

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY VILLAGE HALL ON
THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER 2014 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present

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

District Councillor R Duffield
2 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence had 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 10.1 having submitted parcels of land into the Minerals and Waste Consultation.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4 September 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 all residents on Stoney Lane had received letters regarding the proposed change of name to Vale Road. If there is an objection from the residents to the change then there will be a consultation at which time the Parish Council will be able to respond. The Clerk confirmed that Norfolk County Council name this section of the road Vale Road.

5. Matters to Report.

5.1 Norfolk ALC AGM 4 October.

Councillor Richmond will be attending.

5.2 Bench at the Patch Old Beetley.

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by a resident of Old Beetley following the planting of the new tree querying why there had been a new tree planted. The Clerk explained the reason and the Clerk was informed that the grass would no longer be able to be cut by John Mann. Councillor Leigh was then contacted by another resident concerning the tree who informed Councillor Leigh that the grass would not be able to be cut. Councillor Leigh then contacted Councillor Rose. Councillor Rose informed the members that she had visited the two parishioners who felt that they should have been consulted. Councillor Rose stated that if John Mann does not cut the grass then she will.

5.3 Mid Norfolk Citizens' Advice Bureau AGM 17 September.

Councillor Richmond had attended this and stated that it was well attended with about 40 people present. He explained that without the CAB many people would be in difficulties and that the donation from the Parish Council is well received and well spent. The details from the meeting will be circulated.

5.4 SNAP Meeting.

Councillor Richmond reported that he had attended and there were eight members of the public and two from the police plus himself. There has been success with the high priority target for drug dealing in Dereham as two major drugs dealers have been apprehended. There is a major issue in Dereham with cycling on footways and some pedestrians have

been hit. This will continue to be targeted. The new play equipment at South Green has already been vandalised and this will be targeted over the next two months.

5.5 Common Drift.

An incident had occurred on Common Drift where a male exposed himself to a lady walking dogs. The matter had been reported to the police who were taking the matter very seriously. The Chairman explained that an article on the EDP website reported several other incidents in the Breckland area and two men have been arrested. The School is to be informed of the incident.

5.6 Visit to the Scouts.

The Chairman and Councillors Leigh and Rose had attended a scout meeting at the invitation of the Group Scout leader. They found the meeting very informative and the children were very helpful and knowledgeable. A thank you card had been written by the children which was distributed.

5.7 Vacancy on the Parish Council.

The due date for the receipt of requests to hold an election is 17th October. If no election is requested by then the Parish Council will be free to co-opt.

6. Planning.

6.1 Applications.

6.1.1 3PL/2014/0882/F-53 Elmham Road-single storey extension to side.

The Clerk reported that this had already been determined by Breckland Council despite an extension having been agreed. It was agreed to contact Breckland Council to complain.

6.1.2 3PL/2014/0985/CU-Ferndale The Drift East Bilney-change of use of annex to holiday accommodation.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that no objection be raised. All were in favour.

6.2 Decisions.

The following decisions were noted.

6.2.1 3PL/2014/0748-St Mary's Cottage Old Beetley-minor material amendment to 3PL/2013/0224/F in respect of roof.

change to garage. N/O Permission.

6.2.2 3PL/2014/0320/F-The Garage Bungalow Fakenham Road East Bilney-change of use back from offices to 3 x bedroom bungalow with no alterations.

N/O Permission.

6.2.3 3PL/2014/0822/F-The Old Rectory Church Road Old Beetley-proposed new garage, conversion of existing, new rear single storey extension.

N/O Permission.

6.2.4 3PL/2014/0120/F-Cedarville Holt Road-demolition of existing house and garage and erection of new house.

N/O Permission.

6.2.5 3PL/2014/0882/F-53 Elmham Road-single storey extension to side.

N/O Permission.

6.2.6 3PL/2014/0622/F-Land to rear of 50 Elmham Road-proposed dwelling & detached garage.

O Refusal

6.3 Planning Committee.

6.3.1 To receive a report from the Planning Committee on 29 September.

The District Councillor stated that the number of residents who had objected had made an impression on the Planning Committee. The District Councillor and the Clerk had spoken against the application and the Agent for the applicant in favour of it. The Planning Committee had voted unanimously to refuse the application and had stressed to the Planning Officers that a policy should be in place to restrict garden developments. It was agreed to write to the Chairman of the Planning Committee to thank him and his Committee for refusing the application. It was also apparent that this was a classic case of an officer delegated decision creating problems later as the

development at 48 Elmham Road had been approved without it going to the Planning Committee. The Chairman thanked the District Councillor for his assistance with this matter.

6.4 To confirm the Planning Portfolio Holder.

It was agreed that Councillor Mayhew will continue but he is to ensure that all plans and comments are to be with the Clerk by the Tuesday prior to a meeting.

7. Highways and Transport.

7.1 Report on Highways Matters.

The Highway Community Rangers will be visiting the parish at the end of October and the Clerk had written to the Highway technician in charge of them to thank them for all the work they had done previously. The Clerk has written again about the hedges in East Bilney which have still not been cut. The Highways Department has been contacted regarding the trees on High House Road to have these checked as it is a highway safety matter. The request for a bus service in East Bilney and Old Beetley has been sent to the Director of ETD at Norfolk County Council. An instance of flytipping on B1146 at East Bilney and two dead animals on the B1146 had been reported to Breckland Council and cleared very quickly. A complaint had been received about shooting close to RB1 in East Bilney and this had been reported to Norfolk County Council. The reply has stated that this is a police matter so the Clerk will contact the police. The Clerk had also complained about the state of FP4 and FP6 in East Bilney. FP4 is to be cut as soon as possible. The Clerk will meet the Maintenance Supervisor to discuss FP6. The Clerk has requested that the gully, at the bottom of the hill in East Bilney where the junction to Bilney Hall is, be cleared by the Rangers when they are next in the parish as it is totally overgrown. The hedge alongside the trod on Fakenham Road had been cut. The land owner had been contacted to cut the hedge along the footway from High House Road to Halfpenny Lane.

7.2 New problems.

A grating on High House Road near to the chapel is partly covered due to the surface dressing and the Rangers will be requested to clear this. A hedge at 2 River View is now overhanging the footway and the owner will be written to. There is a lot of litter on the B1146 and Breckland Council will be requested to clear this including the lay-by opposite the Town Lands. Councillor O'Donovan raised the matter of extending the speed limit on Fakenham Road past the junction at the Scout Hut as a safety measure as many walk from the hut and this may slow the vehicles down until they are past the Scout hut. Norfolk County Council will be contacted. Councillor Mayhew stated that a number of people walk to Gressenhall for their papers and there is no footway along the road near to the Gressenhall Museum Farm. This is to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

7.3 Road Name Change from B1146 through to Bilney Road.

This had been discussed earlier.

7.4 Local Highway Improvements in Partnership with the Parish Council 2015/16.

The Clerk reported that this will continue next year on a 50/50 funding basis. The bids have to be in by January 2015 and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

8. Beetley River Meadows.

8.1 Report.

Councillor Richmond reported that he had walked the area and found it satisfactory although a few improvements to some areas could be made.

8.2 Old Allotment Area.

The Chairman had met the contractor on site for the installation of the two benches. After she had left she received a call stating that the contractor had got their van stuck.

The Chairman's father towed them out. Both benches have been fitted.

8.3 RoSPA Report.

The Clerk had met NGF Play on site and he is awaiting a quotation for the repairs.

8.4 Additional Maintenance.

The Chairman and the Clerk had met with the contractor who had quoted £220 to cut the large field, the same as another quotation received. He had also quoted £90 to widen some pathways, £75 to cut the old allotment area and £50 to clear the area of brambles and weeds between the two fields.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that the quotation from Norse for £220 to flail cut the large field be accepted. All were in favour. Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that the quotation from Norse for £215 for additional maintenance be accepted. All were in favour. The maintenance on the trees will be considered next month once a quotation has been received from Norfolk Woods and Hedges Ltd.

8.5 Risk Assessment.

At present this is carried out three monthly but the Clerk will check the exact dates. The Chairman and Councillor Rose will meet in December to undertake this.

9. Open Spaces.

9.1 Problems.

The Clerk had met Savills and Anglian Water at Beetley Common with members of the Beetley Common Advisory Committee. A route had been agreed but this may have to be amended to ensure that any water pumped from the testing does not enter the lakes as there is an inlet pipe off the river into the lake. The temporary pipe needs to enter the river downstream of this pipe so it may be necessary to take the pipe across land next to the lake. The owner is to be contacted by Savills.

A resident had informed the Clerk about some branches falling from an oak tree on Beech Road near to the post box. The Clerk had contacted Norfolk Woods and Hedges Ltd to visit the site and assess the problem. If necessary the Tree Officer at Breckland Council will be contacted as the two trees have a Tree Preservation Order on them.

A response had been received from the Environment Agency regarding weed growth in the River. It stated that a weed spray will be undertaken shortly but that this is a low risk area and the spraying will not be on an annual basis. The Environment Agency do not feel that there are any properties at great risk.

9.2 Crossing Rights at Beetley Common.

Nothing had been heard from the farmer but Councillor Rose had had a visit from a resident and the Clerk had received a telephone call from him. The resident had informed the Clerk that he had had a visit from the farmer who wished to know why the Parish Council had removed the crossing rights. The resident had suggested that the farmer contact the Parish Council, which he has not yet done. This item will be removed from the agenda until such time as there is more to report.

9.3 East Bilney Town Lands.

Councillor Richmond had walked the area and was very impressed. It was felt that it would be a good idea if another path was done in 2015.

10. Finance.

10.1 Budgets.

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

10.2 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 31 07 14

17762.43

Receipts- Interest-1.42

Norfolk County Council refund for trod-1432.50	
Tittleshall Parish Council sports Equipment-236.00	
Breckland Community Car-105.05	<u>1774.97</u>
	19537.40
Less cheques authorised 01 08 14-	<u>198.60</u>
Balance at 31 08 14	19338.80
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 04 09 14	<u>2725.67</u>
Balance at 04 09 14	16613.13
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	<u>200.00</u>
Balance at 04 09 14	16813.13

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

Spend to Date : £0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

538	B J Leigh	Contract Sep 404.00 less PAYE 80.80	323.20
539	HMRC	PAYE Sep	80.80
540	Mrs A Leigh	Community Car Sep	84.05
541	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	21.73
542	B J Leigh	Postage-16.90 Mileage February 2014- August 2014 72.miles @.45 per mile 32.40	49.30
543	ESPO	Sports Equipment for Tittleshall Parish Council	150.00
544	Norfolk Woods and Hedges Ltd	Remove tree from River- 90.00. Cut track through Town Lands and prune trees- 240.00	330.00
545	Norse Eastern Ltd	Grass cutting	792.07

10.3 The Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House.

It was agreed not to donate to this.

10.4 Norfolk Accident Rescue Service.

It was agreed not to donate to this.

10.5 Mid Norfolk Citizens' Advice Bureau.

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

10.6 Purchasing of Goods for Other Parishes.

Councillor Richmond raised the matter. Whilst he was not averse to the Parish Council doing this, he is worried that there may be disputes and that Beetley Parish Council would have to finance a dispute, rather than the Parish Council for whom the goods were purchased.

It was noted that the items that are being paid for this month have all been paid for by the respective Parish Councils to Beetley Parish Council.

It was agreed to continue to assist other parishes.

11. Correspondence received for circulation.

- 11.1 Signpost Summer
- 11.2 Norfolk County Council Budget review
- 11.3 LCR Autumn 2014.
- 11.4 Norfolk ALC Oddments.
- 11.5 Mid Norfolk Cab Documents.

12. Matters for the Next Meeting.

12.1 Christmas Meal

12.2 Vacancy on the Parish Council.

13. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

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

The meeting closed at 2205 hours.