

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY VILLAGE HALL ON
THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2015 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present

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

District Councillor R Duffield

4 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from County Councillor M Kiddle Morris who was at another meeting.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

Councillor Richmond declared a pecuniary interest under Appendix A in Agenda Item 7.1.1 and 11.1 having submitted parcels of land into the Local Development Framework and Minerals and Waste Framework.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meetings held on 4 December 2014 and 5 February 2015 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 stated that he has only 21 days to call in the application for two dwellings on Bittering Street. If this is left for a decision until the next meeting this would be too late. It was agreed to request that the District Councillor calls this application in to the Planning Committee.

5. Beetley Buzz.

5.1 Heading.

All were in favour of the new heading.

5.2 Delivery on Fakenham Road.

The Clerk had received a telephone call from a parishioner offering to deliver the Beetley Buzz on Fakenham Road. This was accepted and the details passed to Councillor O'Donovan who would contact her and confirm the houses to be delivered to.

5.3 Advert in Last Issue for Brisley.

An advert had been placed in the last issue on behalf of Brisley Parish Council for allotments. This had resulted in four parishioners requesting allotments which means that all the plots have now been taken.

5.4 Complaint about Delivery.

The Clerk had received a complaint that the Beetley Buzz had not been delivered prior to the Parish Council meeting. The Councillor who delivers this road assured the meeting that it had been delivered. The Clerk had left a message on the answer phone for the

parishioner to ring him to see if the road would be delivered by that parishioner. No reply had been received. It was agreed to take no further action.

6. Matters to Report.

6.1 Defra Funding for NRCC.

The Clerk reported that Defra had agreed to continue funding for Norfolk Rural Community Council.

6.2 Funding of PCSOs.

The Clerk had contacted the person specified in the letter requesting costings. She no longer deals with it and had passed the e-mail to her colleague who had not responded.

The Clerk reported that he had been informed that the cost to a Parish Council or group of Parish Councils is about £15,000.

The meeting was adjourned.

George Hayes stated that he would be disappointed if the Parish Council funds a PCSO as he already pays in his Council Tax a portion for the police who already provide a PCSO for the parish although not a dedicated one as he/she is shared with other parishes. He felt that the police should provide the PCSOs.

The meeting was re-convened.

The members felt that there was no guarantee that a PCSO would only be dedicated to the parish and the cost would be too great. It was decided not to pursue the funding of a PCSO for the parish.

6.3 Merger of Norfolk Rural Community Council and West Norfolk Voluntary and Community Action.

The Trustees of NRCC and WNVCA have agreed in principle to a merger of the two organisations. The proposal is that WNVCA is dissolved and the assets transferred to NRCC for the delivery of services and support in West Norfolk. The merged organisation shall be known as Community Action Norfolk.

6.4 Capita Town and Parish Planning Forum 10 February.

Councillor O' Donovan had attended and found this an interesting evening. Mike Brennan is now working for Breckland liaising with Parishes. Much was talked about Neighbourhood Plans and the Local Plan. All the information from the meeting will be distributed.

6.5 Timetable for Parish Elections.

The clerk confirmed the timetable for the elections on May 7. The nomination papers must be at Breckland Council offices by 1600 on 9 April. The Clerk reminded the members that it is their responsibility to ensure their nomination papers are at Breckland Council on time.

6.6 Neighbourhood Planning Meeting 27 March 1000-1600.

No one will be attending.

6.7 Annual Parish Meeting.

It was agreed to invite the same organisations as last year and commence at 1900.

6.8 Village Hall.

The Village Hall is attempting to obtain funding from the interactive funding through Breckland Council. Up to £1000 could be available for a Have a Go Social Club at Beetley Village Hall to improve their dexterity, mobility and concentration skills by trying activities such as New Age Kurling, pool and darts, together with chess, draughts, cribbage and card games. The public can vote for the project they want by texting.

7. Planning.

7.1 Applications.

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

7.1.1 3PL/2015/0188/F-Beetley Nurseries Elmham Road-proposed single storey sales building to garden centre.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that the application be objected for the same reasons as the previous application, 3PL/2014/1198/F, which had been refused by Breckland Council. The reason given by Breckland Council for refusal is also to be added to the comments as it was felt that there is still no justification for a large sales area. All were in favour

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting.

7.1.2 3PL/2015/0208/F-33 Elmham Road-first floor rear extension.

The meeting was adjourned.

Two parishioners raised concerns that the extension would lead to loss of light and overshadowing. There had already been loss of light from the previous rear extension and this extension would exacerbate the problem. There would also be a loss of privacy as the neighbouring property would be totally overlooked.

The meeting was re-convened.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that the application be objected to on the grounds of size, overshadowing and loss of privacy. All were in favour.

7.1.3 3PL/2015/0141/F- 11 Elmham Road-proposed construction of single storey annexe to accommodate wheelchair user.

Councillor Rose reported that she had been on site at the neighbouring property following a request to the Clerk. The concerns of the neighbour were noted. All members sympathised with the reasons for the application.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that the application be objected to on the grounds that this is inappropriate use of garden land, the size of the dwelling would overshadow the neighbouring property and the siting of the annexe is inappropriate. All were in favour.

7.2 Decisions.

There were no decisions to report.

7.3 Matters raised with Enforcement at Breckland Council.

The Clerk reported that there had been no breach of planning regulations on the land on Halfpenny Lane. The container has been sited for storage and the two new access points do not require planning as the road is unclassified. The Clerk felt that this road is still classified as it was used for access to the landfill site and he will respond to the Enforcement Officer accordingly.

The Enforcement Officer had confirmed that there are four separate families residing on the Gypsy Refuge Site and the new larger additional units have been brought onto site to replace some of the smaller older units due to additional family members. The older units will be removed in due course. The Clerk will respond to ensure that the number of units is reduced to that allowed.

The Enforcement officer had confirmed that the annexe at The Oaklands Halfpenny

Lane is being used by a member of the McCann family in accordance with the planning permission. The Clerk is to respond to state the disappointment of the Parish Council that the application was for an aged relative and Breckland Council have granted permission for any relative.

7.4 Appeal.

7.4.1 APP/F26058/A/14/2229385-Land to the rear of 50 Elmham Road.

Councillor Rose had attended the site meeting but had not been allowed to speak.

7.5 Changes to the Ability to Provide Affordable Housing and Open Space.

The Clerk reported that the Government had changed the Planning Practice Guidance on Planning Obligations. The effect is that the Local Authority is unable to rely on its current policies to contribute to affordable housing or open space for housing schemes that seek up to and including 10 dwellings or a total floor area of no more than 1000 sq.m.

7.6 Future Application.

The Clerk reported that he had received notification of a possible future planning application. This would be for a 5Mw Solar Farm at Hoe adjoining Swanton Morley airfield.

8. Highways and Transport.

8.1 Report on Highways Matters.

The Clerk had chased Breckland Council to clear the litter on B1146. A hydrant sign had been damaged on B1146 opposite High House Road and this had been reported. The tree root on Chapel Lane and the surface of the road at the junction of B1145 and B1146 had also been reported. There had been confusion over the dates for the road closure in Old Beetley and the Clerk had reported this to the Street Works Inspector who promised that the signs would be changed. The Clerk had also pointed out to the Inspector that there has been a problem on School Road with flooding for several weeks which had not been repaired. An emergency road closure notice had been received following the correspondence.

8.2 New problems.

The road narrow sign in East Bilney had been turned round and the sign to Beetley Common has still not been replaced. Both items will be reported.

8.3 Local Highway Improvements in Partnership with the Parish Council 2016/17.

The Clerk reported that the request for a bus shelter has been referred to the Infrastructure Officer for comment. The Highways Engineer is concerned that a structure site close to the boarding area will block visibility for traffic leaving Beech Road. Once he has had the feedback he will report back.

8.4 Parking on Elmham Road.

The Clerk had contacted Norfolk County Council but he had not received any comment from the Highways Engineer who had already been chased over the matter..

8.5 SAM2 sign.

The Safety Team Camera Partnership had contacted the Clerk to state that data could now be sent direct to them. The data from the sign facing south had shown that vehicles are also ignoring the speed limit but not as much as those travelling south. This data will also be sent to the Team.

9. Beetley River Meadows.

9.1 Report.

The trees had not as yet been cut back as Norfolk Woods and Hedges are in the middle of planting. The kick board on the Play Area had been damaged. Councillors Richmond and Williams had looked at the complaint about rubbish but did not see that this is a problem or

that the Parish Council can take any action as it is on private land. The Clerk stated that there is a more simple risk assessment form that had been forwarded to him by the insurance company. It was agreed that this form be used in future and that the assessments be done weekly and forwarded to the Clerk for recording. Councillor Mayhew agreed to do the assessments. This decision replaces all previous decisions regarding risk assessments.

The Clerk had received an e-mail from Beetley Pre-School who would like to organise a duck race on Beetley River Meadows. It was agreed that this is a good idea and no objection be made provided that arrangements are made for parking that do not cause any problems to the nearby residents, that all litter is collected afterwards and that the Pre-School arranges its own insurance for the event.

10. Open Spaces.

10.1 Problems.

No problems were reported.

10.2 Crossing Rights at Beetley Common.

The Clerk reported that he is seeing the solicitor the following week to sort out a letter to be sent to farmer to bring the matter to a conclusion and to withdraw the crossing rights.

Councillor Rose stated that she had been at The Common and feels that the track is still being used but obviously does not know by whom.

10.3 Walk on The Common.

It was agreed to hold this in June or July and a date will be decided at the May meeting.

11. Finance.

11.1 Budgets.

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

11.2 Balances.

Councillor Rose 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 12 14	22422.35
Receipts- Interest-1.91	
Tittleshall Parish Council SLCC Subscription-27.83	
Horningtoft Parish Council SLCC Subscription-27.83	
Beeston with Bittering Parish Council SLCC	
Subscription-27.83	
Breckland Community Car-73.80	<u>159.20</u>
	22581.55
Less cheques authorised 06 01 15	<u>136.00</u>
Balance at 31 01 15	22445.55
Less unpresented cheques authorised 05 02 15	<u>1771.28</u>
Balance at 05 02 15	20674.27
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	<u>200.00</u>
Balance at 05 02 15	20874.27

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

Spend to Date : £25.00

Cheques for authorisation:

576	B J Leigh	Contract Feb 404.00 less PAYE 80.80	323.20
577	HMRC	PAYE Feb	80.80
578	Mrs A Leigh	Community Car Feb	138.40
579	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	16.60
580	Eastern Office Equipment	Stationery	14.95
581	Beetley PCC	Donation to assist with maintenance of churchyard	150.00
582	B J Leigh	Telephone April 2014-March 2015-48.00 Postage October 2014- February 2015-16.46 Mileage September 2014- February 2015 72 miles @.45 per mile-32.40 Batteries for SAM2 Sign-3.33	100.19
583	A C Crisp	Cutting hedge at East Bilney Town Lands	180.00

11.3 Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities.

The information had been circulated and it was agreed to consult Norfolk ALC with regards to the funding available for the additional work and what would happen if the Parish Council did nothing.

12. Correspondence received for circulation.

The following correspondence is being circulated:-

- 12.1 **Breckland Town and Parish Forum.**
- 12.2 **Clerks and Councils Direct March 2015**
- 12.3 **Information from Capita Town and Parish Planning Forum.**

13. Matters for the Next Meeting.

13.1 Future of Minerals and Waste Sub-Committee.

13. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 2 April 2015 to follow the Annual Parish Meeting which will commence at 7.00p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2152 hours.