

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 5 APRIL 2007 AT 7.30 P.M.**

**Present** Councillor R Richmond (Chair)  
Councillor A Leigh  
Councillor G Hayes  
Councillor A Luck

District Councillor R Duffield  
Mr W Barker

Two Members of the Public

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Campbell-Smith, Petzer and Silk

**2. Declaration of Interest.**

Councillor A Leigh declared a prejudicial interest in Item 14.1 being the wife of the Clerk.  
Councillor

Luck declared a personal interest in Item 12 being a member of the Village Hall Committee.

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting.**

It was proposed by Councillor Leigh and seconded by Councillor Luck that the minutes of the meetings held on 1 March 2007 and 23 March 2007 be approved and signed.

The meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was reconvened.

**4. Matters to report.**

**4.1 Ombudsman.**

The letter from the Local Government Ombudsman had been circulated stating that a Parish Council can not complain about a District Council. Further enquiries are to be made to ascertain how it is possible to complain.

**4.2 External Auditor.**

A letter had been received from the Audit Commission appointing Alun Williams as external auditor.

**4.3 Executive Officer NCAPTC.**

The letter as drafted was to be sent with the amendment as requested by Councillor Leigh to state that the two examples given by the Executive Officer were not statutory.

**5. Planning.**

**5.1 Applications.**

**5.1.1** 3PL/2007/0258/F Beechbeck River Lane East Bilney-Rear extension and side conservatory-amendment.

**No Objection**

However concerns were expressed regarding the possible obstruction on the footpath and these concerns were to be expressed to Breckland Council.

Proposed Councillor Luck Seconded Councillor Leigh

All were in favour.

- 5.1.2** 3PL/2007/0266/F 24 Fakenham Road-amendment and to provide additional access onto Fakenham Road.

**No Objection** was raised to the amended plan  
**Objection** to the additional access as this was deemed to be a safety hazard.

Proposed Councillor Richmond      Seconded Councillor Leigh  
All were in favour.

- 5.1.3** 3PL/2007/0392/F Plot 4 former builder's yard Fakenham Road-detached dwelling and garage.

**Objection.**

Proposed Councillor Leigh      Seconded Councillor Richmond  
All were in favour.

- 5.1.4** 3PL/2007/0442/F 6 Birch Avenue-Utility toilet extension

**No objection**

Proposed Councillor Richmond      Seconded Councillor Leigh  
All were in favour.

## **5.2 Decisions.**

- |               |                 |   |            |
|---------------|-----------------|---|------------|
| <b>5.2.1.</b> | 3PL/2007/0050/O | Plot 4 former builder's yard<br>Fakenham Road | Permission |
| <b>5.2.2</b>  | 3PL/2007/0138/F | 24 Ashley Road                                | Permission |
| <b>5.2.3</b>  | 3PL/2007/0157/F | Beechcroft East Bilney                        | Permission |
| <b>5.2.4</b>  | 3PL/2007/0229/F | Vale Farm Cottage                             | Permission |

The above decisions were noted.

## **5.3 Enforcement Letter- Elmham Nurseries.**

The letter from Breckland and the Environment Agency stating that the area was now tidy and no rubbish had been dug in were noted.

## **5.4 Appeal-Elmham Nurseries.**

Councillor Hayes stated that a more reasoned response was necessary for this appeal and he stated that he would draft a reply which would be circulated to all Councillors for approval and then forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate. This was agreed by all.

## **5.5 Breckland LDF.**

It was agreed unanimously not to forward any further comments.

## **5.6 Tesco- Dereham**

It was agreed to do nothing at present but to await the full planning application although concern was expressed about the additional traffic that the extension would create on already congested roads.

## **6. Correspondence.**

### **6.1 General Correspondence.**

There was no general correspondence.

## 6.2 Correspondence for Circulation.

6.2.1	LCR
6.2.2	Clerks and Councils Direct
6.2.3	Breckland Agenda
6.2.4	Beetley Football Club
6.2.5	Breckland Standards Committee
6.2.6	Signpost
6.2.7	Tesco
6.2.8	Norfolk Records Office
6.2.9	Unitary Status for Norwich
6.2.10	Deprivation in Rural Norfolk

## 7. Parish Land.

### 7.1 Beetley Meadows.

#### 7.1.1 Fallen Trees.

These had now been cleared.

#### 7.1.2 Renovation of areas.

Councillor Luck stated that certain areas of the Meadows could be improved by clearing and replanting. It was agreed to investigate possible grants for this.

#### 7.1.3 Gates.

Councillor Hayes informed the meeting that he had had a telephone call from the owner of 2 Beetley Meadows stating that after consulting her solicitor she was considering erecting a bar across her gate.

#### 7.1.4 Play Area.

A complaint had been received about bolts protruding from the rails and Reymerston fencing are to be asked to do remedial action.

### 7.2 Scout Hut Lease.

The Clerk had received communication from the Scout Group to state that nothing would be forthcoming until a meeting of the trustees in May.

### 7.3 Rural Payments Agency.

Two telephone conversations had taken place with the rural Payments Agency who stated that the only way to receive payment was to purchase entitlements. This was investigated by the Chairman who advised that the cost was not economic and would be gambling with public money to hope that the payments were greater than the initial outlay. It was agreed disappointingly not to pursue the payments anymore.

## 8. Finance.

8.1 The budget sheets and financial information had been circulated.

8.2 Balances:

### Business Base Rate Tracker Account

Balance at 19 February 2007	16156.90
Interest	<u>123.61</u>
Balance at 19 March 2007	16280.51

### Community Account

19 February 2007	3834.66
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Payments authorised	1759.00	
01 03 07	1554.09	<u>3313.09</u>
		521.57
Income Breckland Comm. Car		<u>121.84</u>
		643.41
Less unrepresented cheques		<u>72.50</u>
Balance at 19 March 2007		570.91

Amount available for Section 137 : 1093x£5.44 = £5945.92

Spend to Date : £166.50

Cheques authorised for payment:

166	IRS Ltd	Signs	102.58
167	B J Leigh	Salary	244.50
168	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	20.26
147	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	77.08
152	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	71.40
159	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	95.20
165	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	T.B.C.
169	NRCC	Membership	15.00
170	Mr J Luck	Leaflet Production-Ink &Photo Cartridge	50.00
171	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	T.B.C.
172	R.M.S. Décor	Bus Shelter	193.88
173	Ivan Webster	Notice board	510.00

Councillor Leigh expressed concern over the continued late arrival of the Community Car details and agreed to contact the co-ordinator when she had returned from holiday.

### 8.3 NCAPT Membership.

The resolution not to renew membership was proposed by Councillor Luck. Councillor Hayes proposed the resolution to await the outcome of the letter to the Executive Officer and this was agreed by all.

### 8.4 Local Council Review.

It was agreed to renew membership for one year at a cost of £13.50.

## 9. Footpaths.

9.1 The Clerk and Councillor Luck are to request quotations from several companies for the cutting of the footpaths.

## 10. Highways.

### 10.1 Flytipping.

A sweep through the parish on the B1146 had been requested and this had been done on 05 04 07

### 10.2 Weight Restriction on three bridges on the Mid-Norfolk Railway.

No objection was raised to the proposed restrictions.

## 11. St. Mary's School.

### 11.1 Head Teacher.

It was agreed to write to the Mr. Charles Phillips who had now retired due to ill health.

### 11.2 Parking.

The parking is still a problem and this is to be raised at the next travel plan meeting

when a stronger letter be requested to be sent to parents.

**12. Village Hall.**

**12.1. General.**

Nothing to report

**12.2 Letter of complaint.**

The letter had been received complaining about the delay in returning the deposit for a function. The Clerk had spoken to the lady and the Treasurer of the Village Hall and all had now been sorted. The delay had been caused by the books being at the Auditors. It was felt that a little pre-planning would resolve this problem.

**13. Breckland owned land-Beech Road.**

Nothing had been received.

**14. Clerk's Corner.**

**14.1 Service Agreement.**

All were in favour of the Chairman signing the service agreement for the Clerk.

**15. Matters for the next meeting.**

**15.1 Norfolk Census Explorer.**

**16. Portfolio Holders Update.**

**16.1 Affordable Housing.**

**16.1.1. Flagship Housing.**

Communication had been received from Flagship which was stating that the development boundary had been removed from Beetley and clarification was to be sought.

**16.2 Communications.**

**16.2.1 Beetley Buzz.**

The current edition had been oversubscribed with articles and Councillor Leigh stated that she would like to put in a list of Councillors after the May election.

**16.2.2 Link-up.**

No report had been received.

**16.2.3 Annual Parish Meeting-History of Beetley.**

It was decided to request any information at the Annual Parish Meeting and to have a mini display. It was thought that maybe a student could take on the project for his studies by interviewing people and investigating the archives at the E.D.P.

**16.2.4 Village Website.**

The request for a student had been published in the current edition of the Beetley Buzz but no replies had been received.

**16.3 Environment.**

Nothing to report.

**16.4 Transport.**

Nothing to report.

**16.5 Highways.**

**16.5.1 East Bilney.** The VAS sign post will be fitted next week and will be solar powered until EDF fit the electrics.

**16.5.2 Speed limits.** The speed limits had been erected in Church Road, East Bilney and Old Beetley. It was agreed to write to Norfolk County Council following representations from parishioners to try to extend the limit in Hall Road Old Beetley past the house nearest to the Holt Road.

**16.5.3 Traffic Calming Measures**

The "Son of Sam" signs had been erected on Fakenham Road and had been moved to a more suitable location for the south bound traffic on the same day that it had been requested.

**16.5.4 Elmham/Gressenhall Roads-Waiting Restriction.**

This will probably be installed in May.

**16.6 Community.**

**16.6.1** The Homewatch reports were noted.

**16.6.2 Deprivation in Norfolk.**

Councillor Hayes explained that it was possible to drill down to 300 people to ascertain trends and he would be doing further investigation from the Census.

**16.6.3 “Gunning for You”.**

This a volunteer system whereby the Parish is loaned the hand held radar guns to clock the speed of motorists with a brief to record the car’s registration number. Over the speed limit motorists will be sent an official warning letter by the police. The information will be fed back to the Safer Neighbourhood Teams and collated on the computer. If the same driver is caught twice a second letter will be sent and a warning that they could be targeted by the road police team. Councillor Hayes will investigate further.

**16.6.4 Community Action Group Meeting.**

Councillor Leigh reported on the inaugural meeting she had attended and stated that it was a worthwhile meeting and one of the projects that the team would be tackling would be the parking on Elmham Road. The team and its remit is to be promoted in the Beetley Buzz. It was reported that the team has already been to the school and checked the parking.

**16.7 Health and Safety.**

It was proposed by the Clerk that ROSPA carry out the inspection of the play equipment at Beetley Meadows and the playing field rather than the insurance company and this was agreed by all.

**17. Projects.**

**17.1 Footbridge at East Bilney.**

Councillor Leigh reported that she is in contact with Norfolk County Council regarding the possible provision of a footbridge and the legal implications.

**17.2 Big Lottery Fund.**

Nothing to report.

**18. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.**

This was confirmed as Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2007 at 1930 to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2209 hours.