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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present Councillor A Leigh (Chair)
Councillor J Baldwin
Councillor J O'Donovan
Councillor R Richmond

Six members of the public

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Luck who was working and Councillors Fox and Rose who were on holiday. These were all accepted. Apologies for absence had also been received County Councillor M Kiddle Morris and District Councillor R Duffield.

2. Declarations of Interest.

Councillor Richmond declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Items 12.1, having submitted parcels of land for inclusion in the Minerals and Waste Framework.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor O'Donovan seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5 August 2010 having been circulated be approved. These were approved with the omission of an 'e' in line 1 of Agenda item 1. All were in favour. The minutes were duly signed.

4. County and District Councillors Reports.

There was no report from the County Councillor. In the absence of the District Councillor the Clerk reported that there had been a meeting attended by Gressenhall Parish Council and Breckland Council to resolve the format of the new contract for the community car. Several issues had been resolved and a meeting is now awaited to explain this contract with the Parish Council. The Clerk had also reported to the District Councillor the increase in the number of mobile phone numbers being used by officers of Breckland Council as opposed to the direct dial numbers. He had agreed to raise the matter with Breckland Council.

5. Matters to Report.

5.1 Open Churches Week 31 July to 8 August.

Councillor Rose had attended, with her teddy bear, the teddy bears picnic on Saturday 7 August. The Chairman had been unable to attend the service on the Sunday. A letter of thanks was read out from the organisers thanking the Parish Council for their support and assistance.

5.2 Affordable Housing

A draft planning permission had been received from Flagship Housing. Full permission can not be granted until the completion of S106 agreement. This can only be completed once the land has been purchased and this can only be completed once funding has been secured. A bid for funding has been submitted and a decision is expected in September.

5.3 School Car Park Hedge Cutting and Playing Field.

The hedge has been cut and following a meeting with the adjacent house owner the trees had been felled to 3 metres.

5.4 Conversation with External Auditor.

The Clerk had received a telephone call querying why the figures had been restated from the previous year, the size of the reserves and the increase in the payment to the Clerk. The Clerk had informed the External Auditor that the figures had been restated to remove the charity funds from the accounts which the External Auditor agreed with. He also informed the auditor that the reserves are to be used for refurbishment of the play area and this was accepted. The Clerk e-mailed the minutes of meetings explaining the increase in hours for the Minerals and Waste Consultation and the increase in the hourly rate which was also accepted.

5.5 Photocopier.

The current photocopier is beginning to have several problems and spares are no longer available. The Clerk had obtained prices for different copiers and Councillor Baldwin would obtain a quotation from a supplier that she uses.

5.6 AGM of Dereham Citizens Advice Bureau 22 September.

Councillor Richmond would attend this.

5.7 Electoral Role 2010/2011.

The forms for the receipt of the electoral role for all Councillors were distributed and signed.

5.8 AGM Norfolk ALC 11 September.

No one would be attending this.

5.9. Pride in Breckland.

The Clerk had received confirmation from Breckland Council that the project with the school could receive assistance from Breckland Council.

6. Planning.

6.1 Applications.

6.1.1 3PL/2010/0849/F-Lyndale The Drift East Bilney-single storey extensions to side & rear, demo of extg. single garage, construction of new double garage.

Councillor Baldwin reported that she had received objections to the development from near neighbours and it was disappointing to note that hedging had already been removed. The Clerk had also received a telephone call regarding the access to other properties which had been blocked during site works.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that as the scale of the development had been reduced from the previous application **NO OBJECTION** is raised to the application.

This was passed by three votes for and 1 abstention.

6.1.2 3PL/2010/0874/F-Domus Faba Bittering Street-single storey infill between house and garage.

Councillor O'Donovan proposed and Councillor Baldwin seconded the resolution that **NO OBJECTION** is raised to the application. All were in favour.

6.1.3 3PL/2010/0820/F-28 Fakenham road-proposed annex extension, alterations to bungalow and new double garage.

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that **NO OBJECTION** is raised to the application. All were in favour.

6.2 Decisions.

6.2.1 3PL/2010/0673/U- Greenfields Hall Road-recladding of outbuilding walls & roof, alterations inc. formation of concrete slab-certificate of lawfulness Refusal

6.2.2 3PL/2010/0701/A- St Mary's C.P. School Elmham Road-erection of school flag. N/O Permission

6.3 Appeals.To note the following appeal decision.

6.3.1 3PL/2009/0867/O-Fakenham Road-new dwelling. O Appeal dismissed.

6.4 Gressenhall Rural Life Museum.

Following representations from both Beetley and Gressenhall Parish Councils the application is being reconsidered.

7. Beetley Meadows Play Area.

7.1 Clearance morning.

The Chairman reported that one parishioner had attended to assist. There was not as much litter as expected. A conversation was held with the owner of 5 Birch Avenue to retain the trees to the rear of the property and the owner would maintain them. The Clerk had received e-mails from the owner of 6 Birch Avenue regarding the scrub clearance and at a subsequent meeting on site had agreed the amount to be cleared. Some pruning and cutting back had been done but on touring the area further work was identified.

7.2 Future Clearance.

CGM had been contacted and met on site following the clearance morning and the necessary clearance and tree pruning had been identified and a price is awaited.

7.3 Future funding for improvements.

The Chairman is to contact NRCC to ascertain what is available but it is hoped that funding can be obtained for toddler swings, benches, tables and bark surfacing. The Chairman stated that the Parish Council should consider the replacement of the gates by doing two at a time and to utilise the reserves for this as it would be classed as maintenance and not acceptable for funding.

7.4 Revised rota for inspections.

This was distributed and the inspections would be undertaken bi-monthly.

7.5 To note the ROSPA report.

This had been circulated and the problem with gates was again highlighted. At present no-one is able to repair the gates satisfactorily and Councillor Fox is to look at the gates to see if these can be improved. CGM is to be asked for prices for the fencing and a price is to be obtained for the signs required.

8. Open Spaces.

8.1 Other problems.

There were no new problems to report.

8.2 Hedges on Beetley Meadows.

The hedge to the rear of No.1 has been cut but the remainder have not. A further letter is to be sent to the houses that have not cut their hedges giving them a further 28 days to do.

No. 1 is to be written to thanking them for the trimming.

8.3 Central Area of Beetley Meadows.

Since the cutting for hay there have appeared a large number of yellow wild flowers.

9. Highways and Transport.

9.1 General.

The Clerk and Councillor Luck had contacted the owners of the hedge along the footway on Fakenham Road from School Road to High House Road and Nick Abram had cut the section alongside his fields and the field of Mrs Barratt. He is to be contacted to thank him. Norfolk County Council had met the Clerk on site to discuss the section between the Old School House and Halfpenny Lane and the ownership of the land is being investigated. James Richmond has been contacted about the hedge on Church Road East Bilney and this will be cut in due course. The hedge by the footpath on Fakenham Road near to the school car park has been cut by the Highways Department. The road narrows sign had been repaired and the hedge cut back by East Bilney garage in East Bilney.

It was agreed not to install a new dog bin in Old Beetley as there had not been an

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overwhelming positive response to the questionnaire. The matter of a bench on the Green at Old Beetley was raised and the donor is to be contacted again.

10. Website.

The Clerk had had an instructive morning with the website manager for Litcham which had been able to instigate links between items on the website. The current pages were distributed which were all agreed. Further work is to be undertaken during the month.

11. Correspondence received for circulation.

- 11.1 Crime statistics July
- 11.2 Norfolk County Council E-Planning.
- 11.3 The Playing Field Summer 2010
- 11.4 Norfolk LINK August 2010
- 11.5 Norfolk County Council Manage your Finances
- 11.6 Breckland Council Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report
- 11.7 LCR Autumn 2010
- 11.8 Clerks and Councils direct September 2010
- 11.9 Signpost September 2010

12. Finance.

12.1 The budget sheets and financial information had been circulated and Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor O'Donovan seconded the resolution that these be approved. All were in favour.

13.2 Balances.

Councillor Baldwin proposed and Councillor O'Donovan seconded the resolution that the balances and cheques for authorisation be approved. All were in favour.

Balances

Bank of Ireland Treasurer's Account

Balance at 30 06 10	25096.02
Receipts- Interest-0.01	
Breckland Community Car-32.70	
Litcham Parish Council-28.44	
VAT refund-787.36	<u>848.51</u>
	25944.53
Less cheques authorised 01 07 10	<u>5048.93</u>
Balance at 31 07 10	20895.60
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 05 08 10	<u>889.95</u>
Balance at 05 08 10	20005.65

Amount available for Section 137 : 1117 x£6.15 = £6869.55

Spend to Date : £50.00

Cheques for authorisation:

154	B J Leigh	Contract August	368.00
155	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract July	17.63
156	Playsafety Ltd	ROSPA Inspection	148.05
157	Mrs P Silk	Community car	85.60
158	C.G.M.	Grass Cutting-July	163.07
159	Daynes Office Interiors	Stationery	182.03

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12.3 Consultation on referenda for excessive council tax increases.

It was agreed to respond to state that parish councils should not be included in the within the provisions for council tax referenda.

12.4 Elections 2011.

It was agreed that the Clerk should attend the course at South Wootton on November 24 at a cost of £25 which hopefully would be shared between the four parishes.

13. Village Hall.

The draft revised licensing policy had been received. There is a visit to Yaxham Village Hall planned to obtain information on its heating system. The car boot/tabletop sale is to be held on 19 September, the race night on 9 October, the quiz night on 26 November and the Christmas function on 4 December. The clay pigeon shooting has been cancelled and the ploughing match is still to be arranged.

14. Matters for the next meeting.

14.1 Precept.

14.2 Donation to Royal British Legion.

14.3 Photocopier.

15. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 7 October 2010 to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall at 1930.

The meeting closed at 2139 hours.