

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY VILLAGE HALL ON  
THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER 2013 AT 7.30 P.M.**

**Present**

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

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris  
District Councillor R Duffield

12 members of the public.

**1. Apologies for absence.**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.**

Councillor Richmond declared a pecuniary interest under Appendix A in Agenda Items 11.1 and 11.3 having submitted parcels of land into the Minerals and Waste Consultation and Councillor Baldwin declared a pecuniary interest under Appendix B in Agenda Item 11.3 being a trustee of the Village Hall.

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.**

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7 November 2013 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 on the Autumn Statement which had raised business rates by only 2% and there is a rebate of £1000 for small businesses and that there is to be a change to the rateable value of some properties. The subsidy to the Coasthopper bus service was discussed and the County Councillor informed the members that it was felt that there is adequate scope within the proposed subsidy for this to continue. It was confirmed that the New Homes Bonus will continue to be paid to District Councils.

The District Councillor had nothing to report but he would speak when the planning was discussed.

**5. Grit Bin on Ashley Road.**

The meeting was adjourned.

A resident from Oakland Drive stated that following correspondence from Norfolk County Council to the Ward Member it had been suggested that the bin on Beech Road be moved to Ashley Road for safety reasons.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council had only recently been informed that a private bin would not be allowed to be sited on Ashley Road. The criteria for the siting of grit bins are being more rigorously followed now as resources are limited for the filling of these. There may also be a time when no grit bins will be filled nor will additional bins be allowed by Norfolk County Council. She stated that the Parish Council had spent enough time on this matter and wish to bring this to a conclusion.

The County Councillor stated that it costs about £50,000 to fill the grit bins in the county which have increased from 900 to 1700 over the past three years. If there is road gritting taking place then no grit bins can be filled as all the operatives are on the winter maintenance gangs and they do not have the time to fill these. Technically the salt can not be spread as efficiently as that of the road spreaders and so the salt is quickly used and this can not be replaced as soon as it is used. There is also not always enough traffic to break down the ice which has formed once the grit has been spread.

The meeting was reconvened.

The Chairman stated that it was a simple question as to whether the Parish Council moves the bin or not and asked for the comments of all the Councillors. Councillor Rose stated that the bin should not be moved until the residents of Beech Road have been consulted. Councillor Mayhew felt that if the bin is not going to be moved for about three months and it will not be filled in the future than it should not be moved. He also said that the bin on Beech Road is used by the residents to grit the footways. Councillor Baldwin queried why the bin had been requested on Beech Road and she was informed that it was so the footways could be gritted. Councillor O'Donovan felt that there would be more problems if the bin is moved. Councillor Richmond stated that there are about 50 houses on Oakland Drive and Gorse View and it is necessary to ensure that all the residents can get to work. Councillor Rose suggested that the residents on Beech Road who would be affected by moving the grit bin should be letter dropped informing them of the situation and asking if they were in favour of moving the bin or not.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that the residents on Beech Road and the roads off Beech Road affected by the proposed resiting of the grit bin be letter dropped requesting whether they are in favour or not. This letter is to be delivered in early January with a stamped addressed envelope and to give the residents 10 days to reply. A decision will then be made at the February meeting. All were in favour.

## **6. Matters to Report.**

### **6.1 Norfolk County Council Budget Consultation.**

It was agreed to respond to the consultation by objecting to the proposed reduction in the transport subsidy for 16-19 year old students, the reduction in the subsidy for the Coasthopper Bus service and to the changes to the opening times and materials able to be recycled at recycling Centres..

### **6.2 Rural Broadband Summit Dereham 6 December.**

Councillors Mayhew and O'Donovan have been booked into the seminar.

### **6.3 CAG Meeting.**

Councillor Richmond had attended and he reported that there were only six members of the community present. There is now a Chairman for the meeting and minutes are being taken. SNAP is the new name and all who were present want a permanent Chairman appointed. Nobody has been caught speeding on Beech Road. The priorities for the next month are:-

1. Speeding on Cherry Tree Car Park.
2. Speeding cars Cemetery Road and Swanton Morley Road
3. A high presence of police in the town in the period up to Christmas.

Councillor Richmond also reported that the "Other" item in the weekly reports include domestic violence.

### **6.4 Wood to the rear of Elmham Road.**

The Clerk reported that he had received a telephone call from Mr. Abram who informed him that a lot of rubbish is being dumped over fences onto his land and trees are being pulled up. He is writing to all residents requesting that they desist from this but if there is no improvement he will consider fencing off the wood.

### **6.5 Devolved Services Meeting County Hall 9 December.**

The Chairman will attend.

## **6.6 Initial Training.**

A list of courses had been received by the Clerk and he will contact Councillor Gould to arrange a date.

## **6.7 Letter from the 1<sup>st</sup> Beetley Scout Group.**

A copy of a letter to the Beetley Youth Fund Raising Committee thanking them for their donation had been received. This will enable the group to have a joint Scout and Cub camps under canvas which they are currently unable to do as a lot of the equipment is not suitable.

## **7. Planning.**

### **7.1 Applications.**

#### **7.1.1 3PL/2013/1019/F-Walnut House 1 Elmham Road-proposed extension to Walnut House.**

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that no objection be raised but that a condition be place on any permission that the annexe can not be sold as a separate entity to ensure that this does not become two properties. All were in favour.

#### **7.1.2 3PL/2013/1051/F-50 Elmham Road-proposed dwelling and garage.**

The objections from two parishioners were noted. Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor O'Donovan seconded the resolution that the application be objected to as this is inappropriate use of garden land contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework. All were in favour.

#### **7.1.3 3PL/2013/1089/FClear View Fakenham Road East Bilney-New boundary wall and additional car parking (Resubmission)**

Councillor Richmond propose and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that no objection be raised to this application. All were in favour.

### **7.2 Decisions.**

The following decisions were noted

#### **7.2.1 3PL/2013/0920/F-Oakwood Bracken Avenue-single storey side extension to form garage.**

N/O Permission.

#### **7.2.2. C/3/2013/3009, 3010 and 3011-East Bilney Quarry-Variation of condition 1 of permission C/3/2010/3003 to allow the continued use of the secured storage compound until 31 December 2017, Variation of condition 1 of permission C/3/2009/3002 to allow the continued use of an area for the recycling of inert construction and demolition waste until 31 December 2017 and Variation of condition 1 of permission C/3/2010/3010 to allow the continued use of the storage bays until 31 December 2017**

N/O Permission

#### **7.2.3 Y/3/2013/3005-Gressenhall Farm & Workhouse-removal of two temporary timber ticketing sheds and construction of timber clad building to accommodate ticketing facility/Resource Base and secondary entrance and associated works.**

N/O Permission

#### **7.2.4 3PL/2013/0902/F-16 Beech Road-erection of a single storey upvc/glass conservatory on the side of the house.**

N/O Permission

### **7.3 Tree Preservation Order.**

A new order had been received for two oak trees at Cedarville Holt Road.

## **8. Beetley River Meadows.**

### **8.1 Report.**

An instance of flytipping of garden refuse had occurred and Councillor Mayhew is monitoring regularly.

The letter had been sent to the parishioner requesting that she ceases trying to influence the cutting of the area with the contractor. A contract had been received from the new contractor for grass cutting in 2014.

## **8.2 Enhancement to the Play Area.**

The official opening on 21 November had been undertaken by the District Councillor and pictures will be placed on the website and in the Beetley Buzz. The Eastern Daily Press had run an article on the opening which was circulated.

## **8.3 ROSPA Report.**

The report had been circulated together with a quotation from NGF Ltd. These costings were considered and it was agreed to look again in the New Year as to which items are to be replaced and which items can be repaired in house. Pm Restoration had been contacted and he had advised that any cleaning be undertaken in the spring unless the area becomes very slippery.

## **9. Open Spaces.**

### **9.1 Problems.**

No problems were reported.

### **9.2 East Bilney Town Lands.**

It was agreed to have the hedge cut in January and it was agreed that the cutting done had made a vast improvement to the area.

### **9.3 Tree Planting at Beetley Common.**

This had been done on 23 November by the Beetley Common Advisory Committee and members of the Parish Council. An article had appeared in the Eastern Daily Press the next week and pictures will be placed in the Beetley Buzz and on the website.

A letter had been received from the Advisory Committee thanking the Parish Council for their assistance in obtaining the trees and assisting with the planting.

## **10. Highways and Transport.**

### **10.1 Report on Highways Matters.**

A pothole on Hall Road had been reported and this had been repaired. The sign on Fakenham Road East Bilney which had been hit had been reported and is programmed to be replaced. Norfolk County Council had repaired some potholes on Peacock Lane and had spoken to residents but had stressed that it did not feel that the residents' expectations to upgrade the road or to have additional maintenance was achievable. The Clerk had contacted Norfolk County Council requesting that some plantings be used to fill the potholes on Common Lane from Peacock Lane to the Common car park. The Clerk had received correspondence from a resident requesting that the speed limit along Fakenham Road between Beetley and East Bilney be reduced to a 30 m.p.h. limit. The Clerk had replied stating that this had been visited on several occasions in the past few years and that the road does not meet the criteria for a speed limit other than the national limit. No reply had been received

### **10.2 New problems.**

The mud left on the road in Church Road Old Beetley is to be reported..

### **10.3 SAM2 Sign.**

The sign has been delivered and the Clerk will sort out a rota to start in the New Year. Several posts have not yet been installed by Norfolk County Council.

### **10.4 Local Highway improvement 2014/15.**

It was agreed not to bid for a scheme this coming year.

### **10.5 Ramblers Association.**

It was agreed to forward the Ramblers Association footpaths FP4, FP6 and FP17 to be included in the cutting programme being formulated by them to be sent to Norfolk County council.

## **11. Finance.**

**11.1** The budget sheets and financial information had been circulated and Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that these be

approved. All were in favour.

### 11.2 Balances.

Councillor O'Donovan proposed and Councillor Rose 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 09 13	29531.79
Receipts- Interest-2.10	
Breckland C/Car -86.93	<u>89.03</u>
	29620.82
Less cheques authorised 05 09 13-551.56	
cheques authorised 03 10 13-1069.29	<u>1620.85</u>
Balance at 31 10 13 27999.97	
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	<u>200.00</u>
Balance at 30 09 13	28199.97
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 07 11 13-	<u>8807.66</u>
Balance at 07 11 13	19392.31

Amount available for Section 137 : 1173 x£6.98 = £8187.54

Spend to Date : £25.00

Cheques for authorisation:

456	B J Leigh	Contract November-404.00 less PAYE-49.20	354.80
457	HMRC	PAYE November	49.20
458	Mrs A Leigh	Community Car November	141.15
459	Eastern Office Equipment	Stationery	38.25
460	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract-38.16 Copying of Welcome Pack- 7.20	45.36
461	Society of Local Council Clerks	Membership	147.00
462.	F Haverson	Flailing Bracken at Beetley Common	80.00
463	Norfolk Woods and Hedges	Remove fallen oak tree branch and clear crown of neighbouring tree	252.00
464	Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall	Donation for grass cutting- £1000 and for assistance with insurance-£900	1900.00
465	Beetley PCC	Donation to assist with grass cutting	100.00
466	B J Leigh	Contract December-404.00 less PAYE-49.00	355.00
467	HMRC	PAYE December	49.00
468	B J Leigh	Christmas Cards and presents for Community Car drivers, Beetley Buzz deliverers and Editor, Top up for C/ Car Phone	51.98

### 11.3 Precept.

The Clerk had circulated the revised document. Councillor Baldwin requested that a figure

be included within the budget as a donation to the Village Hall.

Councillor Baldwin withdrew from the meeting.

Councillor Richmond requested that an amount be included within the budget as a donation

to the Village Hall and the Chairman requested that a vote be taken. Councillor Richmond was in favour of budgeting for a donation, Councillors Leigh, Rose, O'Donovan and Mayhew were against so no figure was included in the budget.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that the precept be set at £15,500. All were in favour.

Councillor Baldwin rejoined the meeting.

She stated that she was unhappy that no figure for the Village Hall had been included in the budget.

**11.4 Beetley PCC.**

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that £100 be donated to assist with the cutting of the churchyards. All were in favour.

**11.5 Norfolk and Suffolk 4x4 response.**

Councillor Mayhew proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that no donation be given. All were in favour.

**12. Correspondence received for circulation.**

There was no correspondence for circulation.

**13. Matters for the Next Meeting**

There were no matters raised for the next meeting

**14. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.**

This was confirmed as Thursday 6 February 2014 at 7.30p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2143 hours.