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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 1 MARCH 2012 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present

Councillor A Leigh (Chair)
Councillor A Luck
Councillor J Baldwin
Councillor A Fox
Councillor J O'Donovan
Councillor R Richmond
Councillor M Rose

District Councillor R Duffield

One member of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from County Councillor M Kiddle Morris who was out of the County.

2. Declarations of Interest.

Councillor Leigh declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 12.3 being the wife of the Clerk. Councillor Luck declared a prejudicial interest in agenda Item 13 being a trustee of the Village Hall and Councillor Richmond declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 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 2 February 2012 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

4. County and District Councillors Reports.

The District Councillor reported that there is a Special Cabinet meeting on 9 March to consider shared working with Great Yarmouth Borough Council. He reported that he had contacted the EDP regarding Gressenhall Museum planning application and passed on the Chairman's name and telephone number. The review of costs including the possible car parking charges is still being considered and there was a lengthy discussion over the possible effects of charging for parking. It was suggested that long term parking at the Cherry Tree car park should be targeted and the District Councillor replied that all costs and options are being considered and it will be 6 months before a decision is reached.

5. Matters to Report.

5.1 EDF Vegetation Clearance.

The Clerk reported that he had signed permission for the contractor for EDF to clear vegetation on another parcel of Parish Land at the Village Hall Playing Field.

5.2 Neighbourhood Planning Seminar.

Councillor Rose reported that she had attended this workshop on the Localism Act, National Planning Policy Framework, Community Planning and how communities can get involved. It was an interesting day and the information from the seminar is to be circulated.

5.3 NRCC Conference.

The Chairman reported that she had attended a very interesting day and the information will be circulated. She had attended the workshops on what to do when the elderly retire from committees and how to combat the negative response. It had been a worthwhile day.

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5.4 Plaque at the Church.

The Clerk reported that he had written to the Parochial Church Council requesting a faculty application including the siting, size, wording and materials for the plaque. He had received a reply stating that this would be applied for and Councillor Fox said that his son would make the plaque.

5.5 Affordable Housing.

Flagship Housing had confirmed the Opening Event would not be held until April as with Easter so early a lot of people are on holiday prior to Easter. The 10, 11 and 12 April is to be suggested as suitable dates or 24, 25 and 26 April as alternatives.

The occupancy of the Affordable Housing had been received from Breckland. Four properties had been let to people who lived in the village and four to people who had a connection to Beetley. This is to be reported in the Beetley Buzz.

Councillor Luck joined the meeting.

5.6 Whole Council Training.

The Chairman had attended the evening at Tittleshall which had highlighted several governance matters including Councillors seeing the bank statement as a check that the figures the Clerk is stating are correct. A copy of the bank statement has been circulated and will be in future. It was stated that parish Councils should raise their precept even if District and County Councils are not so that a council can progress. The suggestion that the minutes be forwarded earlier was not thought to be necessary. Councillor Luck asked if Parish Councils can lower the precept and he was informed that it could.

5.7 Collaboration with Other Councils.

The Chairman reported that this had been mentioned at the Whole Council Training to discuss problems assist with projects or share comments on problems. The Chairman of Brisley Parish Council had spoken to her and was keen to get involved. All were in favour.

5.8 Beetley Buzz.

The Chairman informed the meeting that there was little to put in the last Buzz so she hoped that if any member had any suggestion would they forward it to Julia.

5.9 Broadband.

Councillor Richmond said that he would drop the leaflets on the Say Yes to Broadband campaign to all the households in the Parish.

6. Planning.

6.1 Applications.

6.1.1 3PL/2012/0093/O-Site Adjacent to 65 Fakenham Road-proposed new dwelling.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that an **OBJECTION** be raised to this as it is outside the settlement boundary and there is still an issue with highway safety as the visibility splay is not adequate at the proposed new access.

6.2 Decisions.

6.2.1 3PL/2011/1383/F-6 Ashley Road-demolish garage & garden wall & erection of new garage & garden wall to side of property. N/O Permission

7. Beetley River Meadows Play Area.

7.1 Problems.

The gates had been fitted and there had been a problem with one gate which the supplier had been to site and corrected. Nick Saunders had been e-mailed to clear the tree in the

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river but no reply had been received. Councillor Luck would contact him. 6 new round posts are needed for the fencing and the Clerk will arrange this. The safety surface company had been contacted and they had suggested a product to clean the surface with a pressure washer. The District Councillor suggested a person who cleans tennis courts and he will forward the telephone number to the Clerk.

7.2 Gates.

These had all been fitted.

7.3 Grant application.

The Chairman reported that this was delivered to Breckland Council on 17 February but nothing had been heard in reply.

7.4 Recreation Contributions.

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Breckland Council stating that there is available money from the building of the Affordable Housing for recreation equipment in Beetley. Councillor Luck suggested that as three items had been removed at the Village Hall a new three items of play equipment should be installed. Councillor Baldwin felt that a toddler swing should be installed at Beetley River Meadows Play area. It was agreed to reply to Breckland Council stating the Parish Council's interest in using this money and to meet at the Village Hall on 5 March at 1500 to look at a suitable location for the equipment.

8. Open Spaces.

8.1 Problems.

The hedge at East Bilney Town Lands had been cut. Councillor Rose reported that a parishioner had noticed a vehicle travelling to Beetley Common late at night and had used the new non-emergency number, the police had attended in 15 minutes and apprehended the person. It was agreed to place an article in the Beetley Buzz requesting that once an event has been held the posters on the poles and other areas in the Parish be removed.

8.2 Footpath posts.

The walk is to be held on 17 April Councillor Luck and the Clerk will walk round the footpaths prior to then and Councillor Richmond will replace any posts.

8.3 Roosting Hill Trout Fishery.

A letter had been received requesting crossing rights over Beetley Common to the fishing lakes. It was agreed to grant permission again this year.

8.4 Diamond Jubilee.

It was suggested that a memorial tree be planted at the Village Hall and a memorial bench sited at Beetley river Meadows Play area. This would be considered at a later date.

9. Highways and Transport.

9.1 Report on Highways Matters.

9.1.1 General.

The patching at Rawhall Lane had been completed, the inspection cover on Fakenham Road repaired and the reinstatement at East Bilney repaired.

9.1.2 Beetley Common

The sign had been erected on the Holt Road

9.2 Local Highway Improvements.

The application for a new trod on Fakenham Road had been forwarded to Norfolk County Council.

10. Website.

10.1 Update.

The Clerk had not managed to meet with the website manager.

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11. Correspondence received for circulation.

- 11.1 Clerks and Councils Direct March 2012.
- 11.2 Willows Power and recycling Centre
- 11.3 Norfolk police Crime Figures January

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.

12.2 Balances.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Fox 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 31 12 11	24083.23
Receipts-	
Interest-2.06	
Litcham Parish Council-23.33	
Horningtoft Parish Council-23.33	
Tittleshall Parish Council-23.33	<u>72.05</u>
	24188.28
Less cheques authorised 01 12 11-368.00	
Less cheques authorised since 01 12 11-200.00	<u>568.00</u>
Balance at 31 12 11 23587.28	
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 02 02 12	<u>1614.80</u>
Balance at 02 02 12 21972.48	
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	<u>150.00</u>
Balance at 02 02 12	22122.48

Amount available for Section 137 : 1118 x£6.44 = £7199.92

Spend to Date : £20.00

Cheques for authorisation:

278	B J Leigh	Contract February Telephone April 2011-March 2012-48.00 Postage March 2011- February 2012-17.56	433.56
279	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract plus colour copies of Welcome Pack	21.37
280	C.G.M.	Grass Cutting-January	144.65
281	Mrs S Ludlow	Community Car-February	82.60
282	Saber Daynes	Stationery	16.80
283	Norfolk Accident Rescue Service	Donation	50.00
284	A C Crisp	Hedge cutting at East Bilney Town Lands	174.00
285	Tittleshall Parish Council	Whole Council Training	13.34
286	RBS Engineering	New Gates	2144.40
287	Information Commissioner	Data Registration	35.00

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Councillor Leigh withdrew from the meeting.
Councillor Luck assumed the Chair.

12.3 Clerks Contract and Expenses.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Fox seconded the resolution that the Clerk's contract be increased to £375 per month and that he be paid 45 pence per mile for travelling for the mileage used for posting of notices and any other journeys except that to the Parish Council meeting.
All were in favour.

Councillor Leigh rejoined the meeting and resumed the Chair.

13. Village Hall.

13.1 Report from the last Committee Meeting.

Councillor Luck reported that the curtains had been re-hung, the taps and water system is being repaired and the cupboards are to be sorted. He informed the meeting that he will be resigning from the Parish Council meeting to take on the Chairmanship of the Village Hall. Some lads are congregating at the Village Hall car park but they are not doing any harm and are ensuring that the oil is not stolen.

13.2 Fundraising.

It was again suggested that a brainstorming session be held.
A fundraising leaflet had been distributed with the Buzz and craft fair and dog day are planned.

13.3 New Members.

All clubs had been written to and replies are awaited. A notice will be put in the Beetley Buzz.

14. Matters for the Next Meeting

There were no matters raised for the next meeting.

156. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 5 April 2012 to follow the Annual Parish Meeting which will commence at 7.00p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2232 hours.