**ALBY WITH THWAITE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 17 January 2017**

**at Alby Horse Shoe Inn, Cromer Road, Erpingham, NR11 7QE**

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**Present:** Chairman - Barry Fitzpatrick; Vice Chairman - Will Cutts

Councillors’ Steven Wade and Stephen Jordan,

Parish Clerk: Rosalyn Dawson

Four Members of the Public

**1.** **Apologies**: Councillor James Buchan, Councillor William Mellor

**2.** **To consider the outcome of the scheduled Thwaite Common Public Meeting on 11 January 2017**

The Chairman stated that the meeting was a single item agenda and the public are invited to participate.

There has been a consensus by all parties that the meeting on the Common was a success.

The issue of the siting of another bench was resolved and Councillors unanimously agreed that it could be be located on Weavers Way. Other benches were identified as requiring maintenance and they would be added to any maintenance plan.

Helen Baczkowska was willing to design A5 specialist seasonal notices, authenticated by NNDC and AwTPC, advising of birds nesting, presence of toads, frogs, etc.

FoTC and the Ranger are due to clear the West end of the Common to restore maximum land for grazing. Electric fencing was suggested for the middle and end sections but any grazier would need to be consulted. Grazing could be advertised as ‘free’ and NNDC may take on this responsibility.

**3. Public Participation**

There was a suggestion that a path on the East end of the Common be created as it was thought this might encourage people to walk down to the pond and discourage them from randomly walking elsewhere. The Chairman asked Councillors to make a decision on this. They unanimously objected to the cutting of a path to the pond.

A member of the public expressed concern at a lack of leadership now that Paul Ingham had left the NNDC employ and that Norman Smith was the only legitimate contact who could advise them. Requesting copies of the Byelaws from NNDC was suggested.

There was a concern expressed that in the event of further meetings relating to the Common that the AwTPC be included and informed in advance.

The Chairman proposed writing to the NNDC seeking clarification on the future management of the Common and the Parish Council’s involvement. This was unanimously agreed.

**4. To reconvene meeting**

There were no further discussions.

**5. No date was set for the next Parish Council Meeting.**

**The meeting closed at 9.15 pm**