

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 3 APRIL 2014 AT 7.45 P.M.**

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

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris  
District Councillor R Duffield

1 member 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 Item 11.1 having submitted parcels of land into the Minerals and Waste Consultation.

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

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6 March 2014 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 and District Councillors had nothing to add to their reports to the Annual Parish Meeting.

**5. Event to Commemorate the Commencement of World War 1.**

It was agreed unanimously not to hold an event as it was felt that this should be done at either the school or the Museum.

**6. Matters to Report.**

**6.1 Breckland Council Town and Parish Council Forum 27 March.**

The Chairman, Councillors O'Donovan and Richmond, and the Clerk had attended. It was reported that several queries had been raised about the financial state although there was a zero increase in the Council Tax and how the gap was going to be plugged in future years. It was felt that the expense on the leisure activities could be utilised elsewhere although it was pointed out at the meeting that this is mainly self financing with grants from other organisations. The events are not advertised as well as they should be and they are being driven by health and welfare. Councillor O'Donovan thought that Breckland Council is only promoting itself and that it should do more for the villages. Councillor Rose felt that the events in Dereham had not been thought through as there is, from some villages, no public transport to get there and not all the elderly drive. It was felt that the Parish Clerk should be forwarded more information. The District Council agreed that Breckland Council do not communicate as well as it could.

The Clerk raised the matter of Parish Liaison Officers but felt that this could not work as the officers would not have the time to deal with matters from the parishes.

## **6.2 Repeal of S150 of the Local Government Act 1972.**

The Clerk reported the need for two signatories on cheques had now been repealed. If the Parish Council decided to only have one signatory then additional financial regulations must be in place. However it could continue to have two signatories. The Clerk felt that the two signatory system protected both the Parish Council and the Clerk. It was agreed unanimously to remain with two signatories.

## **6.3 SNAP Meeting.**

Councillor Richmond had attended and there were 10 members of the public present. One of the concerns raised was drug activity in Sandy Lane and break-ins in shops in Dereham. The Horse Fair has been confirmed for 18 May at Longham.

## **6.4 New Draft Transparency Code for the Audit.**

The Clerk reported that this is for those councils with a turnover of less than £25,000. The DCLG is consulting on this and has requested a response to six questions. It was agreed to respond as follows:-

Question 1 whether this should be mandatory for parish councils-**YES**

Question 2 whether parish meetings should be exempt-**YES**

Question 3 should there be a threshold for items of expenditure-**NO**

Question 4 what exemptions should there be for negative response-**IF THIS IS SUB-JUDICE.**

Question 5 proposal for electronic publication-**YES**

Question 6 additional staff time and cost- **1 HOUR**

## **6.5 Beetley Buzz.**

Two letters had been received regarding the delivery of the Beetley Buzz. One had said that it was late in being delivered but as the complainant had said that it had been delivered on the Monday prior to the Parish Council meeting the Clerk had replied. He had stated that the Beetley Buzz was delivered to the distributors on the Friday prior to a Parish Council so that they could be delivered at the same time as the notices and agendas were posted on all the notice boards. If the person was away for the weekend then it would not be delivered until the Monday. The Clerk had received a reply thanking him for the information. The other letter had stated that the Beetley Buzz was not being delivered in Birch Avenue. The person responsible for delivering to that road had confirmed that it had been delivered.

## **7. Planning.**

### **7.1 Applications.**

#### **7.1.1 3PL/2014/0147/F-Land adjacent to 55 Elmham Road- erection of a single garage.**

This has already been granted permission so no comment would be forwarded but Breckland Council would be asked why this had been determined before the Parish Council could respond although an extension had been granted.

#### **7.1.2 3PL/2014/0120/F-Cedarville Holt Road-demolition of existing house and garage and erection of new house.**

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that no objection be raised but would comment that the TPOs must be respected in perpetuity. All were in favour.

#### **7.1.3 3PL/2014/0257/F-Walnut House, 1 Elmham Road-alterations to existing dwelling and construction of single storey annexe extension.**

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that no objection be raised but would comment that the restriction on sale and use should be as that when the previous application was granted permission. All were in favour.

### **7.2 Decisions.**

**The following decisions and the conditions attached were noted.**

#### **7.2.1 3PL/2014/0055/F-6 Elmham Road-single storey front and rear extensions to**

<b>form granny annex and other alterations.</b>	<b>N/O</b>	<b>Permission</b>
<b>7.2.2 3PL/2014/0171/F-Crossways 26 Fakenham Road-proposed extension to bungalow.</b>	<b>N/O</b>	<b>Permission</b>
<b>7.2.3 3PL/2014/0174/F-28 Beech Road-demolition of existing porch and erection of new porch to front of property.</b>	<b>N/O</b>	<b>Permission</b>

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

### **8.1 Report.**

The Chairman reported the Clerk had received an e-mail reporting that there had been a fire on the picnic bench and daffodils had been beheaded and trampled. This had been reported to the police and The PCSO is to visit the area to check on any possible culprits. A further letter had been received from a parishioner implicating two young residents. It was agreed not to take the matter any further as there is no hard evidence of this.

The area is in need of a cut and the Clerk will contact the contractor.

The new equipment has been installed and the Clerk had requested that the fencing be repaired at the same time and this would be done.

The contractor had not been to site to check the gate. Councillor Baldwin was requested to obtain a decision about the safety inspection of the play equipment at the playing field on High House Road. Councillor Mayhew informed the meeting that the soil dumping he had reported previously was not that but when the new holes had been dug for the fence posts the soil had been tipped to the rear of the play area.

## **9. Open Spaces.**

### **9.1 Problems.**

A tree had come down in the winds at East Bilney Town Lands and as this is not dangerous it was agreed to leave this until Norse are working in the area. Councillor Richmond warned about the problems of thinning out trees if high winds occur soon after as one tree will support another.

### **9.2 Crossing Rights at the Common.**

A request had been received from Mr Bane for the renewal of permission to cross the Common. It was agreed that this would not be considered until the area is restored as there had been complaints. Once this was restored then he could re-apply but if the same problems occurred then the rights to cross would be withdrawn.

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

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

The Clerk is still trying to get the hedges cut back on Elmham Road and Fakenham Road East Bilney near to the Alms Houses and the de-limit sign. Norfolk County Council has been contacted again.

The junction of B1146 and C231 Back Lane to Stanfield at East Bilney had been dug out to the rear and it appears to have stopped the flooding. The marker posts on Fakenham Road East Bilney will be looked at by the Rangers at the end of April.

### **10.2 New problems.**

The footway between Beech Road and Elmham Road is uneven and this will be reported. The Highways Engineer will be contacted to see if deer warning signs can be erected in East Bilney. Councillor Rose reported that a considerable number of whisky bottles keep appearing on Chapel Lane. It was agreed to keep monitoring this.

### **10.3 SAM2 Sign.**

The sign has been to Weasenham and proved very successful.

## **11. Finance.**

**11.1** 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.

## 11.2 Balances.

Councillor Mayhew proposed and Councillor Gould 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 01 14	16889.34
Receipts- Interest-1.38	
Beeston with Bittering Parish Council-25.21	
Brisley Parish Council-16.50	<u>43.09</u>
	16932.43
Less cheques authorised 06 02 14-	<u>816.39</u>
Balance at 28 02 14	16116.04
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	<u>200.00</u>
Balance at 28 02 14	16316.04
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 06 03 14	<u>1781.49</u>
Balance at 06 03 14	<u>14534.55</u>

Amount available for Section 137 : 1150x £7.20 = £8280.00

Spend to Date : £0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

486	B J Leigh	Contract March-404.00 less PAYE-49.20	354.80
487	HMRC	PAYE March	49.20
488	Eastern Office Equipment	Stationery	12.23
489	Abacus	Monthly Contract	15.76
490	Mrs A Leigh	Community Car March	109.35
491	Mid Norfolk CAB	Replacement cheque	100.00
492	Norfolk Parish Training Partnership	Initial Training for Councillor Gould	40.00

## 11.3 War Memorial.

The Clerk had received a request from The PCC to assist with the cleaning and resetting of the War Memorial at East Bilney Church. This is likely to cost £700. Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that as this is a parish memorial the Parish Council should pay for the whole repair. All were in favour.

## 11.4 Donation to leaving present for Sue Lake of Norfolk ALC.

It was agreed unanimously not to donate.

## 12. Correspondence received for circulation.

12.1 LCR Spring 2014

12.2 Breckland Town and Parish Council Forum

## 13. Matters for the Next Meeting.

13.1 ROSPA report for the play equipment at the Village Hall.

13.2 Annual Parish Council meeting

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

This was confirmed as Thursday 1 May 2014 at 7.30p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2143 hours.