

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2011 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present Councillor A Leigh (Chair)
Councillor A Luck
Councillor J O'Donovan
Councillor A Fox
Councillor R Richmond

1. **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Rose who was shop keeping in Ireland and Councillor Baldwin who was in the middle of the audit and these were both accepted. Apologies had also been received from the County and District Councillors who were both at a meeting at Breckland Council.

2. **Declarations of Interest.**

Councillor Luck declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 13 being a trustee of the Village Hall. Councillor Richmond declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Items 6.4 and 12.1, having submitted parcels of land for inclusion in the Minerals and Waste Framework.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting.**

Councillor Luck proposed and Councillor O'Donovan seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7 July 2011 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

4. **County and District Councillors Reports.**

None were given.

5. **Matters to Report.**

5.1 **Diamond Jubilee Celebration.**

There is a 2012 Jubilee Fund available from Breckland Council which would give £100 to Parishes who are planning an event. There had only been two replies to the article placed in the Beetley Buzz and it was therefore decided not to organise an event.

The Chairman agreed to write to local organisations such as the pre-school, P.T.A., School, Village Hall, Scouts and Church to enquire if they are intending to hold an event which the Parish Council could collaborate with or assist financially.

5.2 **AGM Dereham Citizens Advice Bureau.**

Councillor Richmond would be attending.

5.3 **Summer picnic Thorpe 27 July.**

Councillor Richmond reported that this had been an interesting day and the hall had had problems with the high heating costs associated with several teams playing on the ground. A heat source system had been installed with solar panels on the roof and this had reduced the heating costs considerably. There are bees on the site which is good for the environment and the event was well worth the visit.

The information from the event is to be circulated.

5.4 **Bottle Bank.**

The bank had been emptied twice but not yet moved. Councillor O'Donovan is pressing the company to move the banks.

5.5 **Beetley Mews.**

The Clerk had received a letter from the agent acting for Manorcourt Care requesting clarification of the comments made by the Parish Council in response to the application to lift the S106 obligation. The Clerk had telephoned the agent and had had a frank discussion with the agent. The agent explained that it was not their intention to open up the letting to all as this may compromise the tranquillity of the main hall. The possible suggestion is for the age limit to be lowered and the agent is to discuss this further with the owner.

5.6 Grant Application.

The Clerk had been contacted by Norfolk Community Foundation regarding the level of the funds within the bank account. He had replied that the precept had just been received when the application was forwarded and the Parish Council needs the funds to administer the parish effectively. The person seemed satisfied with this reply!

5.7 Beetley Buzz.

Councillor Luck reported that he had still not had any volunteer to assist with Elmham Road and therefore has to do this at night as he is working during the day. An article is to be placed in the Beetley Buzz requesting volunteers to assist with the distribution.

5.8 AGM of Norfolk ALC 1 October.

Councillor Fox would attend and Councillors Rose and Baldwin are to be asked if they wish to attend.

5.9 Code of Conduct training at Breckland Council 19 September.

Councillor O'Donovan would attend the session at 1430.

6. Planning.

6.1 To note the following responses forwarded to Breckland Council since the last meeting.

6.1.1 3PL/2011/0709/F-4 Oakland Drive-demolition of existing garage, erection of single storey extension with garage attached to front and side of property.

No objection had been forwarded to Breckland Council.

6.1.2 3PL/2011/0751/F-10 Spinney Close-two storey extension to rear of property.

Initially no objection had been raised by any Councillor provided the neighbours did not object. The Clerk had checked the website and the closest neighbour had objected because of loss of light and view. The Clerk had discussed with the Portfolio Holder and subsequently all Councillors and it was decided to object to this application.

6.2 To consider planning applications received for consultation.

6.2.1 3PL/2011/0838/F-50 Elmham Road-erection of pitched detached double garage.

The comments from Councillor Rose were read out at the meeting.

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that No Objection be raised to the application. All were in favour.

6.3 Decisions.

6.3.1 3PL/2011/0074/F-Land off Church Road East Bilney-construction of new chalet style dwelling.

O Refusal

6.3.2 3PL/2011/0564/F-Woodlands East Bilney-proposed residential conversion of part of rural workshop.

O Permission

The Parish Council was disappointed by this decision but Breckland Council had decided at its Planning Committee to grant permission as it fosters rural enterprise.

6.3.3 3PL/2011/0623/F-29 Fakenham Road-demolition of existing single storey dwelling and erection of new 11/2 storey dwelling.

N/O Permission

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

6.4 Minerals and Waste Consultation.

All members of the Parish Council entitled to vote had been forwarded the responses

for approval and these had all been forwarded to Norfolk County Council.

Councillor Richmond re-joined the meeting.

6.5 Enforcement 4 River View.

A letter had been received from a parishioner with a copy of a letter from Breckland Council regarding the shed that has been erected at 4 River View. Breckland Council has stated that the shed needs planning permission as it is sited in front of the principal elevation of the dwelling. The owners have been written to requesting a planning application or for the shed to be re-sited to the rear of the garden.

7. Beetley River Meadows Play Area.

7.1 Problems.

A branch had come down near the football pitch and this had been cleared by Nick Saunders.

A further complaint about the signage had been received and a reply is to be sent stating that for health and safety reasons the signs were erected. The Parish Council does not agree with the comments about the size of the path and has already stated this in the Beetley Buzz. In the reply it is to be stated that if the complainant attends the Parish Council meeting this would be discussed further.

7.2 ROSPA Report.

The gates were discussed and it was agreed to obtain additional quotations for the installation of new gates.

8. Open Spaces.

8.1 New problems.

Footpath 2 at East Bilney needs cutting and the owner is to be contacted.

East Bilney Town Lands is in need of additional work and a site meeting is to be held on 6 September at 10.00 a.m. The hedge is also to be cut again.

8.2 Concessionary Path Fanthorpe's Wood.

According to the agreement signed by the Parish Council it is responsible for the maintenance of the path. C.G.M. is to be contacted to cut this whilst at the River Meadows and also the footpath next to the school car park.

9. Highways and Transport.

9.1 General.

The H-bars on River View have been painted and Mr Hutchins has sent his thanks to the Parish Council.

The Clerk is meeting the Highways engineer on 8 September to discuss flooding on Fakenham road, the brown sign to Beetley Common and a flashing sign on Holt Road or a speed limit which had been requested by a parishioner.

The hedge at 1 Oakland Drive had been trimmed and the owner is to be written to expressing the thanks of the Parish Council.

The water leak on Fakenham road has not yet been repaired and the Clerk has contacted Anglian Water again.

9.2 Speedwatch.

The team has been active in Beetley but it is unlikely that a team will be started in East Bilney as Mrs Willis is leaving the village.

10. Website.

10.1 Update.

The Clerk held a meeting with John Relph in August and several amendments were made to the site.

A piece about the website is to be inserted in the next issue of the Beetley Buzz and Councillor Rose will be asked to draft the piece for insertion.

10.2 New additions.

None were requested.

11. Correspondence received for circulation.

11.1	Crime figures June & July
11.2	Signpost July
11.3	Breckland Planning and building Control News
11.4	RHS Britain in Bloom
11.5	CGM change of Contact
11.6	The Playing Field Summer 2011
11.7	Renewable Energy Project Meeting 27 July
11.8	Norfolk Link August 2011
11.9	Breckland Enforcement Brochure
11.10	Breckland Thetford area Action Plan DPD
11.11	Clerks and Councils Direct September 2011

12. Finance.

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

12.2 Balances.

Councillor Luck proposed and Councillor Fox 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 11	24678.09
Receipts-	
Interest-2.20	
Breckland Community Car-153.50	
VAT Refund-1125.12	
Beeston with Bittering Parish Council-3.33	
Tittleshall Parish Council-25.83	
Brisley Parish Council-3.33	
Interest-1.91	
Litcham Parish Council-3.33	
Horningtoft Parish council-25.83	
1 st Beetley Scouts-50.00	
Tittleshall Parish Council-61.87	
Breckland-Community Car-51.30	
	<u>1507.55</u>
	26185.64
Less cheques authorised 02 06 11-1977.45	
Cheques authorised 07 07 11-1436.09	
	<u>3413.54</u>
Balance at 31 07 11	22772.10
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 07 07 11	
	<u>368.00</u>
Balance at 07 07 11	22403.10

Amount available for Section 137 : 1118 x£6.44 = £7199.92

Spend to Date : £00.00

Cheques for authorisation:

230	B J Leigh	Contract August	368.00
231	Mrs P Silk	Community car	175.50
232	C.G.M.	Grass Cutting-July	193.85
233	Daynes Office Interiors	Stationery	31.55
234	Beetley Village Hall	Hall Hire	142.00
235	Mr A Fox	Materials for Signs	57.47

12.3 Donation to Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

It was agreed unanimously to donate £20.

13. Village Hall.

13.1 Report from the Village Hall Committee

Councillor Richmond reported that the claim for the loss of oil had been paid and the play equipment moved. A Quiz Night, Christmas Function and Car Boot are to be held this year and a Dog Day next year.

The rate for the cleaner had been agreed at £60 and all cleaning materials are to be kept in a locked cupboard. A new water heater has been purchased and a new fridge is needed. The Parish Council agreed to contribute to this. Flytipping had occurred at the hall and this had been cleared by Serco. The Fields in Trust application had been sent by Stephen Pope.

The Chairman explained that she could no longer attend the meetings as she is on a course but would still like to remain a member of the Committee. She is still worried about the number of bookings, insulation and cleanliness. A long discussion followed which agreed that the Village Hall would benefit from a "lick of paint" and a tidy up and this is to be raised at the next meeting.

14. Affordable Housing.

14.1 Update.

It was agreed to hold the open event on 26 October from 1500-1900. Flagship Housing is to be contacted and Councillor Richmond will write a leaflet for dropping with the Beetley Buzz.

14.2 Naming of the road.

Breckland Council had written to the Parish Council requesting suggestions for the naming of the road. It was agreed unanimously that it should be called Abram Court and the Chairman will speak to Mr Abram to ensure he has no objection.

15. Community Car Scheme.

The contract for the funding had been forwarded to the Parish Council and it was reluctantly decided to sign this. Breckland Council Cabinet had agreed that this must be signed to maintain their portion of the funding. A meeting is to be held with the drivers to explain the decisions.

The new rates for the journeys were agreed as follows:-

The return charges per passenger are:

Norwich £9, King's Lynn £10.30, Dereham £2.00, North Elmham £1.70, Swanton

Morley £1.70, Litcham £3.10. Other journeys will be charged at the rate of 22.5p per mile – minimum charge £1.70.

These rates will be put in the Beetley Buzz.

16. Matters for the Next Meeting

16.1 Precept.

16. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 6 October 2011 at 7.30 p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2220 hours.