

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2009 AT 7.30 P.M.**

**Present**

Councillor A Leigh (Chair)  
Councillor A Luck  
Councillor J Baldwin  
Councillor G Hayes  
Councillor R Richmond  
Councillor M Rose

District Councillor R Duffield

Two members of the public

**1. Apologies for absence.**

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Silk who was ill and this was accepted.

**2. Declaration of Interest.**

Councillor Richmond declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Items 8.1 and 10.1. having submitted parcels of land for inclusion in the Local Development Framework and Minerals and Waste Framework, Councillor Luck declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 9.1 being a Trustee of the Village hall and Councillor Baldwin declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 5.1.1 ii as the adjoining field is owned by her father.

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

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5 February 2009 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour. The minutes were duly signed.

**4. Matters to Report.**

**4.1 Pride in Breckland**

This was taken as part of Agenda Item 4.5

**4.2 Norfolk ALC Green and Gold Summit presentations.**

Councillor Richmond had attended the meeting attended by 30 people although not many parishes were represented. The aim is to promote and drive business forward in rural areas. There is a diverse economy in Norfolk with agriculture, tourism, engineering and health care and many of these 32000 businesses are well away from urban conurbations. The aim of Shaping Norfolk's Future is an economic partnership of public, private and voluntary sectors to improve tourism, road infrastructure, train travel and to hold business forums throughout Norfolk to assist in the growth of the businesses. The strategic goals are to improve business performance, promote learning and skills, access to employment, environmentally sustainable examples, raising Norfolk's profile and improving the infrastructure. There are important financial institutions in Norwich. It is working with private sector to increase jobs, has a new website, holds regular meetings and encourages and promotes local businesses. The importance of being green was emphasised via low carbon footprint, liftshare and car sharing. The conclusion is that there are opportunities, flexibility and support and everything a Parish Council does can support these.

Councillor Leigh had attended the green summit and had found this most interesting. The first speaker gave much background information on climate change and there were other presentations on allotments, composting, green schemes in Reepham such as the car

club and insulation, and a presentation on green buildings. The Chairman felt that the composting scheme should be one that the Parish Council looks at and whilst there does not seem to be any suitable land within the parish it may be possible to combine with another for example Brisley. It was agreed to place the composting on the agenda for a future meeting once the meeting had been held at Brisley on the future of their allotment land.

#### **4.3 CAG meeting 10 March**

Councillor Hayes had attended this when there were about 50 people present Two old priorities are continuing. The speeding in Dereham Town centre is slightly better and more police officers are being trained with speed guns. The Rialto Estate at Toftwood has had a lot of patrols, more CCTVs, street briefings and some prosecutions and it is improving but will continue.

#### **4.4 Training**

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman had attended the three meetings for Chairmanship Training which were very good being put on by NRCC on behalf of NPTP. There were several case studies which was a far better way to learn than just sitting and listening. It is hoped to arrange informal discussions with all the Chairmen present in the future.

Councillors Baldwin and Rose had attended the full day course for Initial training for Councillors and Clerks at which there were 30 attending. Whilst it was a poor venue the training was worthwhile.

#### **4.5 Breckland Town and Parish Forum 19 March**

Councillor Hayes had attended this and there were presentations on Affordable Housing which was very good, recycling at the Costessey plant which is an excellent facility, Sustainable Communities with an update on the new CCTV scheme costing a million pounds, Pride in Breckland which is as reported at the last meeting and a piece about volunteer week will be put in the Beetley Buzz, the Youth Council which has been set up with youths from five towns one of whom aged 16 gave an excellent presentation and an update from the Chief Executive on the Local Government Review and the funds in the Icelandic Banks.

#### **4.6 Homewatch for Old Beetley**

Councillor Rose thanked the Parish council for funding the meeting which had set up a Homewatch Scheme for Old Beetley.

### **5. Portfolio Holders Reports.**

#### **5.1 Planning.**

##### **5.1.1 Applications.**

i. 3PL/2009/0183/F-2 Hall Cottages East Bilney-erection of conservatory to link house to garden room inc. alterations to garden room roof-resubmission.

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Luck seconded the resolution that **NO OBJECTION** be raised to the application  
All were in favour.

Councillor Baldwin withdrew from the meeting.

ii 3PL/2009/0232/A-East Bilney Garage-1x free standing d/sided pylon sign, 1x free standing d/sided direction sign, 2 x fascia signs & 1 wall mounted.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Luck seconded the resolution that **an OBJECTION** be raised to the application for the free standing sign A as it is out of keeping in a rural area and it is not necessary to light up and advertise products but to raise **NO OBJECTION** to the other signs provided the sign B has no visibility problems for vehicles exiting the garage.

All were in favour.

Councillor Baldwin rejoined the meeting.

iii. 3PL/2009/0207/F-Vale Farm- proposed conversion of redundant barn for residential accommodation.

This application had arrived late and no extension was given. As it was not on the agenda no decision could be made but all commented that this is outside the guidelines and the building has not been advertised to prove that it is redundant. The Clerk was delegated to reply on behalf of the Parish Council

#### **5.1.2 Decisions.**

- i 3PL/2008/1688/F-52 Elmham Road-detached garage. **N/O** Permission.
- ii 3PL/2009/0065/F-Lamorna 8 Elmham Road-enlarge utility room (extending walls & roof) brick up side rear door (enlarge shower room internal) **N/O** Permission
- iiiC/3/1998/3026-Middleton Aggregates Ltd.-variation of Condition1 of Planning Permission to allow the continued use of an area for the recycling of Inert Construction and Demolition Waste until 31 December 2013. **N/O** Permission

#### **5.1.3 Enforcements.**

There were no enforcements to report.

#### **5.1.4 Appeals.**

There were no appeals to report.

### **5.2 Open Spaces.**

#### **5.2.1 Update.**

Councillor Luck had met the surveyor for EDF who was arranging for the cutting of trees at High House Road and had agreed to the cutting near to the Village Hall.

#### **5.2.2 The use of Parish Land for falconry.**

The meeting was adjourned.

Mr Openshaw explained that a dog had been attacked at the Village hall by a bird of prey and he was worried that a child could be injured if the flying continued.

The meeting was reconvened.

Councillor Hayes had raised the matter with the police and it was agreed to write to the owner of the birds stating that the Parish Council had not nor would it give permission for Parish Land to be used for the flying of birds of prey and he should desist immediately.

It was agreed to check the bye laws for the Parish and add if necessary the banning of the flying of birds of prey.

#### **5.2.3 Cutting of the central area of Beetley Meadows.**

Councillor Luck would discuss this with RG Maintenance.

#### **5.2.4 Application for crossing rights across Beetley Common by Mr Bane**

No objection was raised to the application.

#### **5.2.5 Cutting of the hedge on the footpath to Beetley Meadows from Beech Road.**

This is a public right of way and is the responsibility of Norfolk County council but it was reported at the meeting that the conifers had been removed and a new fence installed so no action needs to be taken.

### **5.3 Communications.**

### **5.3.1 Update.**

Beetley Buzz 31 had been published with a Councillor Interview from Councillor Luck who appeared to have returned from the G20 summit with his wishes for the world.

### **5.3.2 Website.**

Copies of the web site were distributed and this would be considered at a later meeting.

### **5.3.3 Welcome Packs.**

A daft was distributed and it was agreed to check this and to report back to Councillor Hayes with any comments. It was hoped to have a final draft ready for the next meeting.

## **5.4 Highways and Transport.**

### **5.4.1 Update.**

Peacock Lane is a soft road and it is anticipated that early in this financial year the potholes will be filled and again prior to the winter. There had been some road counters on Fakenham Road but this is not a census carried out by Norfolk County Council and is possibly a private contractor requested by an individual to prove if an access is needed or a reduction in the speed limit is needed so that a smaller road splay for an access can be achieved.

Speedwatch has new funding and has been restructured. More emphasis will be placed on it from 6 April. The Police Response Centres have been altered so there are fewer in the County.

Full documentation had been done on the cars parking on Elmham road and at least six are constantly parked there during the day. No parking boards had also been used by the police which had helped. Whilst little can be done at drop off and pick up times it is hoped the long term parking can be improved. The school will be written to with the details of the survey.

## **5.5 Affordable Housing.**

### **5.5.1 Update.**

No bats had been found on the site but the Tree Officer from Breckland Council is now involved and his report is awaited but it may be necessary to move the plots further back from the road.

## **5.6 Projects and Fund Raising.**

### **5.6.1 Refurbishment of Beetley Meadows.**

It was agreed to proceed with the installation of a picnic bench and seats and to refurbish the existing table and provide nets for the football and basketball.

### **5.6.2 Norfolk RCC Funding Workshop 21 May.**

Councillor Baldwin will attend this.

## **6. Draft Standing Orders.**

It was agreed to hold a separate meeting to progress these.

## **7. Correspondence received for circulation.**

- 7.1 In Leaf Issue 9
- 7.2 Norfolk Parent Partnership
- 7.3 Dereham LAG Minutes
- 7.4 Norfolk Biodiversity Walks
- 7.5 Clerks and Councils Direct March 2009
- 7.6 Town and parish Standard February 2009
- 7.7 LCR March 2009

- 7.8 Boundary committee- Further Proposals  
7.9 CPRE Help Clean up Norfolk

## 8. Finance.

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

### 8.2 Balances.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Rose 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 01 09	18331.40
Receipts- Interest-16.62	
Breckland Comm car-45.22	61.84
	<u>18393.24</u>
Less cheques authorised 05 02 09	922.48
Balance at 28 02 09	17470.76
Less unrepresented cheques	<u>1242.31</u>
Balance at 31 03 09	16228.45

##### **Community Account**

Balance at 20 September 2008	3204.03
Receipts Breckland Precept	<u>6125.00</u>
	9329.03
Payments authorised 04 09 08	<u>210.80</u>
	9118.23
Transfer to Bank of Ireland	<u>9128.22</u>
Balance at 17 October 2008	(9.99)

##### **Business Base Rate Tracker**

Interest	27.41
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Amount available for Section 137 : 1099 x£6.15 = £6758.85

Spend to Date : £0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

040	B J Leigh	Service contract-March-	267.00
041	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	27.17
042	Norfolk Accident Rescue Service	Donation	50.00
043	Norfolk ALC	Subscription	212.45
044	Daynes Office Interiors	Stationery	16.10
045	Norfolk RCC	Play Equipment inspection Course	20.00

## 9. Village Hall.

### 9.1 Report from the Village Hall Committee.

Councillor Luck stated he would be standing down as the Parish Council representative so there would be no conflict of interest.

**9.2 Clarification of application for hire and booking conditions.**

These are to be amended.

**10. Minerals and Waste Sub-Committee**

Nothing to report.

**11. Beech Road.**

**10.1 Transfer Document.**

This had been received and was agreed and signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman as the nominated signatories.

**12. Village sign for Old Beetley.**

As the cost would be over £1500 it was agreed not to proceed with a sign at this time.

**13. Matters for the next meeting.**

**13.1 Funding.**

**14. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.**

This was confirmed as Thursday 7 May 2009 to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall at 1930.

The meeting closed at 2155 hours.