

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER 2006 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present Councillor R Richmond (Chair)
Councillor A Leigh
Councillor R Campbell-Smith
Councillor G Hayes
Councillor A Luck

Seven Members of the Public

The meeting scheduled for 7 December had to be postponed as there was a double booking of the Hall.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Petzer and Silk, and District Councillor R Duffield

2. Declaration of Interest

Councillor R Campbell-Smith declared a personal interest in Item 13 being a resident opposite the parcel of land and Councillor A Luck a personal interest in Items 12 and 12.1 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 meeting held on 2 November 2006 be approved and signed.

The meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was reconvened.

4. Matters to report

4.1 The Town and Parish Council forum held on 12 December 2006 at Breckland Council had been attended by Councillors Richmond, Leigh, Hayes and the Clerk. It was agreed that this had been worthwhile although it was felt more time could have been devoted to participation from the attendees. The Forum had covered the Contact Centre, the Local Development Framework, The new White Paper on the role of Councillors and Street Scene

4.2 Councillor Campbell-Smith confirmed that the hedge at 8 Beech Road had been cut and he did not feel that it was a safety hazard to motorists.

4.3 The notice board for Church Road should be completed by Christmas.

4.4 Councillor Hayes would be attending the Breckland landscape Character Assessment Workshop on 18 January

5. Planning

5.1 Applications

5.1.1 3PL/2006/1616/f Allestree House Church Road Old Beetley- proposed extension over existing garage.

No objection

Proposed Councillor Campbell-Smith Seconded Councillor Leigh
All were in favour.

5.1.2 3PL/2006/1631/F The Oaklands Half Penny Lane-proposed erection of a one bedroom annexe for aged parent.

Councillor Hayes pointed out that this was outside the guidelines and the

Parish Council had objected to all previous applications on this site. No objection had been raised however to a similar development at East Bilney.

No objection

Proposed Councillor Luck
The resolution was carried by a three to two majority

Seconded Councillor Leigh

- 5.1.3** 3PL/2006/1561/F 24 Ashley Road- garage conversion with first floor extension plus single story side and rear extensions

No objection

Proposed Councillor Richmond
All were in favour

Seconded Councillor Campbell-Smith

5.2 Decisions

- 5.2.1** 3PL/2006/1492/D- 22 Elmham Road. This had been converted to a full planning application and had not been referred back to the Council but permission had been granted. The feeling of the members was that this should have been referred back and that Breckland Council had taken no notice yet again of the views of the Parish Council. Conditions placed on the permission were that there should be no further windows or openings constructed at first floor level. Permission

- 5.2.2** 3PL/2006/1308/CU- Beetley Nurseries Elmham Road. Councillor Hayes had spoken against the application at the Development Control Committee Meeting on 4 December And unanimously the Committee had refused the application as the development would be an unwarranted intrusion into the rural landscape. In addition the Committee had authorised enforcement action against the applicant to tidy the site. Refused

5.3 Meeting with Breckland Council.

Councillor Richmond together with the Clerk attended a meeting with Breckland Council Officers on 21 November and a copy of the reply had been circulated. It was agreed that the Council felt there had been maladministration and that a complaint should be forwarded to the Ombudsman. It was agreed that Breckland be informed of the Parish Council's decision prior to forwarding a letter to The Ombudsman.

6. Correspondence

6.1 General Correspondence.

- 6.1.1.** Notification of an application to vary the licence at the New Inn had been received. After discussion it was agreed that midnight was late enough for licensed premises in a rural area.
- 6.1.2.** A letter handed to the Chairman by Councillor Petzer the previous week was read out by the Chairman as requested. The letter was one of complaint from The Reverend G. S. Petzer MBE regarding a breach of the Data Protection Act by Councillor Leigh and The Clerk. It was agreed to defer any decision until the January meeting so that all Councillors would be able to read the letter. It was confirmed that all the copies of the Beetley Buzz that had been delivered had been collected.

6.2 Correspondence for Circulation

- 6.2.1 The Playing Field
- 6.2.2 Countryside Alliance
- 6.2.3 Norfolk Accident Rescue service
- 6.2.4 Clerks and Councils Direct
- 6.2.5 Breckland Agenda
- 6.2.6 Western Area Mobile Police Office
- 6.2.7 Farming Link

- 6.2.8 Breckland Standards Committee
- 6.2.9 Norfolk's Local Transport Plan
- 6.2.10 Breckland Strategic Housing Services
- 6.2.11 Norfolk County Council Mobile Library
- 6.2.12 Breckland Community Rangers

7. Parish Land

7.1 Beetley Meadows

7.1.1 Play Area

The Clerk reported that the refurbishment to the play area would take place in the New Year.

7.1.2 Gates

Nothing further had been done and it was agreed to forward a letter to all the dwellings with an additional paragraph stating that the Council wish to discuss the matter with them and would make contact in due course but if they wish to discuss the matter in the meantime the occupants could contact either Councillor Campbell-Smith or Councillor Hayes.

7.2 East Bilney Town Lands

The Clerk had confirmed that the Council would not lose any of the existing grants by not installing the Walkers welcome signs.

7.3 Beetley Common

A letter had been received from the Beetley Common Advisory Committee and after confirmation from Balfour Beatty the Clerk had replied stating that all work had been completed except for testing and disinfecting. The new water main should be working by 28 November 2006.

7.4 Scout Hut Lease

Nothing to report

7.5 Rural Payments Agency

Having received the RLE1 form the chairman concurred that this was not suitable and after another telephone conversation the RPA agreed that this was not the correct form. Yet another letter had been sent but no reply had been received.

8. Finance

8.1 The budget sheets and financial information had been circulated

8.2 Balances

Business Base Rate Tracker Account

Balance at 19 September 2006	15058.82
Transfer from Community Account	<u>5000.00</u>
Balance at 17 November 2006	20058.82

Community Account

20 October 2006	9385.25
Payments (unpresented from 02 1106	50.00)
(authorised 02 11 06	305.65)
	<u>355.65</u>
	9029.60
Transfer to Business Base Rate Tracker	<u>5000.00</u>
	4029.60
Income Community Car	<u>23.95</u>
	4053.55
Less unpresented cheques	<u>1971.33</u>
Balance at 17 November 2006	2082.22

Amount available for Section 137 : 1093x£5.44 = £5945.92
Spend to Date : £166.50

Cheques authorised:

140	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	18.10
141	Norfolk County Services	Grass cutting	89.99
142	R G Maintenance	Annual Cut Beetley Meadows	394.80
143	B J Leigh	Salary 235.38 Postage 7.68 Telephone 77.20	320.26
144	F Haverson	Cutting of Beetley Playing Field	900.00
145	R Woodley	Footpath Cutting	45.00
146	Watton Holt and Dereham CAB	Donation	50.00
131	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	47.90
137	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	49.27
147	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	T.B.C.

8.3 Precept.

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Campbell-Smith seconded the resolution that the precept be set at £11,750.00. All were in favour.

8.4 It was proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Luck that £100 be donated to the Beetley with East Bilney Parochial Church Council and St Mary's C.P.School Beetley. All were in favour.

8.5 The annual audit had been received from the external auditor with no adverse comments and the requisite notices had been displayed. It was agreed to write to June Overall to thank her for her work on the audit.

9. Footpaths.

Nothing to report

10. Highways.

10.1 Flytipping

Nothing to report.

10.2 B1110 Holt Road

The closure of the B1110 Holt Road from Green Lane to Elmham Road from 2 January 2007 for 24 working days was noted. A temporary weight restriction would be imposed on Green Lane and Elmham Road.

10.3 Old Beetley Speed Limit

It was agreed to write to Norfolk County Council to attempt to have the speed limit moved past the last dwelling on Hall Road following representation from a parishioner.

11. St. Mary's School.

The Clerk attended the travel plan meeting on 21 November and reported on Elmham Road parking and requested that more be done by the PTA to reduce parking problems

and that the problem with the gate being locked at lunch time be addressed.

12. Village Hall.

12.1 The Christmas event had raised approximately £300-350. The Village Hall committee had requested that the Parish Council purchase some additional dog fouling signs for the playing field. This was deferred to the next meeting.

12.2 Pavilion. Six quotations had been received for the replacement doors and windows. It was proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Campbell-Smith that the quotation from Oasis Windows for £1923.40 be accepted. All were in favour.

13. Breckland owned land-Beech Road

The Clerk had received the information from Breckland and this had been forwarded to the solicitors.

14. Clerk's Corner

14.1 It was agreed to charge other parishes and organisations 3p per copy single sided and 4p per copy double sided.

14.2 As the Clerk to Beetley Parish Council is also the Clerk to Beeston with Bittering Parish Council it was agreed that time spent at functions and any costs incurred for both parishes should be split equally.

15. Matters for the next meeting

15.1 Policy regarding village Guidelines

15.2 Link-Up

15.3 Local Development Framework

16. Portfolio Holders Update.

16.1 Affordable Housing.

16.1.1 A conversation between the Clerk and Mr. Abram was noted reference the insinuation by Flagship that there was a problem with the Parish Council. The Clerk reiterated the Council's position to Mr Abram that the Council was opposed to flats but not affordable homes.

16.1.2 As no accounts had been filed by Hayes Affordable Homes it was felt expedient to obtain a copy of them when filed and to contact Mattishall Parish Council for their comments on the project Hayes Affordable Homes are undertaking at the Old School.

16.2 Communications

Nothing to report

16.3 Environment

Nothing to report

16.4 Transport

16.4.1 Community Car Forum. Councillor Silk reported that generally the co-ordinators were not happy with the liaison with Breckland Council. There was also disquiet that certain medical complaints were not recognised by Breckland Council.

16.4.2 Bus Service. Councillor Silk is still striving with Norfolk County Council and is to write an article for the Buzz to obtain feedback that could be used in discussions with Norfolk County Council

16.4.3 Bus Shelter. Councillor Silk had obtained only one quotation for the refurbishment of the shelter on Gressenhall Road although he had requested four. He was to try and obtain further quotes and Councillor Hayes raised the possibility of painting the bus shelter as a task force in the spring.

16.5 Highways

16.5.1 Elmham Road Parking

Notification had been received from Norfolk County Council for the No Waiting signs to extend 20metres along Elmham Road and 15 metres along Gressenhall Road on both sides of the road. A letter is to be sent confirming that the Parish Council is in agreement and to request that the School Keep Clear markings be refreshed.

16.5.2 East Bilney Bridge

The footpath assessment had been carried out on a Tuesday rather than a Friday as requested and had resulted in a figure of 39 points. At present schemes are being

considered where 43 points are scored. Only one pedestrian crossed the bridge whilst the survey was being conducted and it may be expedient to apply for a re-assessment.

16.5.3 Think Signs

These temporary signs are in East Bilney and they have also been requested for Beetley including the "Son of SAM" which is a temporary flashing speed awareness sign.

16.6 Community

The Homewatch reports were noted.

16.7 Health and Safety

Nothing further at this meeting.

17. Projects

Nothing further to report.

18. Dates of the Parish Council Meetings 2007

It was agreed that these be the first Thursday of the month except May when it would be Wednesday 2nd May with the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 17th May.

19. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting

This was confirmed as Thursday 4th January 2007 at 1930 to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2219 hours