

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY
VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2012 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present

Councillor A Leigh (Chair)
Councillor M Rose
Councillor J Baldwin
Councillor A Fox
Councillor J Mayhew-after co-option
Councillor J O'Donovan
Councillor R Richmond

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris
District Councillor R Duffield

2 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

Councillor Richmond declared a DPI under appendix A 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 5 July 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 County Councillor reported that there was nothing to report from the County Council. The District Councillor reported that a letter had been sent to all Parish Councils regarding changes to the method of notifying the public on planning applications and the Clerk confirmed that this would be discussed under planning. He had been contacted regarding a problem with dog fouling at Beetley River Meadows and he had dealt with this.

5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

The Clerk informed the meeting that if a matter came up at a meeting on which the member had a pecuniary interest this should be declared at the beginning of the meeting and then the register of interest should be amended. He cited as an example that if the introduction of car parking charges was sent out for consultation by Breckland Council then Councillor O'Donovan would have a DPI under Appendix A. The Clerk would also clarify for the next meeting the method for dispensations.

6. Matters to Report.

6.1 Village Hall.

Nothing further had been received from the Village Hall Committee.

The Chairman stated that she does not think that the Parish Council should have representatives on the Village Hall Committee as there would always be a conflict of interest between Parish and Village Hall. Councillor Fox stated that he would remain on the Village Hall Committee as an individual but if he is a trustee then he must declare a DPI.

This item would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

6.2 Dereham CAB AGM 19 September.

Councillors Mayhew and Richmond would attend.

6.3 Breckland Consultation Meeting.

Breckland Council is consulting on the shortfall in its funding from Central Government and will be holding open meetings in all the market towns. Any member is able to attend and Councillors Leigh, Rose and Richmond would definitely attend.

6.4 Bulk Fuel Buying Syndicate.

Nothing had been heard from the parishioner who attended the last meeting but the Chairman had contacted a lady who was advertising in the Link-up. She spoke to the Clerk and confirmed that she already has customers in Beetley, although she lives in Hoe, and more members would assist in obtaining better prices. She has e-mailed an advert to the Clerk who will have this put into the Buzz.

6.5 Appointment of External Auditors.

Mazars LLP has been appointed the External Auditor for the next 5 years. The fees charged should be reduced over that time period.

6.6 Housing Market Assessment.

Breckland Council over the next six weeks is undertaking a housing survey. 20% of all households will receive a questionnaire. This is part of a survey to assess how many affordable houses are needed. The results will feed into the updated Core Strategy which provides the long term spatial vision for Breckland. It also proposes the number of houses that should be built and jobs provided over the next 15 years. The information will identify the types of new homes that are needed, both size and type of properties, and whether they are affordable or market homes.

7. Planning.

7.1 Applications.

7.1.1 3PL/2012/0884-34 Fakenham Road-proposed single storey front and rear extensions and demolition of existing garage and erection of detached cart shed with log store.

Councillor O'Donovan proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that no objection be raised to the application. All were in favour.

7.2 Decisions.

The following decisions and conditions were noted.

7.2.1 3PL/2012/0649/F-Woodlands East Bilney-minor material amendment to 3PL/2011/0564/F in respect of alter appearance of chimney and insert 2 velux windows.

N/O Permission

7.2.2 3PL/2012/0546/F-9 Fakenham Road-demolition of kitchen and conservatory, erect new extension with playroom above and part garage conversion.

N/O Permission

7.2.3 3PL/2012/0566/F-Brecklands 48 Elmham Road-erection of 3 bed dwelling with attached garage

O Permission

The members were disappointed that Breckland Council did not see this as garden grabbing and that it felt that the rural street scene would not be impaired.

7.3 To consider a request from a parishioner for all planning applications that the Parish Council object to and which are to receive officer approval are to be referred automatically to the Planning Committee.

The meeting was adjourned.

George Hayes stated that he was surprised by the decision for 48 Elmham Road as this was against local opinion and the NPPF. He felt that this took no account of the Localism Act and he

suggested that if a decision is to be made by an officer at Breckland Council then the application should automatically be referred to the Planning Committee.

The meeting was re-convened.

The District Councillor stated that if an application is to be referred to the Planning Committee then the plans need to be passed around the Councillors as he only has 21 days to request that an application is considered by the Committee. The decision is reviewed at several levels before it is finally decided and it is not just the Case Officer who makes the decision.

It was agreed that if it is needed to call in an application then this should only be for the applications that seriously warrant it not as a blanket request. All were in favour.

7.4 Improving Local Consultation on Planning Applications.

Breckland Council is to make changes to the blanket use of site notices. No site notices will be put up for home improvement or advertising consent applications. Neighbourhood consultation will continue as will consultation through Town and Parish Councils.

8. Beetley River Meadow.

The meeting was adjourned.

A parishioner raised concerns that not all areas are being mowed regularly and the standard of mowing varies. There is always a problem with dog owners not clearing up after their dogs and the footpaths have not been cut regularly.

The meeting was re-convened.

Councillor Mayhew agreed to check the area the following morning and meet the parishioner on site the next evening to discuss the problem. It was also agreed to contact the dog warden to see if the area could be monitored.

8.1 Bins, Clearance and Gates .

Breckland Council has agreed to empty the bins regularly and Councillor Mayhew was thanked for emptying them on a temporary basis. RBS is still trying to be contacted regarding the gates and following a meeting on site the clearance near the play area is now satisfactory. It was agreed to request Nick Abram to top the central area this year as it had not been possible to have it cut for hay.

8.2 ROSPA Report.

This had not identified any major problems apart from the algae on the safety surfacing. The Clerk is to meet PM Restoration on site on 10 September to obtain a quotation for the cleaning and to request he also cleans the benches following a suggestion from Councillor Baldwin.

8.3 Bench Cleaning Evening.

This was deferred until the next meeting to await the outcome of the visit by PM Restoration.

9. Open Spaces.

9.1 Problems.

FP7 to the rear of East Bilney Church is walkable but it would be better if a clearance is made and the Clerk will request that the landowner tidies up around the stiles.

9.2 Meeting with Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

The Clerk is to meet Norfolk Wildlife Trust on 11 September at the Common.

9.3 Play Equipment at the Village Hall.

The questionnaire had been distributed and so far 99 replies had been received, all of which are in favour of refurbishment. There have been many comments on the dog fouling on the field and it was felt that the Village Hall Committee should be contacted so that it is also involved and that any future maintenance will be undertaken by it.

It was agreed to hold a meeting at Dawn Meadow at 1000 on 25 September to discuss the response and agree the next phase.

9.4 Fence along FP4 East Bilney.

The Clerk had received several complaints about the erection of fence along this footpath. The Clerk reported that he had spoken to the landowner who confirmed that she had spoken to the PROW Officer at Norfolk County Council regarding the fence and had followed the guidelines.

It was agreed that whilst it would be preferable if there were no fence, as it is on the landowner's land and does not encroach onto the footpath there is nothing that the Parish Council can do.

10. Highways and Transport.

10.1 Report on Highways Matters.

Rawhall Lane is to be reported as the road has subsided and the pothole at AA box corner reported again. The Sam machine will be in the parish for three weeks from 10 September and if there are any volunteers from East Bilney to take the results then it would be possible to erect the sign there for several sessions. Councillor Richmond reported that at the last Priority Setting meeting of the Safer Neighbourhood Team the speeding motorbikes through the village was taken on as a priority.

10.2 Milestone on Holt Road.

The Clerk reported that he had received a communication regarding the milestone stating that Norfolk County Council is implementing a new policy in which anything other than painting has to be approved on a consent form signed by three parties. Realistically there is little chance of an agreement for lifting the stone. The Parish Council is likely to be contacted again in 2013.

10.3 Parking on Elmham Road.

The school, governors and pre-school have all been written to. Norfolk County Council had replied stating that it would not be able to fund additional white lining and the best course of action is to speak to the school to persuade its staff to use the car park on Fakenham Road. Councillor Mayhew is to check on the availability of the car park for the pre-school.

11. Correspondence received for circulation.

11.1	Police Crime reports
11.2	Clerks and Councils Direct July 2012
11.3	Norfolk Link August 2012
11.4	Kompan
11.5	Elveden Farms
11.6	ROSPA report

12. Finance.

12.1 The budget sheets and financial information had been circulated and Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Fox seconded the resolution that these be approved. All were in favour. It was also agreed to increase the float to the Community Car co-ordinators to £200 as there has been increased usage in the past few months.

12.2 Balances.

Councillor Rose 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 31 05 12	25394.96
Receipts- Interest-1.96	
Breckland C/Car CRB Checks-188.48	
Interest-1.95	
Beeston PC-309.18	
HMRC-VAT Refund-1384.96	<u>1886.53</u>
	27281.49
Less cheques authorised 07 06 12- 1183.83	
cheques authorised 05 07 12- 5361.97	
cheques authorised 12 07 12- 2411.59	<u>8957.39</u>
Balance at 31 07 12 18324.10	
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	<u>150.00</u>
Balance at 31 07 12	18474.10
Less un-presented cheques authorised 05 07 12-355.78	
un-presented cheques authorised 01 08 12-209.25	<u>565.03</u>
Balance at 01 08 12	17909.07

Amount available for Section 137 : 1139 x£6.80 = £7745.20

Spend to Date : £0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

329	Broker Network Ltd	Insurance	911.59
330	Norfolk County Council	Local Highway Improvement	1500.00
331	Mrs S Ludlow	Community Car July	209.25
332	B J Leigh	Contract August-375.00 less PAYE-27.20	347.80
333	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	33.01
334	C.G.M.	Grass Cutting-June and July	289.30
335	Mrs S Ludlow	Community Car-August	170.55
336	HMRC	PAYE	27.20
337	Beetley Village Hall and Playing Field	Hall Hire 2011-2012	152.00
338	B J Leigh	Top up of Mobile Phone for Community Car	25.00
339	Playsafety Ltd	ROSPA Inspection	151.20
340	Daynes	Stationery	42.00

12.3 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Councillor Fox proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that £25 be donated. All were in favour.

12.4 Dereham CAB.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor O'Donovan seconded the resolution that £100 be donated. All were in favour.

13. Matters for the Next Meeting

13.1 Dispensations.

13.2 Localism act with reference to the LDF.

14. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 4 October 2012 at 7.30 p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2153 hours.