreen Joy, Clerk Mundesley PC.

- 1) **Apologies for Absence:** Alan Young, Greg Hayman.
- 2) **Presentation by County Broadband:** (by John Simpson of CB, brought forward in the meeting).

County Broadband is a rural broadband provider which is privately funded from backers including Aviva. Their aim is to bring broadband speeds up to 900Mbps to rural properties, including those at distance from the village centre. To do this they need a 40% show of interest from the residents. Their project leader will visit properties to discuss the project and answer questions. Open meetings will be held in the village.

If the project goes ahead, full fibre broadband will be connected direct to your property, free of charge, and a router provided free of charge. (Anyone not wishing to connect could still do so at a later date for a charge of around £300, depending on the amount of work needed).

Once connected, the service would be provided free of charge until the date that existing contracts expire, maximum of one year. From then on, charges are based upon the download speed required, starting at £28 per month for a 50Mbps up/down speed, increasing if higher speed is required.

Initial contracts are for two years with customers free to change suppliers after the first two years. PN asked about charges increasing after the initial two-year period, CB annual charges have only seen one increase of £2 month in the last 6 years.

Response to faults (SLA) would normally be within one day, fixed within three days. Service Up-time stood at 99.3% over the last 12 months. Electricity power failure would adversely affect the service, but customers could choose to retain their existing line which would still work in the event of a power cut.

CB have already installed full fibre in around 250 villages. PN would speak to contacts with CB in Essex.

Normal install time if going ahead would be 12-18 months, this could be reduced if local villages successfully liaise.

PN thanked John Simpson of County Broadband, who left the meeting at 7.30pm.

- 3) **Appointment of Parish Councillor:** did not take place.
- 4) **Declarations of Interest:** none
- 5) **Cllr Ed Maxfield:**
Cllr Maxfield had sent in his report, which had been circulated.

- i) EM suggested that liaison between the three villages requiring speed restrictions on the B1145 would greatly increase their chances of receiving NCC funding. Other requirements would be value for money and public support for a project.
- ii) Meeting with Swafield and Mundesley PCs re speed limit. The clerk and chairman of Mundesley PC were at the meeting and were keen to extend their 30mph limit on the B1145 towards Knapton. Knapton PC would like to see a 40mph limit through to and including Swafield. DH to write to Swafield clerk with third and final invitation to a meeting with Mundesley and Knapton to be set up. A decision as to how to proceed to be discussed by the councils involved and be ready to proceed by the February 2022 meeting.
PN would attend the Swafield PC meeting on Tuesday 16th November at 7pm.
- iii) PN would like to see a limit of 30mph for all Pond Lane. EM confirmed that if more than one speed limit requested the charge of about £7,000 would cover all.
- iv) EM mentioned charging points in the village. They may be a demand in the next two or three years.

Cllr EM left the meeting at 7.50pm.

PN closed the meeting to invite questions from members of the public. A question was asked about who cut the verges and why no notice of impending cuts was given. The PC has been unable to discover this.

6) **Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 5th October:**

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman. Proposed EW, seconded JL.

7) **Matters Arising:**

- i) Playground maintenance. PL would speak to ALS Lawns about regular maintenance. He suggested a Parish Council inspection rota should be set up.
- ii) Meeting with Swafield and Mundesley PC had been covered.
- iii) Land Transfer of Car Park: this was the transfer of the Village Hall car park from the Victory Housing Trust to the Knapton PC which was understood to be with Hansells, Solicitors. DH to write to Hansells to ask for it to be forward to Knapton PC.
- iv) Confirmation of ownership of the pond next to Wild`s Way. PL would contact the believed owner.
- v) Purchase of two Christmas trees. One quote had been received. PN would look at finder a less expensive alternative.
- vi) Positioning of the Plaque commemorating Community Resilience during lockdown. Probably not weatherproof. Either on the Village Sign or in the Notice Board.
- vii) Registration of footpaths. DH to write to Chris Heath who had done the map of the Knapton paths to ask for his assistance.

8) **Parish Councillors Reports:**

LW had been in touch with Anglia Water re road closures during works. These would cause severe difficulties due to narrowness of alternative routes. There would be a meeting with AW site manager.

- i) LW requested articles for the Knapton News by 15th November.
- ii) PL confirmed nearly all allotment money had been received.
- iii) JL said there had been no calls on the Knapton Angels.

9) **Financial Report, Adoption of Budget for 2021-22:**

The draft Budget had been circulated. PL asked what money was available to the Allotment Committee. It was agreed that the current figure of £205 be amended to include 2019 and 2020 monies and rent for pole. Amendment to £430. Made up Rents 205 + 185 + 70 + 65 less 95 (camera). PI would suggest the Allotment Committee fund one Christmas tree. With this amendment the Budget was agreed, proposed LW, seconded JL.

The Precept Application was due. PN suggested an inflation linked increase of £200. All agreed. This set the annual Precept at £6,450.

10) **Planning:**

No new planning applications had been received.

11) **Any Other Business:**

Operation London Bridge. This outlined protocol in the event of the death of her Majesty the Queen. LW outlined the procedures put in place by the Church, including a book of condolence open to all. PN would put an appropriate piece on the website.

12) **Date of next Meeting:**

Tuesday 7th December at 7.00pm.