

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2009 AT 7.00 P.M.

Present

Councillor A Leigh (Chair)
Councillor A Luck
Councillor J Baldwin (after co-option)
Councillor G Hayes
Councillor R Richmond
Councillor D Silk

District Councillor R Duffield

Three members of the public

1. Apologies for absence.

An apology of absence was received from Councillor Rose who was at a funeral and this was accepted.

2. Declaration of Interest.

Councillor Leigh declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 9.4 being the wife of the Clerk. Councillor Luck declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 10 being a member of the Village Hall committee and a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 7.1.1 ii. being a close friend of the landowner. Councillor Richmond declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Items, 7.1.1 i, 7.1.1 ii, 9.1., 9.3 and 11.1 having submitted parcels of land for inclusion in the Local Development Framework and Minerals and Waste Framework. Councillor Hayes declared a personal interest in agenda item 11 being a committee member of Dereham Football Club whose main sponsor is TBL Concrete.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Luck proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4 December 2008 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour. The minutes were duly signed.

4. Election of Vice-Chairman.

Councillor Hayes proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that Councillor Luck be elected Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council. Councillor Luck stated that whilst he would be willing to become Vice-Chairman he had no wish to progress to Chairman. All were in favour and Councillor Luck was duly elected. The declaration of acceptance of office was signed and witnessed by the Proper Officer of the Council.

5. Co-option of Joanne Baldwin.

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Luck seconded the resolution that Joanne Baldwin be co-opted to the Parish Council. All were in favour and Joanne Baldwin was duly elected. The declaration of acceptance of office was signed and witnessed by the Proper Officer of the Council.

6. Matters to Report.

6.1 Training for Councillors and Chairman.

Councillors Rose and Baldwin would be attending the day course at Morley on 17 March at a cost of £35 per person. Councillors Leigh and Luck would be attending the

Chairmanship course at Dereham on 24 February, March 3 and 10 at a cost of £45 per person.

6.2 Norfolk Police Open Meeting 29 January.

Councillor Hayes reported that he had attended the meeting at Wymondham when the Police Authority reported on their achievements for the past year and outlined the budget for the forthcoming year. The crime reports stated that detection is up 37%. The budget would be presented at a meeting on 19 February and it is proposing three alternatives- an increase of 3%,3.9% and 4.9%. A policing pledge will be distributed to all residents setting out the aim of the police for the year. Councillor Hayes felt that this was a good meeting that the Parish Council should attend in future years.

6.3 Norfolk Association of Local Councils Presentations.

Councillor Richmond would be attending the Gold Summit at Fakenham Race Course on 7 March and Councillor Leigh would attend the Green Summit at Swaffham on 11 March

6.4 Norfolk Association of Local councils Executive Committee.

Two vacancies exist on the Executive Committee for the Breckland District but no-one wished to be nominated.

6.5 Pride in Breckland.

Councillor Hayes reported that Breckland Council have invested £200,000 in the project which encourages various initiatives of which three could be possible for the Parish. These are a cleaner safer greener charter attendance, the planting of trees and the promotion of community rangers. Volunteer week is 1-7 July and it was hoped that the parish would participate that parishioners would become involved and this would be promoted in the Beetley Buzz.

7. Portfolio Holders Reports.

7.1 Planning.

7.1.1 Applications.

- i 3PL/2008/1615/F- Redroofs Fakenham Road-demolition of existing house & redevelopment of 3No 5 bed houses (3 Storey),car parking garages to front and new access.

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

The applicant explained that the existing property had structural problems and as it was a large plot felt that infill would be appropriate. The size of houses would complement those further along Fakenham Road.

The meeting was re-convened.

had The parcel of land had been proposed for the Local Development Framework and been classified as unreasonable by Breckland Council, it was outside the guidelines and although it was infill this had no bearing on the application. Three houses would increase traffic onto the Fakenham Road at this point which could jeopardise highway safety. No new access should be allowed and there should not be infill along this section of the parish. The size of the houses is out of keeping with the neighbouring properties and although there are large houses further along Fakenham Road this should not set a precedent for the infill. It was requested that if permission is to be granted for this application it should be referred to the Development Control Committee and Councillor Hayes said he would speak if Councillor Rose did not wish

to.

Councillor Hayes proposed and Councillor Luck seconded the resolution that the Parish Council **OBJECT** to the application. All were in favour.

ii C/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.

Councillor Luck withdrew from the meeting

It was agreed to comment on the application that it was hoped that there would not be continual extensions to this site after the expiry of this application. The members also commented on the noise pollution from concrete crushing.

Councillors Luck and Richmond rejoined the meeting

7.1.2 Decisions.

- | | | | |
|----|--|-----|------------|
| i | 3PL/2008/1354/FA-Bilney Hall Residential Care Home East Bilney-
proposed 21 bed EMI extension to existing residential care home
including demolition of existing outbuildings. | N/O | Permission |
| ii | 3PL/2008/1585/F-dwelling adjacent to Holly Lodge Beetley Common
Lane-replacement rear extensions & internal alterations
Permission | | O |

7.1.3 Enforcements.

There were no enforcements to report.

7.1.4 Appeals.

i Southfields 65 Fakenham Road.

The appeal had been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate who felt that no case had been made for the existing access as this did not appear to have been used recently and the visibility splay was against laid down policies.

ii Flint Cottage Fakenham Road East Bilney

An appeal had been lodged by the applicant against the refusal of planning permission for the new dwelling.

The meeting was adjourned.

The applicant stated that infill could be allowed even though the property is outside the guidelines. It is the intention to build a 3 bed cottage on the site of the existing garage to give the applicant a larger family house as it is not practical to extend the existing.

The meeting was re-convened.

It was agreed to write to the Planning Inspectorate confirming the Parish Council's original objections to the application

7.2 Open Spaces.

7.2.1 Update.

Councillor Luck thanked District Councillor Duffield for arranging the clearance of some flytipping on a footpath from Stoney lane to Gressenhall. The new litter bins had been erected at Beetley Meadows and a request had been received to clear some trees from an area near to Birch Avenue which are encroaching on the neighbouring properties. It was agreed to proceed with this. Two requests had been received to cut the main area of Beetley Meadows in July not October. The two correspondents are to be written to explaining that the dates were set by the Wensum Valley Trust as the optimum times to encourage plant growth but it was hoped that the time could be brought forward for the cutting to September. EDF had cut down trees at Folly Lane to clear the power lines and it was agreed to allow parishioners to collect the wood.

7.2.2 Beetley Meadows Play Area.

Councillor Baldwin agreed to take on the refurbishment project with assistance from the Chairman, Councillor Hayes and the Clerk with a view to targeting the Open Meeting with some firm proposals. Initially Councillor Baldwin will visit the site with the Clerk and then to have a meeting to plan the way forward and produce a business plan.

7.2.3 Wet Woodlands Officer.

The Wet Woodlands Officer had met Councillor Rose and the Clerk at Folly Lane and her proposals are to coppice lightly the area to open up the ground area to more light and to protect the emerging trees. She will be returning to visit Beetley Common and Bilney Common after which time the members will consider her proposals.

7.2.4 Cutting of Footpaths.

It was agreed to request that Robin Woodley cut the footpaths once or twice if needed and the Clerk would contact him to see how much notice he needs prior to cutting.

7.3 Communications.

7.3.1 Update.

Beetley Buzz 29 had been published and. The first of the 60 second interview was in the issue.

5.3.2 Welcome Packs.

Hopefully a draft would be available for the next meeting as the requested electronic copy had been received only just before the meeting.

7.4 Highways and Transport.

7.4.1 Update.

Parking on Elmham Road had again been brought to the attention of the Parish Council and it was agreed to discuss this with the Safer Neighbourhood Team to attempt to alleviate the problem. The seat at Old Beetley had been agreed by the Highways department and the Chairman suggested that a village sign might be erected as well. This was to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. There are 550 volunteers for Speedwatch and the police can not process the numbers as quickly as most parishes would like. April appears to be the starting time for more processing.

7.4.2 Highway and Community Rangers.

The rangers are due to visit the Parish next week, weather permitting, and the pot holes at Rawhall Lane will be noted.

7.5 Affordable Housing.

7.5.1 Update.

No further progress had been made although the open session in December had proved successful and several concerns about the project had been able to be answered to the satisfaction of the parishioners. When some parishioners understood the need for the project and saw the design they were more favourably inclined

towards the project. The event had not been a waste of time as it had given some parishioners, who were sceptical of the scheme, the opportunity to meet people who they knew who wished to take up the offer of the shared ownership.

8. Correspondence received for circulation.

- 8.1 Breckland TPO
- 8.2 Breckland General Permitted Development Order 2008
- 8.3 Breckland Agenda
- 8.4 St Mary's C.P.School –thank you letter
- 8.5 Norfolk Link
- 8.6 Beetley and East Bilney Village hall –thank you letter
- 8.7 LCR January 2009
- 8.8 Clerks and Councils Direct January 2009
- 8.9 Dereham LAG Minutes and CAG Report
- 8.10 Communities and local Government Real people real power-consultation.
- 8.11 Beetley PCC- thank you letter
- 8.12 Norfolk records office newsletter
- 8.13 Breckland planning Obligations Newsletter
- 8.14 Signpost- NRCC newsletter
- 8.15 Norfolk police-Changing times

9. Finance.

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

9.2 Balances.

Councillor Hayes proposed and Councillor Luck 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 10 08	23921.82
Receipts- Interest	125.56
Breckland Community car	168.35
Forestry Commission	558.00
EDF Energy	<u>62.32</u>
	24836.05
Less cheques authorised 06 11 08-2467.09	
04 12 08-3775.65	<u>6242.74</u>
Balance at 31 12 08	18593.31
Less unrepresented cheques	<u>287.25</u>
Balance at 31 01 09	18306.06

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>

Amount available for Section 137 : 1099 x£5.86 = £6440.14

Spend to Date : £16.50

Cheques for authorisation:

025	B J Leigh	Service contract-January £258.00	258.00
026	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contracts	36.34
027	Zurich	Additional premium	84.97
028	MazarsLLP	External Audit	155.25
029	Glasdon	Litter Bins	200.07
030	Mrs A D Leigh	Refreshments for Affordable Housing presentation	9.39
031	Breckland Council	Supply of agendas for 2008	6.00
032	Daynes Office equipment	Stationery	21.85
033	NPTP	Chairmanship and initial Training	160.00

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting

9.3. Budget 2009-2010.

All were in favour of the budget as distributed with the amendment to the Clerk' contract.

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting.

Councillor Leigh withdrew from the meeting

Councillor Luck took the chair.

9.4 Service Contract for the Clerk.

After discussion Councillor Hayes proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that this be set at £8.90 per hour for 30 hours per month from 1 March 2009. All were in favour

Councillor Leigh rejoined the meeting and resumed the Chair.

9.5 Homewatch meeting.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Baldwin seconded the resolution that the Parish Council fund the inaugural meeting of a Homewatch to be set up in Old Beetley. All were in favour.

9.6 External Audit.

This had been completed with no comments from the External Auditor.

9.7 Supply of Agendas from Breckland Council.

It was agreed unanimously not to have these supplied in 2009.

10. Village Hall.

10.1 Report from the Village hall committee.

The Christmas function raised £460 and the village hall committee is proceeding with the second phase of the refurbishment with a possible tart in 2010. The designs have been modified and should include an underground oil tank. A race night is planned for April.

11. Minerals and Waste Sub-Committee

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

11.1 Update.

The Clerk reported nothing had been received from Norfolk County Council regarding the time frame for the next consultation but it is not expected now until the middle of 2009

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting.

12. Beech Road.

12.1 Update.

Nothing further had been received.

12.2 Signatories for the transfer of land.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Hayes seconded the resolution that Councillors Leigh and Luck be the Parish Council signatories. All were in favour

13. Matters for the next meeting.

13.1 Village Sign

13.2 Pride in Breckland

14. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 5 March 2009 to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall at 1930.

The meeting closed at 2155 hours.