

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2008 AT 7.00 P.M.

Present

Councillor A Leigh (Chair)
Councillor G Hayes
Councillor A Luck
Councillor R Richmond
Councillor M Rose
Councillor D Silk

District Councillor R Duffield

2 members of the public

The first part of the meeting was a presentation from Laura Handford of Flagship Housing. She apologised for not getting to this point in the process sooner but there had been many problems getting Breckland Council to agree to the site which it had now done. The plans had been changed from those sent round with the agendas in that the flats had been removed and houses inserted. An update is needed on the housing needs as the old system was not as flexible as the new. It is possible to change the mix to all rent or part and part. After discussion it was agreed to offer a 2 bed house for shared ownership and 2x 1 bed houses. 3 bed houses would not be offered for shared ownership as the emphasis is on first time buyers. The funding would come from the Housing Corporation and this is a continual market engagement unlike the previous system when there were set bidding times for funding. A query was raised concerning chimneys and whilst these could be built no fireplace would be able to be installed. The heating system would be a renewable energy source with a heat pump. The letting would be on a choice based policy advertised and local needs would have priority. The problem with the housing register is that it does not recognise the local connection. After discussion it was agreed to hold an open day for parishioners from 1300 to 1500 on Saturday 13th December when Laura would attend and have the plans on view and would be available to answer any questions.

1. Apologies for absence.

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Campbell-Smith who was on holiday and this was accepted.

2. Declaration of Interest.

Councillor Luck declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 8 being a member of the Village Hall committee and a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 5.1.1 having tendered for the work. Councillor Richmond declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Items, 7.1, 7.2, 7.7 and 9.1.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2 October 2008 having been circulated be approved. The minutes were duly signed.

4. Matters to Report.

4.1 Dereham Area Partnership AGM 27 November.

Councillor Hayes would be attending.

4.2 Breckland Council Forum/Open Evening 14 October.

Councillor Hayes had attended the meeting at Richmond Park Golf Club which was of benefit as there had been an exhibition of all the departments of Breckland Council. Presentations had been given by Trevor Holden on the business plan who touched on the

loss of the Icelandic Investments which would mean less income from investments in the future, Cat Lang on Youth councils, Rob Walker on Pride in Breckland, Mark Stokes on Breckfest and Rob Walker on Sustainable Communities. The meeting stressed the importance of the youth side and the Community Fund would give a grant to get events going so that Parishes could arrange an event and if payments have to be made prior to the selling of tickets the fund would support the parish with a loan initially.

5. Portfolio Holders Reports.

5.1 Planning.

5.1.1 Applications.

i 3PL/2008/1394/F-Drift House The Drift East Bilney-erection of annexe for aged relative.

The meeting was adjourned.

The applicant stated that it is not possible to connect the annexe to the main house as a ditch runs past the house. The annexe is to be built where the existing double garage is sited. The aged relative is 74 and has had two hips replaced so the existing house is too small to accommodate her. The applicant stated that in the future a member of the family would live in the property and she was willing to have this as a condition of planning permission.

The meeting was re-convened.

NO OBJECTION but that a condition of any permission should be that the use of the property is restricted to a member of the family.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Hayes seconded the resolution that no objection be made to the application.
All were in favour.

Councillor Luck withdrew from the meeting.

ii 3PL/2008/1407/F-7 Beech Road-ground and first floor side extensions, single storey front extension and conservatory to the rear.

NO OBJECTION

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that no objection be raised. All were in favour.

Councillor Luck rejoined the meeting.

iii 3PL/2008/1414/F-1 Fakenham Road-replacement garage.

It was agreed to comment on the application as there seemed to be no need for the toilet or the quality of build and there was concern over the future use of the building.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that the above comments be forwarded to Breckland Council.
All were in favour.

iv 3PL/2008/1354/F-Bilney Hall Residential Home-proposed 21 bed EMI extension to existing residential care home including demolition of existing outbuildings.

NO OBJECTION

Councillor Luck proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that no objection be raised to the application. However it was agreed to comment on the safety issue of traffic at the bridge with a hope that maybe a reduced speed limit would be proposed. Breckland Council would also be requested to confirm that the existing Anglian Water treatment works is adequate for the increased sewerage. All were in favour.

5.1.2 Decisions.

- i 3PL/2008/1317/F-21 Fakenham Road-front extension N/O Permission
- ii 3PL/2008/1292/F-14 Elmham Road-double garage, rear extension, & replacement of flat roof with pitched roof. N/O Permission
- iii 3PL/2008/1304/O-The Paddocks School Road-erction of six semi-detached bungalows with garages for elderly gypsies.

This had been referred to the Development Control Meeting on 3 November at which Councillor Hayes spoke opposing the application. Whilst the official notice of the decision had not been received the application had been refused.

5.1.3 Enforcements.

- i Dunwood Old Beetley.

Breckland Council had replied stating that the position of the hedge is satisfactory and that it can not prevent the owner parking on the grass.

5.1.4 Appeals.

- i Southfields 65 Fakenham Road.

A site inspection had been arranged for 25 November and the Clerk would attend.

5.2 Open Spaces.

5.2.1 Update.

2 litter bins are required at Beetley Meadows

5.2.2 Footpath Cutting 2009.

Robin Woodley is still able to do the cutting and a price is to be obtained from him.

5.2.3 Beech Road Transfer of land.

The Chairman and Clerk had had a meeting at Breckland Council with the officer dealing with the property portfolio, Ray Johnson, and Zoe Footer, and after discussion it would not be possible to reduce the legal costs. Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Luck seconded the resolution that the solicitors costs of Breckland Council be paid and the transfer of the smaller portion of land proceed to ensure no development on the site. The total cost including the Parish Council's legal costs would be about £715.

5.2.4 Play Areas.

Councillor Hayes stated that through the NRCC there are grants available for maintenance of play areas and he would be attending a meeting on 17 November to ascertain further information. It was agreed to invite Lucinda Leonard, the Development Officer Open Spaces at the NRCC, to the December meeting.

5.2.5 Wet Woodlands Officer.

The Wet Woodlands Officer from Norfolk County Council would be visiting East Bilney Common and the land on Folly Lane on 18 November and Councillor Richmond and the Clerk would attend. They would also attend a Wet Woodlands and Woodfuel morning event at Hunter's hall on 2 December.

5.3 Communications.

5.3.1 Update.

Beetley Buzz 27 had been published and the new editor had produced this. Buzz 28 is nearly full. A 60 second interview is to be placed in the Buzz on each of the

Councillors and the Chairman would be first. It was agreed to send a Christmas card to all the helpers of the Buzz and the Beetley Common Advisory Committee thanking them for their assistance. The web site is still in abeyance.

Councillor Silk left the meeting.

5.3.2 Welcome Packs.

The draft Brisley pack would be distributed with the correspondence so that a discussion can take place at the next meeting.

5.4 Highways and Transport.

5.4.1 Update.

An accident had occurred at the Alms Houses East Bilney which had been reported and additional reflective posts and a bend sign on the post to the north of Church Road are to be erected.

5.4.2 Signage on Sorrel Lane.

This has now been installed.

5.4.4 Dog Bin in Old Beetley.

Some replies had been received and a decision would be made at the next meeting.

5.4.5 Flooding on Creefer's Hill.

The gullies on Creefer's Hill should be jetted next week.

5.5 Affordable Housing.

5.5.1 Update.

It was agreed to offer 1x2bed house and 2x1bed house for shared ownership. The remaining 2x3bed, 2x1 bed and 1x2bed houses would be for social rent. It was agreed to house drop all in the vicinity to inform the households of the event on Saturday 13 December.

6. Correspondence received for circulation.

- 6.1** Beetley Common Advisory Committee
- 6.2** Voluntary Norfolk
- 6.3** Breckland Agenda
- 6.4** Communities and Local Government Consultation
- 6.5** LCR November 2008

7. Finance.

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

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

7.2 Balances.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that the balances and cheques for authorisation be approved. All were in favour.

Balances :-

Business Base Rate Tracker Account

Balance at 20 September 2008	16004.70
Transfer to Bank of Ireland	<u>16004.70</u>
Balance at 17 October 2008	0.00

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)

Amount available for Section 137 : 1100 x£5.86 = £6446.00
Spend to Date : £16.50

Cheques for authorisation:

006	B J Leigh	Service contract-September £258.00 Additional Hours as agreed 15 @£8.60 per hour £129.00	387.00
007	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contracts	17.97
008	RG Maintenance	Beetley Meadows	117.50
009	Glasdon	Dog and Waste bins	175.07
010	Adventure Playgrounds	Beetley Meadows	1769.55

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting.

7.3 Donation to the Village Hall.

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that £720 be donated to the Village Hall. All were in favour

7.4 Dereham, Watton and Holt Citizens Advice Bureau.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that £50 be donated to the CAB.

7.5 Beetley PCC.

Councillor Rose proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that £100 be donated to the PCC for the assistance in the upkeep of the churchyard.

7.6 St. Mary's C. P. School.

Councillor Luck proposed and Councillor Leigh seconded the resolution that £100 be donated to the school to assist in the upkeep of the playing field and car park.

7.7 Precept 2009-2010.

Councillor Hayes proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that the precept for 2009-2010 be set at £12750. All were in favour. The budget would be considered at a future meeting.

8. Village Hall.

8.1 Report from the Village hall committee.

The hire charges for the hall are to increase to £4 per hour for the annexe from 1 January 2009. The Chairman stated that she had still not received notification as to when music is allowed and Councillor Luck agreed to investigate and to ensure that a copy of the licence is displayed.

9. Minerals and Waste Sub-Committee

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

9.1 Report from the meeting on 22 October.

It was agreed at the meeting to await the next phase of the consultation before arranging any further meetings. It was agreed to place the item on the Parish Council agenda for each month.

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting.

10. Chairman's Soapbox.

10.1 Christmas Meal.

The Chairman proposed that there should be a Christmas meal for the Council at the New Inn. It was agreed to hold this on 5 December meeting at 1900 for 1930.

11. Clerk's Corner.

11.1 Register of Electors.

The forms for signature were distributed and returned to the Clerk who would forward them in bulk to Breckland Council

11.2 Training for Councillors.

It was agreed that no one would attend the training course in November but it was hoped that new Councillors would attend the next one.

11.3 Bottle bank.

The extra bank had been installed.

11.4 Thank you response.

An e-mail was read out that had been received from Professor Hayes thanking the Parish Council for their involvement in the re-instatement of the mail box on Beech Road and the dog bins on Beetley Meadows.

12. Matters for the next meeting.

12.1 Freedom of Information Act.

12.2 Charity Committee.

13. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 4 December 2008 to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall at 1900 when there would be a presentation from Lucinda Leonard of NRCC.

The meeting closed at 2155 hours.