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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 3 DECEMBER 2009 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present

Councillor A Leigh	(Chair)
Councillor A Luck	
Councillor J Baldwin	
Councillor J O'Donovan	
Councillor R Richmond	
Councillor M Rose	

Eight members of the public

1. Apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence from Parish Councillors but County Councillor Kiddle Morris and District Councillor Duffield had sent their apologies.

2. Declaration of Interest.

Councillor Luck declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 8.1 and a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 5.1.1 as he is a near neighbour and Agenda Item 7.7 being a trustee of the Village Hall. Councillor Richmond declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Items 5.1.1, 7.1, and 9 having submitted parcels of land for inclusion in 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 meeting held on Thursday 5 November 2009 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour. The minutes were duly signed.

4. Matters to Report.

4.1 St Mary's C.P. School.

The Chairman and Clerk had had a meeting with the Acting Head Teacher who is keen to work with the Parish Council and Village Hall committee as a community cohesion project. He had been invited to the February meeting as it was felt by the Chairman that he has a lot to offer the community.

4.2 Christmas gifts.

These had been purchased for the Editor of the Buzz and cards for all the distributors. A book token had been purchased for the former Community Car Co-ordinator, June Overall.

4.3 Millennium Clock.

This is not working and Councillor Luck has the instructions and will order a new battery and try to restart.

5. Portfolio Holders Reports.

5.1 Planning.

Councillors Luck and Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

5.1.1 Applications.

- i. 3PL/2009/0867/O- Fakenham Road-single detached dwelling and garage

The meeting was adjourned.

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The applicant explained that the land had been owned by Mr & Mrs Watling and the application is to erect a dwelling and so tidy up the land to prevent the area becoming an eyesore. George Hayes had raised an objection as this is outside the settlement boundary, the land was deemed unreasonable for inclusion in the LDF, access onto the B1146 where vehicles do speed despite it being a 30m.p.h. area and any permission could set a precedent for the development of the whole site.

The meeting was reconvened.

Councillor Rose reported on her views which included that the site is outside the current settlement boundary but expressed concern that there could be no development within Beetley if some parcels of land were not included in the LDF. Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor O'Donovan seconded the resolution that **an OBJECTION** be raised to the application. All were in favour

Councillors Luck and Richmond rejoined the meeting.

5.1.2 Decisions

i 3PL/2009/0831/F-23 Fakenham Road-alts and exts. to existing cattery & retrospective consent for building incorp. rec. storage and food prep. N/O Permission

5.1.3 Vale Farm.

An e-mail had been received from the Development Services Manager at Breckland Council stating that whilst DC23 was considered the other planning issues on this application outweighed that of DC23 and it was deemed inappropriate to put a commercial use on the barn. Whilst this reply did not satisfy the members it was agreed not to pursue the matter any further.

5.1.4 LDF Task and Finish Group Meeting 25 November.

Councillor Rose and the Clerk had attended this meeting on the settlement boundary for the Parish. The settlement boundary for Old Beetley is proposed to be removed but there is no proposed change to the boundary in East Bilney or Beetley. The concern of Councillor Rose is that there is no area for any expansion within Beetley and therefore it was agreed to place on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss so that the Parish Council can respond at the public consultation stage.

5.2 Open Spaces.

5.2.1 Update.

The gates had been repaired but the buffers had not been fitted. Complaints had been received that the dog fouling bins are being used for dog fouling from residences and it was agreed to state in the Beetley Buzz that the bins are for the use of the walkers on the Meadows.

5.2.2 Crossing of Beetley Common by Members of the Fishing Club.

The meeting was adjourned.

Robin Bunning informed the members that the fishing club is now in its 26th year and has many elderly members and he had given permission for six to cross the Common by vehicle to enable them to fish. The Beetley Common Advisory Committee asked if the Parish Council had given permission as it does not want any vehicles on the Common. The permission had not come from the Parish Council and Mr Bunning apologised for not informing it. The DDA must be borne in mind and there was no desire to open the Common to all vehicles. Mr Bunning agreed to issue permits with the registration number and name which would be renewed each year and the Parish Council informed. Mr Bunning had not seen a copy of the letter sent to the Fishing Club

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stating the concern over the increased use of vehicles and this is to be re-iterated in the letter to be sent in 2010.

The meeting was re-convened.

It was agreed to allow the crossing of the Common by disabled members of the fishing club but this to be monitored carefully between April and November and the permits to be renewed each year. The signs at the entrance to the Common are to be changed.

5.3 Communications.

5.3.1 Update.

Beetley Buzz 39 had been published and distributed. No Buzz will be produced in December. No offers of a laptop had been received and this is to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

5.3.2 Website.

It was agreed to proceed with this and to hold a working meeting in January.

5.3.3 Welcome Pack.

Another 20 have been printed and George Hayes was thanked for arranging this.

5.4 Highways and Transport.

5.4.1 Update.

There had been two instances of flooding, one on Elmham Road and the other on Church Road Old Beetley which had both been reported. The footway on Tavern Close is to be repaired as is the water main on Hall Road Old Beetley. Speedwatch training took place at Beetley Village Hall on 27 November and is now up and running. The members agreed to fund the padlocks for the signs and it is hoped that a Police Constable will be on hand at one session to be able to give out instant fines. It is hoped that Litcham/Mileham/ Tittleshall will form their own group.

5.5 Affordable Housing.

5.5.1 Update.

Councillor Richmond reported that new designs are to be forwarded. The letter explaining the cascade system from Breckland Council was noted and this letter did give assurances that local people would have the first option on the properties.

5.6 Projects and Fund Raising.

5.6.1 Refurbishment of Beetley Meadows.

i Safety Surface.

The price had been received for the repairs and it was agreed to enquire how long the price was fixed to enable consideration of future requirements.

ii Hen See Saw

A delay had been reported on this item but it was now expected shortly.

5.6.2 Funding requirements for the second phase.

The Chairman, Councillor Baldwin and the Clerk had met on site to discuss future items and there is adequate in reserves to proceed with the majority of the items. Norfolk Games and Frames is to be requested to provide a quotation for additional items and the School children to be asked as to what they feel is needed. Councillor O'Donovan is to investigate if there is an organisation that would donate items that it makes.

5.7 Continuation of Portfolio Holders.

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It was agreed to utilise working parties to take items forward and to have a portfolio holder for Planning and Open Spaces only. It was also agreed to ask the County and District Councillors to give a report at the meetings.

6. Correspondence received for circulation.

- 6.1 Breckland Council Bulk Fuel Syndicate
- 6.2 Breckland Council Town and Parish Newsletter
- 6.3 Clerks and Councils Direct November 2009
- 6.4 Breckland Council Town and Parish Forum Newsletter
- 6.5 Norfolk County Council Gritting Routes

7. Finance.

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

7.2 Balances.

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor O'Donovan 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 09	26047.03
Receipts- Interest-	<u>0.01</u>
	26047.04
Less cheques authorised 01 10 09	<u>761.45</u>
Balance at 24 09 09	25285.59
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 01 10 09-50.00	
unrepresented cheques authorised 05 11 09-2542.00	<u>2592.00</u>
Balance at 05 11 09	22693.59

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

Spend to Date : £66.50

Cheques for authorisation:

090	B J Leigh	Service contract-Nov-267.00 20hours for Minerals and Waste @ £8.90 per hour- 178.00	445.00
091	B J Leigh	Service Contract Dec -dated 01 01 10	267.00
092	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contract	33.24
093	RG Maintenance	Cutting of Beetley Meadows	529.00
094	The Beetley Charity	Transfer of Rent	160.00
095	St Mary's CP School	Donation	100.00
096	Beetley PCC	Donation	100.00
097	Daynes	Stationery	32.20
098	St Mary's C.P. School	Colour printing for Min and Waste Sub Committee	64.40
099	J Overall	Community car	795.60
100	P Silk	Community car	60.80
101	G Hayes	Speedwatch Padlocks & Welcome pack	37.56

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7.3 Precept.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that the precept be set at £13000 for the financial year April 2010 to March 2011. All were in favour

7.4 Beetley Parochial Church Council

Councillor Luck proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that a donation be given for £100 for the upkeep of the graveyard. All were in favour

7.5 St Mary's C.P. School.

Councillor Baldwin proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that a donation be given for £100 for the upkeep of the car park. All were in favour.

7.6 Dereham Citizens Advice Bureau.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that a donation be given for £50 for the bureau. All were in favour.

Councillor Luck withdrew from the meeting.

7.7 Village Hall.

Councillor O'Donovan proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that a donation be given for £475 to assist with running of the Village Hall. All were in favour. A letter had been received from the committee requesting further financial assistance in the future to enable the refurbishment to be completed. Whilst the members felt that a contribution by paying the architects fees and planning application would be acceptable at this point in time it was felt that further information was needed on the long term plans from the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee prior to committing any further funds. The Chairman of the village Hall Committee is to be invited to a Parish Council meeting in the New Year to explain the proposals and what support is needed.

Councillor Luck rejoined the meeting.

8. Village Hall.

8.1 Report from the Village Hall Committee.

The Christmas function had sold 40 tickets and the committee is still awaiting figures from the architect for the items included in the estimate.

9. Minerals and Waste Sub-Committee

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

9.1 Open Meeting and Sub Committee Meeting Report.

There had been just over 50 at the Open Meeting including several from Gressenhall and the presentations had been very professional and informative. Gressenhall is forming its own committee and the information from the sub-committee has been forwarded to them. After the sub committee meeting tick boxes had been distributed with a leaflet and also in Gressenhall.

9.2 Response from the Parish Council.

The draft responses had been circulated and Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Luck seconded the resolution that these be used as the response to the consultation from

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the Parish Council. All were in favour.

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting

10. Parish Land.

10.1 Scout Hut Lease.

The solicitor had been contacted and the Clerk will be seeing him in the New Year.

10.2 School Car park and Playing Field.

10.2.1 The Clerk reported that he had contacted the solicitor and he is searching the old files.

10.2.2 Maintenance.

The School has said that as it does not own the area it will not repair the fencing. The Clerk has requested the solicitor to check if a lease was ever agreed.

11. Clerk's Corner.

11.1 Correspondence in the Eastern Daily Press.

The Clerk explained the background to the letter as there is an ongoing problem over a charity. A reply from Beeston with Bittering Parish Council had been printed supporting the role of clerks to more than one parish.

11.2 Dates of Meetings.

These were confirmed as follows:

Parish Council Meetings

February 4th

April 1st

June 3rd

August 5th

October 7th

December 2nd

Annual Parish Council Meeting

May 6th

Annual Parish Meeting

April 1st

March 4th

May 6th

July 1st

September 2nd

November 4th

12. Matters for the next meeting.

12.1 Clerk's Contract.

12.2 LDF Guidelines

12.3 Laptop

13. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 4 February 2010 to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall at 1930.

The meeting closed at 2222 hours.