

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2008 AT 7.30 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

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 Leigh declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 9.2 being the wife of the Clerk. Councillor Luck declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 8.1 being a member of the Village Hall committee. Councillor Richmond declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Items 5.3.1, 7.1, 9.1, and 9.2.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Luck proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4 September 2008 having been circulated be approved. The minutes were duly signed.

4. Matters to Report.

4.1 Dereham Citizens Advice Bureau AGM 18 September.

Councillor Richmond reported that he had attended the meeting which he had found very interesting and worthwhile. A new Chairman, John Constance had been appointed as Alan Caine had stepped down. Beetley was the only Parish Council represented at the meeting which was attended by 20 people. The trustees could have faced problems if there had been a claim against them and so the Bureau is now incorporated. The funding comes from its main core funders and the proposed Unitary Authority may affect future funding. There has been an immense response from the public for assistance and the Bureau is fully stretched. Mandy Lewis is the person who holds the whole operation together.

4.2 Urgent Matters.

The Clerk pointed out that it is illegal to make a decision on items that are not on the agenda. It was agreed that items raised by the public or Councillors should be discussed at the meeting and if decisions have to be made then the information should be obtained for the next meeting.

5. Portfolio Holders Reports.

5.1 Planning.

5.1.1 Applications.

i 3PL/2008/1317/F-21 Fakenham Road-front extension to existing bungalow.

NO OBJECTION despite the extension being to the front of the property.

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

ii 3PL/2008/1292/F-Woods End 14 Elmham Road-erection of double garage, rear extension & replacement of flat roof with pitched roof.

NO OBJECTION as there is adequate land for the extension although concern was raised at the siting of the garage to the front of the property

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

iii 3PL/2008/1362/A-Bilney Hall East Bilney-erection of 2 directional signs wall/post mounted.

OBJECTION as the design being reflective is a possible safety hazard at a dangerous section of Fakenham Road. The design is also not suitable for a rural location.

Councillor Luck proposed and Councillor Silk seconded the resolution that the application be objected to. All were in favour.

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

iv 3PL/2008/1304/O-The Paddocks School Road-six new semi detached bungalows with garages for elderly gypsies-re-submission.

OBJECTION

The development is outside the guidelines and concerns that the site is not added to in the future. The LDF states that it is a non-conforming site, there are lack of facilities within the village for over 55s, no needs survey has been produced and as the site has permission for 6 caravans if a need existed then these pitches would have been used. It was also queried why the site would be restricted to elderly gypsies. The Parish Council requested that as the decision is to be referred to the development Control Committee the Parish Council should be represented and speak.

Councillor Luck proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution to object to the development. All were in favour.

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting.

v 3PL/2008/1387/F-2 Hall Cottages East Bilney-erection of conservatory to link house to garden room.

NO OBJECTION

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

5.1.2 Decisions.

There were no decisions received in the month.

5.1.3 Enforcements

There were no enforcement notices but it was requested to check if a decision had been reached on Dunwood Old Beetley.

5.1.4 Appeals

There were no appeals.

5.2 Open Spaces.

5.2.1 Update.

i East Bilney Town lands.

These had been cut.

ii Common

Nothing to report

iii Beetley Meadows.

The area had been cut again, new bins are still needed and these have been ordered and Councillor Luck agreed to check if pollarding the drain is suitable. The owner of 6 Birch Avenue had contacted the Clerk to have the area to the rear of the property cleared and Councillor Luck would discuss this with Rodney Bennett.

5.2.2 Footpath Cutting 2009.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would be responsible for the cutting as the members were not happy with the standard of the cutting done by Norfolk County Council. It was suggested that a contribution be obtained from Norfolk County Council once it had been ascertained if Robin Woodley was still available to cut the parish footpaths.

5.2.3 Queen's Award for Voluntary service.

It was agreed to put forward the Beetley Common Advisory Committee for this award.

5.2.4 Beech Road Transfer of land.

It was agreed not to pay the costs of Breckland solicitors for the abortive transfer of land as Breckland could not prove title to the land. District Councillor Duffield agreed to speak to the officers at Breckland Council regarding this.

5.2.5 Positioning of Gates on Footpath 4.

Norfolk County Council had now stated that a kissing gate could not be sited at the eastern end of the footpath. The members felt that common sense should prevail as it is a safety issue and the gate should be allowed.

5.3 Communications.

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

5.3.1 Update.

Beetley Buzz 26 had been published. A new editor had taken over the Buzz and was finding that the main problem is finding information to put in each issue. Councillor Hayes suggested that a piece about each Councillor might be placed in the forthcoming issues. The web site is still in abeyance.

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting.

5.4 Highways and Transport.

5.4.1 Update.

Norfolk County Council had met the Clerk at Birch Avenue and had agreed that a barrier could be sited. A firm proposal is awaited. A near accident had occurred at the junction near the Scout hut and Norfolk County Council had been contacted to trim the verge to give adequate visibility which had been done in two days. The hydrant had been broken opposite the bus shelter and this had been reported. It had been reported to the Chairman that the bolts on the sign leading into Beetley from East Bilney had been removed and this had also been reported.

5.4.2 Speed limit on Holt Road.

There is no possibility of obtaining a limit but improved signage near to Peacock Lane would be erected.

5.4.3 Signage on Sorrel Lane.

This had been agreed by Breckland Council but no dates had been received.

5.4.4 Dog Bin in Old Beetley.

This was agreed in principle and the residents are to be asked where this is to be sited.

5.4.5 Flooding on Creefer's Hill.

The Clerk had met the Highways Engineer on site and it had been agreed to place the gulleys on the jetting schedule to ensure the area is kept clear.

5.5 Affordable Housing.

5.5.1 Update.

Flagship would be attending the meeting in November.

6. Correspondence received for circulation.

- 6.1 The Playing Field
- 6.2 Breckland Determined Planning Applications
- 6.3 Breckland Agenda
- 6.4 Norfolk County Council-Unitary Review
- 6.5 Norfolk Police policing plan
- 6.6 Clerks and Councils Direct
- 6.7 LCR September 2008
- 6.8 Breckland Sustainable Communities Team Surgeries
- 6.9 Dereham CAB AGM Pack
- 6.10 Norfolk County Council-Transition to Secondary school
- 6.11 Norfolk Link August
- 6.12 Dereham Local Action Group minutes, agenda
- 6.13 Standards Board-Town and Parish Standard
- 6.14 Communities and local Government-making byelaws

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.

Councillor Richmond rejoined the meeting.

7.2 Balances.

Councillor Hayes proposed and Councillor Silk 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 June 2008	15897.99
Plus Interest	<u>106.71</u>
Balance at 19 September 2008	16004.70

Community Account

Balance at 19 July 2008	4467.54
Receipts Breckland Comm. Car	<u>94.88</u>
	4562.42
Payments authorised 07 08 08	1076.94
Payments authorised 04 09 08	<u>281.45</u>
	1358.39
Balance at 19 September 2008	3204.03
Less unrepresented cheques	<u>310.80</u>
Balance at 26 September 2008	2893.23

Amount available for Section 137 : 1100 x£5.86 = £6446.00

Spend to Date : £0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

001	B J Leigh	Service contract-September £258.00 Mileage to Data Shredders 20@ .40 per mile-£8.00 PHS Datashred-£10.34	276.34
002	Abacus Copiers	Monthly Contracts	17.71
003	RG Maintenance	Beetley Meadows	916.50
004	Royal British Legion	Wreath	16.50
005	Mrs J Overall	Community Car	77.08

7.3 Bank of Ireland Account.

This had now been opened.

7.4 Community car driver.

The coordinator had contacted the clerk regarding Val Dark who was due to leave the parish and if she could remain as a driver. It was agreed that as long as the mileage is only paid from Beetley this would be acceptable.

7.5 Precept 2009-2010.

The date that this has to be with Breckland Council is 15 December and the proposed budget sheet was distributed for discussion at the next meeting.

8. Village Hall.

8.1 Report from the Village hall committee.

Councillor Luck reported that the Christmas function would be on 20 December and the entertainment would be Winston Harold the Singing Farmer. There would be the usual Hog roast and bar. New goalposts had been installed which are aluminium and have been police checked and stamped. New lights are in the meeting room and the boiler has been serviced and running. Councillor Silk offered a boiler as a source of spares.

A resident on Fakenham Road had complained about the music still being played at 0045 which had been reported to the Booking Secretary and Councillor Luck was requested to check that the complainant has been rung to inform him of the times allowed. The village hall would not want an official complaint as this could affect the licence. If the contract is broken by an organisation then the returnable deposit is withheld. The times that music is allowed should be made clear.

9. Minerals and Waste Sub-Committee

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

9.1 Report from the meeting on 25 September.

This had been postponed as the Clerk was unavailable and would now be on 22 October

Councillor Leigh withdrew from the meeting.

9.2 Payment of extra hours to the Clerk.

Up to the meeting the Clerk had spent an extra 30 hours dealing with minerals and waste. It was agreed to pay an extra 15 hours to the end of July and to consider again in the New Year. Councillor Hayes proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution to pay a further 15 hours. All were in favour.

Councillors Leigh and Richmond rejoined the meeting.

10. Matters for the next meeting.

10.1 Lucinda Leonard Development Officer Open Spaces

10.2 Welcome Packs

10. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 6 November 2008 to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall at 1900 when there would be a presentation from Flagship Housing followed by a Parish Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 2139 hours.