

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY VILLAGE HALL ON  
THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 7.30 P.M.**

**Present**

Councillor J Baldwin (Chair)  
Councillor S Gould  
Councillor A Leigh  
Councillor R Richmond  
Councillor M Rose

District Councillor R Duffield

5 members of the public.

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor O'Donovan who was on holiday and these were accepted. Apologies had also been received from County Councillor M Kiddle Morris.

**2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.**

Councillor Richmond declared a pecuniary interest under Appendix A in Agenda Item 6.5 and 10.1 having submitted parcels of land into the Minerals and Waste Consultation and Local Development Framework.

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

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 July 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 District Councillor reported that the application for 50 Elmham Road had been referred to the Planning Committee on 29 September. The Tree Officer had visited the site and did not envisage any problems with the remaining trees but had not commented on the trees that had been removed.

He was having a meeting on 8 September with the officer who had proposed changing the name of Stoney Lane to Vale Road. He will report where the officer obtained his information. Once further information had been obtained then any further action necessary will be taken. Until the signs were erected this was the first any one knew about it and no consultation had taken place. Councillor Richmond had been visited by a resident of Stoney Lane who had not been informed that his address was changing.

The Clerk reported that the County Councillor had informed him about the Big Switch and Save campaign which is running again this year to save money for residents on energy bills. It is necessary to register an interest either through Breckland Council on their website or call centre or at [www.bigswitchandsave.co.uk](http://www.bigswitchandsave.co.uk). More items will be able to be recycled through the kerbside, black wheelie bin, collection service and full details will be forwarded to all residents. This will commence on 1 October and residents will be reminded to use the bottle bank at the New Inn otherwise it may be withdrawn. A review of polling stations is taking place following the Boundary Commission recommendations but this will not affect Beetley.

**5. Matters to Report.**

**5.1 Request to use the School Car park.**

A resident had requested that the school car park be used for parking for a private function in July. The terms of the transfer deed specifically state that the parcel of land is only to be

used as school car park and playing field. The resident was therefore informed that it could not be used and the event had passed off without any traffic congestion on Fakenham Road.

### **5.2 Bus Connection in East Bilney.**

A resident of East Bilney had requested that the Parish Council contact Norfolk County Council to see if it was possible to have a bus service from East Bilney daily to enable residents to access Dereham. Councillor Richmond stated that the Parish Council should try and assist in this matter. Councillor Rose thought that a service to Old Beetley should also be requested. Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that Norfolk County Council be contacted to request a service in both villages. All were in favour.

### **5.3 Mid Norfolk Citizens' Advice Bureau AGM 17 September.**

Councillor Richmond would hopefully attend this.

### **5.4 Access to the woodlands from The Paddocks, Beetley.**

A resident had contacted that the Parish Council consider the closure of the access from The Paddocks to the woodlands to the north. There has never been a right of way over this land and a fence was erected when the properties were constructed. It was agreed to reply that the Parish Council will not be taking any action over this closure.

### **5.5 Bench at the Patch Old Beetley.**

The bench that had been constructed would not fit around the existing tree due to the root system and the resident had requested that another tree be planted so that the bench could be fitted round that instead. A slow growing tree would be planted. Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that this be allowed. All were in favour.

### **5.6 Enhanced Local Mobile Phone Signal.**

100 parishes across the UK will be selected to take part in Vodafone's Open sure Signal programme. The Clerk is still awaiting the full details and will report at the next meeting.

### **5.7 War Memorial.**

The War memorial at East Bilney Church had been cleaned and reset and the Chairman had attended a service at the Memorial on 4 August commemorating the outbreak of First World War 1.

### **5.8 Resignation from the Parish Council.**

Councillor Gould resigned from the Parish Council with effect from the end of the meeting as he is leaving the parish to attend university. All wished him well and thanked him for his input to the Parish Council.

## **6. Planning.**

### **6.1 Applications.**

#### **6.1.1 3PL/2014/0622/F-Land to the rear of 50 Elmham Road-proposed dwelling and detached garage.**

This had been circulated since the last meeting and the Parish Council had objected to the application as it was inappropriate use of garden land. This application has been referred to the Planning Committee on 29 September.

#### **6.1.2 3PL/2014/0748-St Mary's Cottage Old Beetley-minor material amendment to 3PL/2013/0224/F in respect of roof change to garage.**

No objection had been raised to this application which had been circulated since the last meeting although it was commented that the Parish Council did not feel that solar panels should be allowed in the future on the roof of this dwelling as they would not be in keeping with the surrounding area.

#### **6.1.3 3PL/2014/0822/F-The Old Rectory Church Road Old Beetley-proposed new garage, conversion of existing, new rear single storey extension.**

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

## **6.2 Decisions.**

The following decisions were noted.

**6.2.1 3PL/2014/0603/F-Boat House Church Road East Bilney-variation of condition 3 on pp 3PL2007/1636 to continue standing of mobile home for a further five years.** **N/O** **Permission**

## **6.3 To consider attendance at the Planning Committee regarding 3PL/2014/0622/F-Land to the rear of 50 Elmham Road.**

It was agreed that the Clerk would speak on behalf of the Parish Council. Councillor Rose would assist with the speech.

## **6.4 Appeals**

**6.5.1 APP/F2605/A/14/2221840-6 Gorse View-remove existing garage and erect new bungalow & garage & garage for No 6.**

Notification of this appeal had been received since the previous meeting but as there was nothing that the Parish Council wished to add to its original objection no response was sent.

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

## **6.5 To consider the Local Plan.**

The Clerk explained that the Parish Council should consider whether any development should take place within the parish and if so where, so that any development would be on sites that are acceptable to the Parish Council and then a considered opinion could be forwarded to the consultation.

The meeting was adjourned.

A parishioner queried if individuals could comment and the District Councillor confirmed that they would be able to. George Hayes stated that there could be other sites put forward that had not been proposed under the local development framework and that he thought there would be a points system to allocate sites to areas so that any future development was sustainable.

The meeting was reconvened.

It was agreed that Beetley should have some development and if the sites were proposed then the acceptable sites would be on Fakenham Road, the old Highways depot at Gressenhall, next to the affordable Housing, possibly at Red Roofs, but not for Old Beetley or any other sites. The proposal for the use of redundant farm buildings at Beck Farm East Bilney would also be considered.

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting.

## **7. Highways and Transport.**

### **7.1 Report on Highways Matters.**

The Highway Community Rangers had been in the parish and had cut back around all the signs and verges. It was agreed to send the Parish Council's thanks for all their hard work. The sign at the Common is due to be replaced shortly. A branch had fallen near to the Affordable Housing and Councillor O'Donovan had reported this and the Chairman had reported this to Flagship Housing who had stated that it is not on their land. It was agreed to contact the Highways Department to have the trees checked. It was agreed that no one would look after the SAM sign in East Bilney.

## **7.2 New problems.**

The hedges have still not been cut back in East Bilney near to the Alms House and those at

the north end have not been cut back far enough. Norfolk County Council will be contacted again. The landowner of the land alongside the trod on Fakenham Road has had problems with his machinery but he expects to cut the hedge shortly. The land owner is to be requested to cut his hedges alongside the footway on Fakenham Road from High House Road to Halfpenny lane. There is still water leaking in Old Beetley despite several attempts to repair it.

## **7.3 Road Name Change from B1146 through to Bilney Road.**

This had been discussed earlier.

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

### **8.1 Report.**

The Chairman reported that she had met a new contact from Norse and the cutting has improved with several areas having been improved upon. It was reported that there had been no complaints and there had been some compliments on the cutting. One lid had been found for the litter bin and the replacement litter bin fitted. The Clerk reported that he had contacted Breckland to ensure that the lids were locked in place correctly.

### **8.2 Old Allotment Area.**

Councillor Leigh stated that two benches would cost £856 to be sited by the river and in the old allotment area.

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that two benches be purchased. All were in favour. It was agreed not to ask for match funding as a refund had been received from Norfolk County Council for the trod.

### **8.3 RoSPA Report.**

This was discussed at length and the Chairman and Clerk would visit the site and the findings reported at the next meeting. It was agreed that the timber posts should be sprayed around to protect the posts from rotting caused by strimming.

### **8.4 Weed in the river.**

It was agreed to report this to the Environment Agency again.

### **8.5 Cutting of the large field.**

A price of £250 had been received from Norse to cut this area but it was felt that a cheaper price could be obtained. Councillor Richmond agreed to obtain an alternative price and if this was less than that from Norse it was agreed to proceed with this.

## **9. Open Spaces.**

### **9.1 Problems.**

The Clerk had received a letter from Savills who is acting on behalf of Anglian Water who wish to do some investigation work at the Treatment Plant. This would entail some test pumping and a temporary discharge pipe will be needed across the Common. The Clerk is to meet Anglian Water with Horace Bloy on 22 September to discuss the matter. It is hoped some Wayleave will be paid to the Parish Council.

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

The Chairman had received a second visit from Mark Bane and she had asked him about the vehicles crossing the Common for shooting. He had confirmed that vehicles were crossing the Common as no firearms are allowed on the Common and that a tractor and trailer had crossed the Common up to three times a day to tend the sheep that were grazing on the land. A letter had been received from Mr D Bane stating the number of vehicles that would be crossing the Common but no mention had been made of these vehicles. Councillor Richmond felt that the Parish Council could be liable for a considerable cost if a planning application was necessary to reinstate a track under the regulations for tracks on a Common. It was felt that the crossing rights had been abused with vehicles

crossing the Common who had not been given crossing rights by the Parish Council but by the farmer. A lengthy discussion on the matter was held.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that the crossing rights for Mr D Bane be withdrawn. All were in favour.

Mr Bane is to be written to informing him of the Parish Council's decision.

### 9.3 East Bilney Town Lands.

A quotation had been received from Norse for cutting a path and lifting the trees to provide a pathway through to the boardwalk. The cost for this was £730. A further quotation was received from Norfolk Woods and Hedges for £200.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that the quotation from Norfolk Woods and Hedges be accepted. All were in favour.

### 9.4 East Bilney Sign.

The Chairman had spoken to a resident in East Bilney who is happy to continue to cut the area around the bus shelter and sign.

## 10. Finance.

### 10.1 Budgets.

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

### 10.2 Balances.

Councillor Richmond 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 05 14	20576.50
Receipts- Interest-1.66	
H.M. Customs and Excise-Vat Refund-1981.68	
Breckland Community Car-68.30	
Interest-1.63	
Breckland Community car-111.93	<u>2165.20</u>
	22741.70
Less cheques authorised 01 05 14-1443.62	
cheques authorised 05 06 14-1471.11	
cheques authorised 03 07 14-2064.54	<u>4979.27</u>
Balance at 31 07 14	17762.43
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	<u>200.00</u>
Balance at 31 07 14	17962.43

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

Spend to Date : £0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

524	Mrs A Leigh	Community Car July	198.60
525	B J Leigh	Contract August 404.00 less PAYE 80.80	323.20
526	HMRC	PAYE Aug	80.80
527	Mrs A Leigh	Community Car Aug	233.20
528	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	19.00
529	Playsafety Limited	RoSPA Inspections	156.00
530	Eastern Office Equipment	Stationery	14.95
531	ESPO	Sports Equipment for Tittleshall Parish Council-	681.60

		364.80 New display panels for Horningtoft Parish Council 316.80	
532	S M Masonry	Repairs to War memorial	540.00
533	Beetley Village Hall	Hall Hire	72.00
534	Glasdon UK Ltd	Replacement Lid	122.92
535	Mazars LLP	External Audit	240.00
536	Norfolk County Council	DBS Checks	225.00
537	NALC	LCR Subscription	17.00

### **10.3 External Audit.**

The Clerk reported that the External Audit had been completed with no comments. He had received a telephone asking for clarification on the additional fixed assets which he had confirmed as additional equipment at Beetley River Meadows.

### **11. Correspondence received for circulation.**

- 11.1 **Norfolk Prepared**
- 11.2 **1<sup>st</sup> Beetley Scout Group**
- 11.3 **Boundary Review Recommendations.**
- 11.4 **Breckland Big Switch and Save**
- 11.5 **Kickstart**
- 11.6 **defra CAP Reform**
- 11.7 **Ravencroft Arboriculture Services**

### **12. Matters for the Next Meeting.**

- 12.1 **Planning Portfolio Holder**
- 12.2 **Risk Assessment at Beetley River Meadows.**

### **13. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.**

This was confirmed as Thursday 2 October 2014 at 7.30p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2230 hours.