

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

Present Councillor R Richmond (Chair)
Councillor A Leigh
Councillor R Campbell-Smith
Councillor G Hayes (arrived later)
Councillor A Luck
Councillor M Petzer
Councillor D Silk

1 member of the public

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Campbell-Smith and Petzer who were on holiday. These were accepted.

2. Declaration of Interest.

Councillor Luck declared a personal interest in Item 10.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5 July 2007 having been circulated were approved and signed.

4. Matters to report.

4.1 Executive Officer NCAPTC

A draft reply had been prepared and this was agreed to be forwarded to end the matter.

4.2 CAG Meeting 17 July 2007.

The Vice-Chairman had attended the meeting which reported on the previous six weeks and found that there was not excessive speeding on Crown Road. The problems with noise from modified cars can not be measured by the Safer Neighbourhood Team so they are attempting to tackle the problem by reporting the modifications to insurance companies to ensure the driver is covered for the changes. The CCTV coverage has improved and has moved the vehicles from the town centre to the Cowper Road and Cherry Tree Car Parks where there is limited coverage. The parking problems on estates had been targeted and several vehicles had been ticketed for obstruction. Patrols had been confiscating alcohol from young people but the targeting had caused the young to move from the recreation ground to the rugby ground where there is no CCTV coverage so help could not be sent in the event of problems as had been the case at the recreation ground. The problems to be targeted for the next 8 weeks are the Anti-Social driving on the Cherry Tree Car Park, parking problems on estates and working with North Elmham Parish Council over the anti social behaviour on the playing field.

4.3 Breckland Council Town and Parish Council Forum 9 July 2007.

Councillors Leigh and Campbell-Smith had attended the meeting. The Vice-Chairman reported that the Forum was good in parts but the venue was atrocious for such an event with poor acoustics and visibility of the visual aids. The main parts of the Forum concentrated on

1. A mini Website that can be used by Parish Councils and will be developed as it progresses. No definite time has been set for its commencement.

2. The police attended from the Safer Neighbourhoods team and gave an outline of the policy behind SNT and their roles.
 3. Local Development Framework has again been delayed because of additional restraints placed on local councils by Central Government and the officers from Breckland Council emphasised that they need feedback from the Parishes and they would give a presentation to the Councils but have requested that several Councils liaise so that they have less meetings to attend as there are not enough officers to attend all councils. The main development for the region is in the Thetford area and there may not be guidelines for villages in the future and each application may solely be judged on its merits.
 4. Engaging with younger people is to provide activities for teenagers and there is funding available for projects but the dialogue should be two way.
 5. Changes to the Breckland Housing Register to provide a fairer system for all based on points acquired and it should be easier to understand.
- It was agreed to arrange a meeting with Breckland planning regarding the LDF and to involve other parishes.

4.4 Hoe and Worthing Parish Meeting

The Vice-Chairman had received a telephone call from the Chairman of Hoe and Worthing Parish meeting inviting a representative to attend their open meeting regarding the planning application from Barker Brothers. After consultation with the Chairman and Portfolio holder for planning it was agreed not to attend, A reply was sent acknowledging their invitation but declining.

4.5 NRCC AGM on Monday 16 July 2007.

The Chairman had attended this at Bawburgh Village Hall which is an excellent venue. The delegates pack is to be circulated but there was much discussion in AOB regarding the lack of support from the NRCC for Village Halls as the assistant who had been dealing with this had been promoted and not replaced. Bill Barker felt that more should be available for the Village hall Association from the NRCC. The NRCC support the carbon footprint and presentations were given about Kenninghall Village hall and village composting.

4.6 There were no nominations for the Executive of the NCAPTC.

4.7 Dereham Citizens Advice Bureau AGM 8 August.

Councillor Hayes confirmed that he would attend

5. Planning.

5.1 Applications.

5.1.1 3PL/2007/1165/F 15 Fakenham Road-extension to dwelling/terrace area
The change of use is necessary to enable horses to be fed on the land. The application is for private use.

No Objection

Proposed Councillor Petzer Seconded Councillor Luck
All were in favour.

All were in favour.

5.2 Decisions.

5.2.1. 3PL/2007/0828/F 5 Birch Avenue Permission

5.2.2 3PL/2007/0746/F Hall farm East Bilney Permission

The above decisions were noted.

5.3 Enforcement

5.3.1 The letter from Breckland Council regarding the signs advertising Bilney Care Home was noted. The owner has to apply for consent or remove the boards.

6. Correspondence.
6.1 Correspondence for Circulation.

7. Parish Land.

7.1 East Bilney Town Lands.

It was agreed to cut the whole of the land for £435 when it was possible to obtain access to the whole area. The Lands had had a ragwort treatment last year and as ragwort is a biennial weed it will not be necessary to treat this year.

Councillor Hayes joined the meeting.

7.2 Crossing Rights Beetley Common.

The Chairman had reminded Mr Bane that no request had been received this year and he had promised to write shortly.

8. Finance.

8.1 The budget sheets and financial information had been circulated and these were approved.

8.2 Balances:

Business Base Rate Tracker Account

Balance at 19 March 2007	16280.51
Interest	<u>114.41</u>
	16394.92

Community Account

19 June 2007		5512.13
Payments authorised 02 05 07	695.22	<u>695.22</u>
		4816.91
Income Breckland Comm. Car		<u>23.01</u>
		4839.92
Less unrepresented cheques		<u>356.46</u>
Balance at 19 June 2007		4483.46

Amount available for Section 137 : $1096 \times £5.64 = £6181.44$
 Spend to Date : £0.00

The following cheques were authorised for payment:-

185	B J Leigh	Salary	244.50
186	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	21.82
187	Norfolk County Services	Grass Cutting	93.24
189	Beetley Village Hall	Hire of Hall	134.75

190	Zurich Municipal	Insurance	905.64
191	Beetley Common Advisory Committee	Donation	85.00

8.3 NCAPTC Membership.

Councillor Petzer proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the proposal that the membership should be renewed. After a lengthy discussion which focused on the merits of renewed membership as opposed to the personal feelings to the executive Officer it was agreed by a majority decision to renew membership at a cost of £200.77.

8.4 NCAPTC Handbooks.

It was agreed unanimously to purchase one handbook for the Clerk to keep at a cost of £3.75.

8.5 Insurance 2007/2008.

It was agreed unanimously to renew the insurance with Zurich for the forthcoming financial year for £905.64 but not to have Zurich do the playground inspection.

9. St. Mary's School.

Nothing to report

10. Village Hall.

It was noted that the lock on the front door was faulty and that the new No Smoking signs were needed. Councillor Luck agreed to report this at the next Village Hall Committee meeting.

11. Clerk's Corner.

11.1 Information for Portfolio Holders

The Clerk stated that information of interest to portfolio Holders would be put in the packs with the normal information.

11.2 Declarations of Interest

The Clerk reminded Councillors of the importance of the declarations as he was aware that a Councillor from another Parish was being investigated by a solicitor for non Declaration of Interest.

12. Matters for the next meeting.

Nothing was proposed for the next meeting.

13. Portfolio Holders Update.

13.1 Affordable Housing.

13.1.1. Flagship Housing.

Laura Handford had attended a meeting at Breckland Council when it was anticipated that representatives from the Planning Department would be present but they had a team meeting and therefore did not attend. A further meeting is planned when a planning officer will hopefully attend. The Clerk had provisionally booked Laura Handford to attend the September meeting.

13.2 Communications.

13.2.1 Beetley Buzz.

It was agreed to place an article in the next edition of the Beetley Buzz stating that the current editor could not continue after the July edition and if anyone is interested to contact Councillor Hayes (Communications Portfolio Holder).

13.3 Environment.

13.3.1 Footpaths.

The footpaths had been walked by Councillors Richmond, Leigh, Campbell-Smith, Luck and the Clerk. Problems had been noted. Councillor Hayes gave the walkers

moral support prior to the start. The Clerk had arranged a meeting with Sarah Cureton of Norfolk County Council to discuss and view the footpaths.

13.3.2 Beetley Meadows

It was confirmed that a meeting be arranged with Gerry Barnes of Norfolk County Council to progress the replanting of areas of Beetley Meadows.

13.4 Transport.

Nothing to report.

13.5 Highways.

13.5.1 General.

The flooding at the top of Bilney Hill is being investigated by Norfolk County Council. The footpath between High house Road and the Old School has been programmed to be resurfaced. A letter had been sent from Norfolk County Council to the owner of the land at the junction of Church Road and Fakenham Road East Bilney to cut the foliage around the 30m.p.h. sign. The foliage around the sign near the church had been cut. The sign on the Fakenham Road advertising the properties at the Care Home has been requested to be removed.

13.5.2 Complaints.

A request had been received regarding Field Lane which needed cutting and the Clerk had met the cutting contractor that morning who said that it had been cut. The signs that have sprung up at the Hall Lane /Fakenham Road junction are all on private land and therefore the Highways Department can not insist on their removal but they may well require planning permission. Breckland Council will be contacted regarding these signs.

A complaint about parking on Elmham Road had been received from a parishioner together with a photograph and this has been forwarded to the Safer Neighbourhood Team at Dereham. The school keep clear markings have not been replaced on the road and Norfolk County Council have been informed.

13.6 Community.

The Homewatch reports are now being received again.

13.7 Health and Safety.

A gate had become parted from the post and the Clerk had arranged for Councillor Luck to have the gate welded back to the post. Councillor Silk had chained the gate to the fence to ensure that it was not removed. The Clerk reported that he had met the Safety Inspector who stated that rubber buffers should be fitted to the gate and he would put this in his report.

14. Projects.

It was agreed that as any projects would come under portfolio holders reports this item be removed from future agendas.

15. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 2nd August to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall at 1930

The meeting closed at 2124 hours.