

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 1 MARCH 2007 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present

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

District Councillor R Duffield

Three Members of the Public

1. Apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declaration of Interest.

Councillor R Campbell-Smith declared a personal interest in Item 13 being a resident opposite the parcel of land. Councillor A Leigh declared a personal interest in 5.1.6 being the neighbour and a prejudicial interest in Items 6.1.2 being the complainee and 19 being the wife of the Clerk. Councillor Luck declared a personal interest in Items 7.4 being a relation of the applicant and Item 12 being a member of the Village Hall Committee.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor Petzer and seconded by Councillor Campbell-Smith that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2007 be approved and signed.

The meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was reconvened.

4. Matters to report.

4.1 Annual Parish Council Meeting.

This is to be held on Wednesday 16th May.

4.2 Plaque for the tree.

This is to be erected on 16th May.

4.3 NCAPTC Spring Seminar.

It was resolved not to attend the seminar.

4.4 New Code of Conduct.

The Clerk reported that a new Draft code of Conduct had been received and there were few changes in it. It was to be an amalgamation of four existing Codes of Conduct and that a copy would be circulated with the correspondence.

4.4 Notice board Church Road.

This has been erected.

4.5 Wensum Valley Trust.

The inaugural meeting of the Wensum Valley Trust, a charitable organisation set up to administer the work of the old Wensum Valley Project would be held on 26 March 2007 and the Chairman hoped to attend.

5. Planning.

5.1 Applications.

- 5.1.1** 3PL/2007/0138/F 24 Ashley Road-garage conversion with first floor extension plus single storey side and rear extensions application.
No Objection
 Proposed Councillor Richmond Seconded Councillor Petzer
 All were in favour.
- 5.1.2** 3PL/2007/0157/F Beechcroft Fakenham Road East Bilney-installation of stainless steel flue.
No Objection
 Proposed Councillor Petzer Seconded Councillor Campbell-Smith
 All were in favour.
- 5.1.3** 3PL/2006/1667/F New Inn 31 Fakenham Road-rear extension to form conservatory, utility room and canopy.
No Objection
 Proposed Councillor Luck Seconded Councillor Petzer
 All were in favour.
- 5.1.4** 3PL/2007/0201/O Silver Glade Elmham Road-erection of bungalow and garage.

The meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was reconvened.

No objection despite reservations that a precedent would be set for back garden development along this part of Elmham Road.
 Proposed Councillor Petzer Seconded Councillor Luck
 The resolution was carried by a majority decision.

District Councillor Duffield left the meeting.

- 5.1.5** 3PL/2007/0229/F Vale Farm Cottage- two storey front extension.
No objection
 Proposed Councillor Richmond Seconded Councillor Leigh
 All were in favour.

District Councillor Duffield rejoined the meeting

- 5.1.6** 3PL/2007/0258/F Beechbeck River Lane East Bilkney.
No objection
 Proposed Councillor Petzer Seconded Councillor Leigh
 All were in favour.

5.2 Decisions.

There were no decisions.

5.3 Enforcement Letter.

The letter from Breckland Council to Mr & Mrs Gould, 57 Elmham Road regarding storage of mowers was noted.

6. Correspondence.

6.1 General Correspondence.

6.1.1. Emergency Coordinator.

The Clerk was confirmed as the Emergency Coordinator for Beetley

6.1.2 The Reverend G. S. Petzer MBE.

It was resolved to forward a letter acknowledging the letter received and enclosing the complaints procedure for Beetley Parish Council.

6.2 Correspondence for Circulation.

- 6.2.1** Norfolk Link
- 6.2.2** Revised Model Code of Conduct
- 6.2.3** Breckland Agenda
- 6.2.4** Breckland Agenda
- 6.2.5** Breckland Agenda
- 6.2.6** Signpost
- 6.2.7** Eurocom
- 6.2.8** Breckland Agenda

7. Parish Land.

7.1 Beetley Meadows.

7.1.1 Gates.

Councillors Hayes and Campbell-Smith had visited the properties on 17 February. The occupiers of 2,4 and 5 Beetley Meadows were spoken to and informed that the Parish Council would erect a fence and whilst most understood why the Parish Council were doing this they were not in agreement. A further letter was left at 1 Beetley Meadows and the owner of 5 Birch Avenue rang on his return from holiday. A letter is to be delivered to 6 Birch Avenue and 2 Fakenham Road who also have accesses onto Beetley Meadows. It was agreed that an annual letter be sent to all properties.

7.1.2 Play Area.

The refurbishment had been finished and a letter was read out from a parishioner expressing their appreciation for the refurbishment. It was suggested that a sign saying no cycling would be more appropriate than no cycles.

7.1.3 Fallen Tree.

Councillor Leigh proposed the resolution that the tree be cleared with a maximum cost of £150 and Councillor Luck agreed to arrange this.

7.1.4 Regular Cut

The quotation from Norfolk County Services for £555.48 was approved unanimously.

7.2 Scout Hut Lease.

Nothing to report

7.3 Rural Payments Agency.

No reply had been received to the last letter sent.

7.4 Additional Football Pitches at the School.

The meeting was adjourned

The meeting was reconvened.

The Parish Council expressed their appreciation of the effort to organise the football on Saturday mornings and confirmed they had no objection to the marking out of additional pitches.

7.5 Public Payphone.

The owners of the old telephone exchange had requested that the payphone be removed. The Clerk had been contacted by Breckland Council and he had contacted British Telecom who said they would resite on Beech Road but it would be a stainless steel non cash payphone. It was resolved not to have another payphone in the village but to request a donation to the play area in lieu of the cost of replacing.

7.6 Beetley Common Crossing Rights.

Councillor Petzer proposed the resolution to agree to the request from Roosting Hills Trout Fishery for certain crossing rights and this was agreed unanimously.

8. Finance

8.1 The budget sheets and financial information had been circulated.

8.2 Balances:

Business Base Rate Tracker Account

Balance at 19 December 2006	20156.90
Transfer to Community Account	<u>4000.00</u>
Balance at 19 February 2007	16156.90

Community Account

19 January 2007		1750.11
Payments authorised 01 02 07		<u>2529.02</u>
		778.91
Income (VAT Refund	613.57)	
(Transfer from Business Base Rate Tracker	4000.00)	<u>4613.57</u>
		3834.66
Less unpresented cheques		<u>1759.00</u>
Balance at 19 February 2007		2075.66

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

The following cheques were authorised:

160	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	17.63
161	B J Leigh	Salary	235.38
162	NCAPTC	Training	30.00
147	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	T.B.C.
152	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	T.B.C.
159	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	T.B.C.
163	SLCC	Membership at 50%	42.50
164	Reymerston Landscaping and Fencing	Beetley Meadows	1198.50
165	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	T.B.C.

8.3 Delegation of Emergency Fund.

Councillor Hayes proposed the resolution to delegate to the Clerk the authority to spend up to the sum of £250 to be used in an emergency. This was agreed unanimously.

8.4 External Auditor.

It was agreed to appoint the Audit Commission as the external auditor.

8.5 NRCC Membership.

Councillor Petzer proposed the resolution to renew membership of NRCC as a non-voting member for £15.

9. **Footpaths.**
Nothing to report.
10. **Highways.**
 - 10.1 **Flytipping.**
The Clerk felt that a sweep of the B1146 was needed through East Bilney and this was agreed.
 - 10.2 **Fakenham/Elmham/Gressenhall Road.**
The prohibition of waiting notice for the above was noted.
11. **St. Mary's School.**
Nothing to report.
12. **Village Hall.**
 - 12.1. **General.**
Good comments had been received about the new windows of the pavilion but concern had been expressed about the bottles left on the ground after matches. Councillor Luck stated that these are normally cleared.
 - 12.2 **Signs.**
The Clerk had expected the invoice to be available for payment and requested that as the payment had been agreed he issue the cheque on receipt of the invoice. This was agreed.
13. **Breckland owned land-Beech Road.**
A letter had been received from Hood Vores & Allwood requesting documentation from the Chairman and Clerk for money laundering reasons.
14. **Clerk's Corner.**
Nothing to report.
15. **Matters for the next meeting.**
 - 15.1 Deprivation in Norfolk
 - 15.2 Tesco Expansion
16. **Portfolio Holders Update.**
 - 16.1 **Affordable Housing.**
 - 16.1.1. **Flagship Housing.**
Nothing further had been received and it was agreed to visit Flagship to try to resolve the slow pace of the planning.
 - 16.1.2 **Hayes Affordable Homes.**
Mattishall is progressing well with no problems but in a recent survey no parishioner was eligible for the affordable homes. Councillor Petzer proposed the resolution that no further time be spent on Hayes Affordable Homes and to concentrate on Flagship. This was approved unanimously.
 - 16.2 **Communications.**
 - 16.2.1 **Beetley Buzz.**
Nothing had been received about what was on at the Village Hall and they are to be contacted again. It was agreed not to include the request from the runner of the London Marathon as it would set a precedent that might flood the Beetley Buzz with too many requests.
 - 16.2.2 **Link-up.**
No report had been received.
 - 16.2.3 **Annual Parish Meeting-History of Beetley**
Councillor Hayes was keen to capture the history of Beetley and suggested this was done with a display at the Annual Parish Meeting.
 - 16.2.4 **Village Website.** The article would now be published in the March edition.
 - 16.3 **Environment**

16.3.1 The Chairman agreed to check the tree at Bluebell Wood to ensure it is not blocking the footpath.

16.4 Transport

16.4.1 Bus Service. Eight replies had been received and it was agreed not to pursue the matter further.

16.4.2 Bus Shelter Refurbishment.

R.M.S. Décor were awaiting better weather to commence.

16.5 Highways

16.5.1 East Bilney. Nothing further to report on the VAS sign as Norfolk County Council are awaiting a timescale from EDF.

16.5.2 Think Signs.

No date had been given by Norfolk County Council for the erection of the signs in Beetley.

16.6 Community.

The Homewatch reports were noted.

16.7 Health and Safety.

Nothing to report.

17. Projects

17.1 Hard Standing for Bus Users

As a by-product of the questionnaire regarding bus services a request had been received for a hard standing on the verge opposite the bus shelter on Fakenham Road near High House Road. It was agreed to approach Norfolk County Council with this.

17.2 Big Lottery Fund

Councillor Petzer reported on a seminar she attended and there is £238,000 from the fund for projects in Breckland District. It is child directive and must be innovative. The deadline is 01 05 07. An article is to be placed in the Beetley Buzz and the school is to be contacted regarding the woodland theme proposed to see if there is any joint approach that can be made. The Parish Council has allocated £2000 for projects in 2007/8 and this could be directed to this.

18. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting

This was confirmed as Thursday 5th April 2007 at 1930 to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

19. Service Agreement for the Clerk.

It was resolved to increase the salary of the Clerk to £8.15 per hour being £2934 per annum with effect from 01 03 07

The meeting closed at 2245 hours.