

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY VILLAGE HALL ON
THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.30 P.M.**

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

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris
District Councillor R Duffield

2 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor M Rose who was on holiday and this was accepted.

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 Richmond proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2 October 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 Councillor reported that the Local Highway Improvement Partnership scheme is running again in the next financial year. The budget setting at Norfolk County Council is at present out for consultation. Councillor O'Donovan raised the matter of voluntary potholes which had been reported on the radio and the County Councillor will look into this. A new box is to be installed by BT on Elmham Road which is to give Better Broadband to the parish. The County Councillor stated that he has requested from Norfolk County Council the current situation regarding Beetley, Old Beetley and East Bilney as the website is stating that there are no houses or businesses in some areas.

The District Councillor reported that the appeal against refusal of permission for the new bungalow to the rear of 6 Gorse View had been dismissed. The Clerk has not received notification of this yet.

5. Matters to Report.

5.1 Norfolk ALC AGM 4 October.

Councillor Richmond had attended and felt that it was a good meeting. About 40 had attended and a new President, Paddy Seligman, had been elected. The Acting Deputy Chief Constable in his address had stressed the need for input from local residents. The new crime in rural areas at present is the stealing of dogs for onward sale or for ransom to the owners. The District Councillor also stated that there is still a lot of stealing of lead from church roofs in rural areas. David Harrison the Deputy Leader of Norfolk County Council spoke about the finances within the Council. Brandon Lewis MP spoke about Neighbourhood Plans which is the right way forward for parishes and there is finance available through the District Councils for the production of neighbourhood plans. The

finance available is however only available to District Councils for their input into the plan.

5.2 Recycling of Glass.

Breckland Council had confirmed that it will continue to pay the recycling credit at the same level as for 2013/14 and that at present there is no plan to withdraw rural bottle banks. The Clerk is to request a poster for the village.

5.3 Welcome Pack.

Councillor Leigh stated that these had run out and queried whether it was worth continuing with it. It was agreed that it would be better to put a new heading on the Beetley Buzz directing parishioners to the website. A parishioner had suggested that as he is an artist could a change to the heading on the Beetley Buzz be made to incorporate a bird. The sample forwarded would not stand out as much as the current heading so it was decided to remain with the current heading unless a bee is incorporated which had been suggested by the Editor. It was suggested that he contacts Link-Up.

5.4 Vacancy on the Parish Council.

The period during which electors might request an election to fill the casual vacancy had elapsed and the Parish Council is now free to co-opt. A notification of the vacancy is to be put in the Beetley Buzz also stating the date when any interest is to be notified to the Clerk.

5.5 Parish Council Christmas Meal.

It was agreed not to have a meal this year.

5.6 Archive event at the Village Hall.

The Chairman had attended and reported that there is a considerable amount of archive material which has been accumulated by Stephen Pope. About 50 people had attended and tea and cake was available and people could donate towards these. Items could also be taken along that day and these could be scanned for future storage and archiving. The intention is to store and archive material for future generations. The Mid Norfolk Historical Association had also attended

6. Planning.

6.1 Applications.

There were no applications to consider.

6.2 Decisions.

The following decisions were noted.

6.2.1 3PL/2014/0985/CU-Ferndale The Drift East Bilney-change of use of annex to holiday accommodation. **N/O** **Permission.**

6.3 Local Plan.

The Clerk reported that the consultation on the Issues and options will commence on 17 November and continue until 9 January. There is a drop-in session at Breckland Council for Parish Councillors on 17 November from 1400 to 1900. There are also sessions in Dereham and Swaffham later in the week open to the public. The document will be circulated for all Councillors to read and a decision on the response will be made at the December meeting. The document is also available online.

7. Highways and Transport.

7.1 Report on Highways Matters.

The Highway Community Rangers had been in the village and the Clerk had requested that the grating in East Bilney at the junction of the road to the Care Home be cleared. The Clerk had met the Rangers on site and the supervisor had confirmed that it had been cleared and he will now check it each time as he did not realise the grating was there. The hedges at East Bilney had been cut back by the Rangers but not far enough as they do not have the right equipment. The Clerk had again complained and had also spoken regarding the hedge at the Alms Houses and he was promised that this would be cut back as the

landowner had been contacted. The Clerk had received a telephone call from Norfolk County Council stating that it is looking into the possibility of amending the bus route around Beetley to provide a service to East Bilney. A letter had been sent to the owners of two properties in Beetley to have the hedges cut back. The hedge along the B1146 had been cut. The Rangers had cleared the grating on High house Road on their visit. Norfolk County Council had responded to the request for an extension to the speed limit past the Scout Hut by stating that there would have to be a further development of frontages towards the Vale Road crossroads or for there to be an unacceptable incident record in the vicinity of the crossroads, therefore the speed terminals will not be moved at this time. The Clerk had reported flytipping at the junction of Halfpenny Lane and School Road and this had been cleared. The Clerk had also requested that a litter pick be done through the parish on B1146.

7.2 New problems.

The hedge on Elmham Road has still not been cut back and Norfolk County Council will be contacted again. Councillor Leigh requested that Norfolk County Council be contacted to have the SAM2 sign sited in East Bilney and if necessary a new post be installed. There is a pothole on Vale Road that needs repair and this will be reported.

7.3 Road Name Change from B1146 through to Bilney Road.

The Clerk had received a request form Breckland Council to confirm the name and spelling by which Vale Road is commonly known in the parish as Breckland Council had put the name down without an "E". He had confirmed that it is STONEY LANE.

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.

7.5 Footway on Gressenhall Road near to Union Farm.

It was agreed not to proceed with any request to Norfolk County Council for a footway or trod because of the cost involved.

8. Beetley River Meadows.

8.1 Report.

The additional maintenance had been carried out and the paths widened. Three e-mails and a letter had been received thanking the Parish Council for the work carried out. An up to date cutting plan is to be devised by the Chairman and Councillor Mayhew to aid the future cutting of the area and will be agreed with the contractor. Once the plan is finalised this will be laminated and placed on the notice boards.

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that the quotation from Norfolk Woods and Hedges for £325 to clear the area of trees that are overhanging paths and the river be accepted. All were in favour.

8.2 Old Allotment Area.

The Clerk had met a resident on site and he had confirmed that the new bench was regularly used.

8.3 Repairs to Play Area.

The quotation from NGF Play had been circulated.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that the quotation for £442 be accepted All were in favour. It was agreed to find out when it would start so that a risk assessment can be undertaken after that. All that is left to do is the safety surface which is to be looked at in the Spring.

9. Open Spaces.

9.1 Problems.

The Clerk reported that Norfolk Woods and Hedges had spoken to the Tree Officer at

Breckland Council who had confirmed that the tree on Beech Road is worth saving. A quotation is to be obtained for this.

9.2 Crossing Rights at Beetley Common.

Nothing had been heard from the farmer. This is to be removed from the agenda until such time as there is a further communication.

9.3 Anglian Water Pipe at the Common.

The Clerk reported that he had received a revised plan of the route of the discharge pipe from Savills and he had met on site with Horace Bloy and no problem was found with the line of this pipe. Savills had offered £250 for the licence and the Clerk had replied that he was disappointed with this amount. Savills had replied that it would pay £500 for the licence and this had been agreed and the licence signed by the Clerk. The Clerk stated that he felt that the licence fee should be used for the benefit of the Common and the Beetley Common Advisory Committee had said that a new mower/stripper would be useful to undertake better maintenance. It was agreed to await confirmation from the committee about their needs before deciding on the dispersal of the licence fee.

10. Finance.

10.1 Budgets.

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.

10.2 Balances.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Mayhew 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 08 14	19338.80
Receipts- Interest-1.65	
Tittleshall Parish Council Sports Equipment-218.00	
Brisley Parish Council Post for Dog Bin- 57.00	
Horningtonft Parish Council Display Boards-264.00	
Breckland Community Car-130.18	
Breckland Precept-7750.00	
Breckland rate support grant-341.05	8761.88
	28100.68
Less cheques authorised 04 09 14	2428.67
Balance at 30 09 14	25672.01
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 04 09 14-297.00	
unrepresented cheques authorised 02 10 14-1861.15	2158.15
Balance at 02 10 14	23513.86
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	200.00
Balance at 02 10 14	23713.86

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

Spend to Date : £0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

546	B J Leigh	Contract Oct 404.00 less PAYE 80.80	323.20
547	HMRC	PAYE Oct	80.80
548	Mrs A Leigh	Community Car Oct	152.15
549	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	14.30

550	Eastern Office Equipment	Stationery	14.94
551	Realise Futures	Benches for Beetley River Meadows	708.24
552	NPTP	Chairmanship Training	70.00
553	Mid Norfolk CAB	Donation	100.00
554	ESPO	Cricket Set for Tittleshall Parish Council	25.90
555	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	Donation	25.00

10.3 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Councillor O'Donovan proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that £25 be donated. All were in favour.

10.4 Precept for 2015/16.

The draft had been prepared by the Clerk and a decision will be made at the next meeting.

11. Correspondence received for circulation.

- 11.1 Clerks and Councils Direct November 2014
- 11.2 Breckland Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation.
- 11.3 Norfolk County Council Budget 2015-18.
- 11.4 Norfolk ALC Details.

12. Matters for the Next Meeting.

- 12.1 Dates of Meetings for 2015.
- 12.2 Norfolk County Council Budget.

13. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 4 December 2014 at 7.30p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2140 hours.