

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY VILLAGE HALL ON
THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 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 T Turner

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris
District Councillor R Duffield
District Councillor R Richmond

Sixteen members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

There were no DPs.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor O'Donovan seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 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 County Councillor reported that he had attended the meeting the previous day at County Hall to discuss the NDR. This had been approved at the meeting but there is a shortfall of £29.9 million on the cost of this. The increased cost is due to amendments following the examination by the Inspector and increased construction costs of 22%. £1million is being spent on the Postwick hub this year, £10 million is to be received from Central Government, £10million from LEP, £2 million to come from reserves and the remaining £6.9 million is to be found from the highways capital budget, £1.9 million for three years and £1.2million for the fourth year. This means that capital projects such as junction improvements and re-surfacing will be postponed. There will be no effect on repairs to potholes or to surface dressing.

At the meeting 59 voted for the NDR 8 were against and there were 3 abstentions.

The District Councillor reported that the Local Plan should be presented to Committee at the end of September and then it will be forwarded to parishes for comment. The shared management team leaflet will be circulated next month.

5. Village Fete.

5.1 Report on the Village Fete 2015.

This had all been arranged by one lady and £420 had been raised. Unfortunately the weather was against the event on the day. Councillor Rose wished that the Village Hall would take this on and Councillor Leigh stated that she would like a village fete but it is not for the Parish Council to take on. It was hoped that more money could be raised if the event

was advertised far more in advance. It was agreed to write to the lady who had organised the event to thank her.

5.2 Village Fete 2016.

It was agreed that the Chairman would contact the Village Hall Committee to see if it is willing to take on the organisation of a fete. It was also to be suggested that the Scouts become involved.

6. Matters to Report.

6.1 Request for a Post Box near to Tavern Close.

The Clerk had contacted Royal Mail which is looking into the request.

6.2 Norfolk Association of Local Councils.

The Clerk reported that the new Lead Officer had been appointed. This item will be removed from the agenda.

6.3 Code of Transparency.

The Clerk reported that this is working well and he will chase the funding that is available. He reported that the dissemination of the information onto the website is taking additional timing and he will keep a record of this so that this can be reported to the Parish Council.

6.4 Faster Broadband.

The County Councillor reported that BBFN2 is still progressing. No money has yet been released by Breckland Council for Phase 3 as BT has not released the information as to where Faster Broadband has been installed. There is now Wispire at Longham. The Clerk had forwarded details of residents who are unable to obtain adequate broadband to the County Councillor who had forwarded them to the Lead Officer for Better Broadband for Norfolk.

6.5 Annual General meeting of Community Action Norfolk 15 July.

No one had been able to attend.

6.6 Recycling Payments.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the textile recycling payment for 2014/15 was £353.59 per ton and the total received was £1393.86. The payment for 2015/16 will be £341.23 per ton.

6.7 SNAP Meeting July.

Councillor Richmond reported that the three priorities were Drugs and ASB in Dereham, problems around the Market Place and speeding in villages. There has been an increase in burglaries and there are now less police on the streets.

6.8 100th Beetley Buzz.

This is due in a couple of months and Councillor Leigh felt that this should be done in colour and be four pages. It was suggested that an article on the changes in the parish since then be included. Councillor Turner suggested reprinting issue one. It was agreed to place this on the agenda for the next month to decide the format.

6.9 Parish Walk 22 July.

The Chairman apologised for not being able to attend. It was a pleasant walk with guides Bob and Doris Scott. The new trees are growing well, the paths are well maintained and the track that had been damaged is now grown over. The Clerk reported that the land which was where the farmer crossed to had been sold but he has not been able to confirm the future use for this parcel of land.

6.10 Request from PCC to Deliver a News Letter.

The Clerk reported that he had had a request from the PCC to deliver a news letter with the Beetley Buzz. This is to try and raise funds to repair the fabric of the two churches in the parish. All were happy to deliver this with the Beetley Buzz.

6.11 Annual General Meeting of Mid Norfolk Citizens' Advice Bureau 16 September.

No one will be attending this at Holt.

7. Planning.

7.1 Applications.

7.1.1 3PL/2015/0821/F-Woods End 14 Elmham Road-addition of first floor single storey extension, roof alterations and garage to front.

This had been circulated to all Councillors and the Clerk had informed Breckland Council that there was no objection to the application.

7.1.2 3PL/2015/0813/F-9 Wood Drive-single storey extension to front of property.

This had been circulated to all Councillors and the Clerk had informed Breckland Council that there was no objection to the application.

7.1.3 3PL/2015/0826/O-Land at the rear of the Paddocks-erection of seven dwellings with detached garages.

The meeting was adjourned.

The members of the public asked about the planning procedure and this was explained. The concerns of the neighbours were noted and their comments online had also been read. There was considerable concern regarding the effect of traffic on the existing properties in The Paddocks, the type of housing that was being built and the loss of amenity to properties on Elmham Road and in The Paddocks. District Councillor Duffield stated that there is no policy at Breckland Council to stop building outside the settlement boundary, and there is a lack of land for housing stock in the District. The TPO on the trees in the woods was raised but the District Councillor informed the meeting that these could be overruled. It was explained that the application had been called into The Planning Committee and the neighbours who had objected have the opportunity to speak for three minutes in total, not three minutes per objector. Councillor Rose suggested that a spokesperson be appointed and to be objective.

The meeting was reconvened.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that the application be objected to as it is outside the settlement boundary, there is no infrastructure to sustain the development as there is no shop and the school is full, the number of local objections, this could well lead to further development to the rear of Elmham Road, the increased traffic through The Paddocks, the site is still a greenfield site and the emerging Local Plan could include development in the Parish that have road frontage and not be developed to the rear of existing properties. All were in favour.

7.2 Decisions.

The following decisions were noted.

7.2.1 3PL/2015/0667/F-22A Elmham Road-extensions and alterations to convert garage into annexe to dwelling.- N/O Permission.

7.2.2 3PL/2015/0821/F-Woods End 14 Elmham Road-addition of first floor single storey extension, roof alterations and garage to front. N/O Permission.

7.2.3 3PL/2015/0813/F-9 Wood Drive-single storey extension to front of property. N/O Permission.

The County Councillor left the meeting.

8. Highways and Transport.

8.1 Report on Highways Matters.

The Clerk reported that he had contacted The Highway Community Rangers before their

visit on the week commencing 27 July but they had not done any thing that they had been requested to do and had only been in the parish for one day. The request will be sent again for the next time copied to the County Councillor. A large pothole just to the north of the bridge on B1146 at the south end of the village had been reported. The data from the SAM2 sign for East Bilney had been forwarded to the Community Speed Watch for Norfolk Constabulary to attempt to get the Norfolk Safety Camera Partnership to visit East Bilney. Common Lane has now been repaired. The hedge at East Bilney near to the Alms Houses had been reported yet again.

8.2 New problems.

There are hedge clippings being fly tipped on High House Road and this will be reported to Norfolk County Council. There have been instances of scooters driving on the Playing Field and the Chairman will inform the Village Hall Committee. Rawhall Lane outside the Woad Centre needs repair and the hedges along Stoney lane need cutting back. The hedge on Fakenham Road will be reported again.

8.3 Land to the rear of the footway for the siting of a bus shelter.

The Clerk had written to Barratt Homes regarding this but had not had a reply.

8.4 Parking on Elmham Road.

Nothing further had been received and this is to be removed from the agenda.

8.5 Footpaths.

FP4 had been cut and Councillor Richmond will walk the paths before the next meeting.

8.6 Local Highway Improvement 2016/17.

Apart from a bus shelter nothing had been proposed and this will be decided at the next meeting.

9. Beetley River Meadows.

9.1 Report.

All the area is being cut in one session. A wasps nest had been cleared by Councillor Mayhew who was thanked. A quotation is still awaited from NGF Play.

9.2 Complaint regarding the River.

The Clerk had contacted the Environment Agency who stated that it is planning to do weed spraying this year between Gressenhall Bridge and Holt Road road bridge. The Breckland Council representative on the IRB had also been contacted to see if any further pressure can be brought to bear on the Environment Agency.

9.3 Complaints regarding the Cutting of the trees.

The Chairman had not spoken to Norfolk Woods and Hedges

9.4 Play Area Routine Inspections.

These had all been done and forwarded to the Clerk.

9.5 RoSPA Report.

This had been circulated to all Councillors and the contents were noted. The swing is still squeaking although it has supposedly been greased.

10. Open Spaces.

10.1 Problems.

There were no problems to report.

10.2 Crossing Rights at Beetley Common.

The Clerk reported that the land has apparently been sold so the farmer will not be allowed to use the land for shooting so it is unlikely that he will be crossing the Common again. The Clerk is trying to ascertain the intentions of the new owner. The solicitor had been stopped from sending any letter.

10.3 Maintenance at East Bilney Town Lands.

The Clerk had met Norfolk Woods and Hedges on site and a further swathe will be cut and canopy lifted.

11. Finance.

11.1 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.

11.2 Balances and Cheques for Authorisation.

Councillor O'Donovan 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 05 15	28903.21
Receipts- Interest-2.46	
Breckland Community Car- 79.30	
VAT Refund- 1562.56	
Breckland Community Car-72.55	
Interest-2.27	
Mr Nally Rent-10.00	
Breckland Community Car-82.55	1811.69
	30714.90
Less cheques authorised 14 05 15-1393.86	
cheques authorised 04 06 15-2320.14	
cheques authorised 02 07 15- 2173.48	5887.48
Balance at 31 07 15	24827.42
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 01 08 15	234.75
Balance at 31 07 15	24592.67
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	200.00
Balance at 31 07 15	24792.67

Amount available for Section 137 : 1162x£7.36 = £8552.32

Spend to Date : £0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

619	Mrs A Leigh	Community Car July	234.75
620	B J Leigh	Contract Aug 412.67 less PAYE 82.60	330.07
621	HMRC	PAYE Aug	82.60
622	Abacus	Monthly Contract-June 21.01 July 4.92	25.93
623	Mrs A Leigh	Community Car Aug	120.40
624	The Beetley Charity	Rent from Mr Nally	10.00
625	Breckland Council	Cost of Elections	75.00
626	Playsafety Ltd.	RoSPA Inspection	156.00
627	Eastern Office Equipment	Stationery	14.94
628	Mazars LLP	External Audit	120.00

11.3 External Audit 2014/15.

11.3.1 Telephone Call.

The Clerk reported that he had received a telephone call from the External Auditor querying the size of the reserves. The Clerk had stated that this was so that more

refurbishment can be undertaken at the play area but it will not be possible to continue to state this unless the reserves re reduced. Therefore it would be prudent to reduce the reserves as there may well be a strong criticism on the accounts in the future..

11.3.2 Completion of External Audit.

This had been completed with no comment and the necessary notices displayed.

12. Correspondence received for circulation.

There was no correspondence for circulation.

13. Matters for the Next Meeting.

13.1 Training.

13.2 Alms Houses.

14. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 1 October 2015 at 7.30p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2158 hours.