

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY VILLAGE HALL ON
THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2016 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
Councillor T Turner

District Councillor R Richmond

1 member of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence had also been received from County Councillor M Kiddle Morris and District Councillor R Duffield.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

Councillor Richmond declared a DPI in Agenda item 7.1.2 having submitted parcels of land into the Local development framework.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2016 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. County and District Councillors Reports.

District Councillor Richmond reported that Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council had voted against devolution and it is hoped a new deal could be formulated. He had attended the AGM of Norfolk Association of Local Councils which had been poorly attended. The Police and Crime Commissioner had informed the delegates that there is considerable sexual activity on the internet and this is taking up a lot of the time for the police so that they do not have the manpower to do as many rural visits as would be liked. The President of the National Association also spoke especially with regard to the possible capping of Parish Council precepts. It has responded stating that this should not occur as this does not allow any flexibility for parishes. A new Cabinet member has been appointed in place of Charles Carter. Councillor Gordon Bambridge will take over his responsibility for Growth and Councillor Alison Webb will be responsible for People and Information. There have been several applications put in for planning around Dereham after the closure of the consultation on the Local Plan had closed and this includes industrial units.

5. Matters to Report.

5.1 Brown Signs for the Woad Centre.

These had been replaced the day after the last meeting. Councillor Leigh stated that the criteria for a tourist sign is that the attraction should be open during normal working hours. At present it is only possible to go the Woad Centre if it is booked in advance. She stated that the County Councillor should be contacted regarding this. Councillor Rose agreed.

Councillor Richmond stated that the Parish Council is only acting within its remit to remove unnecessary signs in the parish. It was agreed unanimously to contact the County Councillor.

5.2 Bus Services.

The Clerk reported that the meeting planned for the previous day had been cancelled at two hours notice. Councillor Leigh took the telephone call and she reiterated that the Parish Council had never wanted a separate bus service but to amend the routing of an existing one. It was suggested that a minibus could also go to Old Beetley on a Tuesday thereby giving the residents there, two opportunities to go into Dereham. The officer at Norfolk County Council will contact the Clerk with a revised proposition.

5.3 SNAP Meeting.

Councillor Richmond had attended the meeting on 30 November and the first part was taken up with complaints about speeding traffic in rural areas. A new person is in post who it is hoped will be dealing with the information from SAM2 signs. The police are hoping that parishes would be able to be clustered up in the future for dealing with the speeding problems. The three priorities set were retail theft, speeding in rural areas and drug patrols.

5.4 Pavilion.

The contractor had informed the Clerk that he will be starting in 2016 and finish in 2017.

5.5 Defibrillator for the Parish.

Councillor O'Donovan stated that it may be possible to install at the New Inn and the Clerk will forward more information to her so she can speak to the owners.

5.6 Dates of Meetings for 2017.

These were agreed as follows:-

Parish Council Meetings.

January 11th to discuss planning applications only.

February 2nd

April 6th

June 1st

September 7th

November 2nd

March 2nd

May 11th

July 6th

October 5th

December 7th

Annual Parish Council Meeting

May 11th

Annual Parish Meeting

April 6th

5.7 Breckland Town and Parish Forum 8 December at 6p.m.

Councillors Leigh, Richmond and Rose will be attending.

5.8 Rental Accommodation in East Bilney.

The Clerk reported that a letter had been sent from Breckland Council to the owner requesting access to the property.

Councillor Leigh reported that it had been let and a fence had been partly erected the previous Friday. By Saturday evening the fence had been taken down and the To Let sign put back up.

6. Highways and Transport.

6.1 Report on Highways Matters.

The Clerk had reported the No Entry signs at the junction of B1145 and B1146 and the Highways Engineer had replied stating that this would be looked at with a view to making it more obvious. He thanked the Parish Council for letting him know. The Speedwatch Co-ordinator had informed the Clerk that new volunteers had been vetted and trained. There are two for Beetley, four for East Bilney and five for Brisley. Sessions continue on a regular

basis in Beetley but are yet to commence in East Bilney or Brisley. All will use the current equipment. The Highways Engineer had met with the owner of Cedric's Nursery and informed him where the boundary is. He has agreed to move the sign back to the boundary. He will not be taking a heavy handed approach as the sign posed no risk to other highway users.

6.2 New problems.

The trod on the west side of Fakenham Road had been damaged.

6.3 Footpaths.

The Highways Engineer is to write to the landowner regarding FP6 and advise them that they should either create an access for the route or apply for a path modification order. This is a low priority matter and there is a viable alternative not far from the definitive line. Generally the footpaths are better now that they have been throughout the year.

6.4 20m.p.h. Speed Limit at Elmham Road/ Fakenham Road Crossroads.

The County Councillor is still pursuing this.

6.5 Crossing Patrol at St Mary's School.

The Clerk had been informed by Norfolk County Council that a consultation is to take place on the proposal that Norfolk County Council will only fund Road Crossing Patrols that continue to meet the National Criteria. The patrol at St Mary's School is to be axed as part of the budget cuts. The Clerk had contacted the school and the Head Teacher had replied. She stated that there is little point disputing this decision as the number of children using the crossing on a daily basis and the ratings used to measure the need for a crossing are significantly below the thresholds needed to secure a patrol. Over time the school has an average of 11 children using the crossing. The road is straight with clear lines of sight and there are no parked vehicles causing an obstruction. All of these can not be disputed and the school will not be challenging the decision. The Head Teacher stated that although this is a real shame other crossings also axed are far closer to reaching the criteria than ours. Fortunately the Lollipop Lady will continue as part of the school staff as she will retain her position at school as a dinner lady.

6.5 Bus Shelter.

A bid has been sent into Norfolk County Council

7. Planning.

7.1 Applications.

7.1.1 3PL/2016/1277/F-Woodland Farm Holt Road Hoe-new dwelling and garage.

This application had been sent to Beetley as a courtesy because it is on the boundary of the two parishes.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that an objection be raised to the application as this would set a precedent for further dwellings in the countryside and that there are serious concerns over highway safety because of the lack of visibility when exiting the property. All were in favour.

7.1.2 3PL/2016/1117/F-Beetley Nurseries Elmham Road-erection of 1 no. agricultural workers dwelling.

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

The applicant explained the arson attacks which had been on a greenhouse next to the caravan and on a van which had burnt out. He stated that there is to be no new access to the property despite the application stating that a new access would be constructed. The applicant stated that he did not realise what had been written in the application. He had sold his bungalow in the

village and has put the money he obtained into the nursery. He was living in a caravan on the site but his wife is scared to live there because of the attacks.

The meeting was reconvened.

After a discussion on the application Councillor O'Donovan proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that an objection be raised to the application. It was agreed that clarification needs to be obtained on the ownership of the access and whether a new access is to be constructed or not. It was also felt that it was not necessary to have a workers dwelling for a horticultural business and better security measures should be installed. It was suggested to the applicant that the application should be withdrawn until such time as all the points are clarified. All were in favour.

7.1.3 3PL/2016/1400/VAR-Beetley Nurseries Elmham Road- variation of conditions 6 and 8 on 3PL/2008/0811/F-remove before commencement of works on site.

The conditions of the planning permission were for plans to be submitted to Breckland Council for the car parking area and foul drainage. As these had not been submitted prior to the works being completed the applicant is now applying to regularise the situation.

Councillor Mayhew proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that an objection be raised to the application as this should have been submitted prior to the works and the material used for the car park is not in keeping with a rural area. All were in favour.

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting.

7.2 Decisions.

The following decision was noted.

7.2.1 3PL/2016/1113/O-1 The Drift East Bilney- replacement cottage and single additional cottage including garaging. O Refusal

7.3 To note a request to investigate a possible breach of planning.

7.3.1 Fairhaven Caravan Site.

Breckland Council had been informed of the possible breach of planning and would be investigating.

7.3.2 Beetley Nurseries.

An enforcement notice had been served on the owner to permanently cease the residential use of the land, permanently cease the use of the garden centre building for residential use, permanently cease the use of the land for the stationing of a caravan for residential purposes and permanently remove all items and associated infrastructure used in the residential use of the land. The owner has 9 months to comply with the notice from 15 December 2016.

8. Beetley River Meadows.

8.1 Report.

Breckland Council had contacted the Clerk to request permission to drive a 4x4 across the Meadows to empty the dog bins. This had been circulated to all Councillors and Breckland Council had been informed that permission was granted.

The Clerk had received a complaint from a parishioner regarding barbed wire on Fanthorpe's Wood upon which a dog had been caught. The Clerk had contacted the Charity and it had been removed. The Secretary of the Charity had stated that the barbed

wire was seven feet from the permissive path and therefore no animal should be there. He had also stated that there has been a problem with dogs have been going beneath the rails of the fence eroding the soil. It was felt that it could have been any animal, badger or fox for example, going under the rail. The complainant had been informed of the removal of the barbed wire. The Clerk will contact the contractor again regarding the benches and Adys Wood Splitting to clear the fallen trees.

9. Open Spaces.

9.1 Problems.

Anton Crisp had confirmed that he will cut the hedge on the Fakenham Road at East Bilney Town Lands again in January.

10. Finance.

10.1 Budgets.

The budget sheets and financial information had been circulated. The Clerk informed the members that he had had notification of the payment of the VAT Refund. He had also been informed that Beetley Parish Council would receive £384.78 from the Transparency Fund. Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that these be approved. All were in favour.

10.2 Donation to Beetley parochial Church Council.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor O'Donovan seconded the resolution that £150 be donated to assist with the cutting of the churchyards. All were in favour.

10.3 Balances and Cheques for Authorisation.

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 30 09 16	26086.70
Plus Interest-1.62	
Norfolk Community Foundation C/Car-162.46	<u>164.08</u>
	26250.78
Less cheques authorised 06 10 16 -	<u>938.23</u>
Balance at 31 10 16	25312.55
Less unpresented cheques authorised 06 10 16-6.00	
unpresented cheques authorised 03 11 16-1832.98	<u>1838.98</u>
Balance at 03 11 16	23473.57
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	<u>250.00</u>
Balance at 03 11 16	23723.57

Amount available for Section 137 : 1148 x £7.42 = £8518.16

Spend to Date : £25.00

Cheques for authorisation:

740	B J Leigh	Contract Nov 501.38 less PAYE 90.40	410.98
741	HMRC	PAYE Nov	90.40
742	Mrs A Leigh	Community Car-Nov	185.95
743	B J Leigh	Christmas Cards-2.50 Christmas Gifts-23.37+ 3.60	29.47
744	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract-October. Purchase of new	851.20

		photocopier-838.80	
745	Glasdon U.K.Limited	Dog Bins	355.96
746	B J Leigh	Contract Dec 501.38 less PAYE 90.60	410.78
747	HMRC	PAYE Dec	90.60
748	PCC	Donation	150.00
749	Society of Local Council Clerks	Membership	139.00
750	Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall and Playing Field Committee	Hall Hire	90.00
751	Norfolk A C	Norfolk ALC Transparency Briefing September 2015	15.00

10.4 Change of Bank to Barclays.

The Clerk had met the Business Manager at Barclays Dereham and he had confirmed that the bank will deal with the transfer of the funds. The Clerk will now prepare all the paperwork for submission.

10.5 Replacement Photocopier.

The Clerk reported that this has been installed and is working well.

10.6 Precept 2017/18.

The accounts for the Village Hall had not been given to the Chairman although the Secretary of the village hall stated that she would ask the Committee. Therefore no decision was made on whether to allocate funds in the budget.

There was a lengthy discussion on the precept as it was felt that more expenditure would be incurred by Parish Councils as other authorities withdraw finance for items that have always been their responsibility.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that the precept be set at £16,250. All were in favour.

11. Correspondence received for circulation.

The following correspondence would be circulated.

11.1 Details from Norfolk ALC AGM.

12. Matters for the Next Meeting.

12.1 Extract in Link -Up.

13. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Wednesday 11 January 2017 at 7.00p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21.55 hours.