

Pre-Meeting Business: None

Public Participation: None

North Elmham Parish Council

Minutes of the MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL held at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion on Wednesday 2nd December 2009

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163 Those Councillors Present Were:

Mrs. C. Payne (Chairman), Mr. J. Brown, Mr. R. Don, Mr. B. Fletcher, Mr. C. Groom, Ms. A. Ketteringham, Mr. N. Lowe, Mrs. E. Marsh, Mr. R. Neve, Dr. P. Wade-Martins.

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk), Mrs. J. Smith (Newspaper Correspondent) and 2 Parishioners

164 To Consider Apologies for Absence:

Resolved to accept apologies from Mr. C. Smith and Mr. B. Borrett (County and District Councillor)

165 To Receive Declarations of Interest:

The Chairman reminded the meeting that, should the occasion arise, interests should be declared by Councillors as soon as this was realised, and the interest should be minuted.

166 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 4th November 2009:

Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record but with the following additions:-

- (a) The meeting referred to in item 155 (Norfolk Minerals and Waste LDF) was a Norfolk C.C. meeting.
- (b) Dr. Wade-Martins asked if the Cathedral Ruins and Cathedral Meadows could be itemised separately, in future.

UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

167 Local Development Framework (item 147)

Ms Ketteringham reported on the meeting of the LDF Group on settlement boundaries that she had attended at Dereham on 25th November. There was a general complaint that there had been insufficient time to discuss following the publication of revised details. The consultation period starts in April 2010.

There appear to be a few minor changes to the North Elmham development boundary but these seem to be of a “tidying up” nature, e.g. some existing boundaries go through the middle of houses and it is preferable for them to follow, for example, the line of hedges and fences.

Dr. Wade-Martins declared a possible interest as his next-door neighbour’s garden may be involved although it is not certain at this stage. Ms. Ketteringham is to seek general clarification and the Parish Council’s views will be made after she receives a response. This information will be available for the next Council meeting. It was also felt that Mr. Borrett’s input would be important and the Clerk is to contact him to request attendance, if possible, at the next meeting.

168 Safe Route to School (item 148):

A successful meeting had been held with Grahame Bygrave and Steve Tarttelin of Norfolk C.C. As a result, confirmation had been received as follows:-

- a) As the Oak Avenue ransom strip was always part of the original scheme, the land purchase (or compulsory purchase) of this will be completed. Funding will be made available in the current and 2010/11 financial years to progress and resolve this issue. Steve Tarttelin’s team will be responsible for this.
- b) With regard to access at the rear of the school, progress will be checked with the Local Development Framework. As soon as it is established whether or not the land at the rear of the school has been allocated for future development, they will either:-
 - (i.) liaise with the landowner/developer to establish if the land will be used for housing to try to ensure a link to the rear of the school is provided, or
 - (i.i.) enter into negotiations with the landowner to purchase a strip of land so that a new access to the rear of the school can be progressed as a County Council led safe routes to school scheme
- c) further enquiries to be made of Pat Bond at NPS to ascertain the relevant contact for the Parish Council to speak to regarding the purchase of the Village Green from Norfolk County Council

169 Land Management Matters (item 149)

- (a) Village Green See above (168,c) re purchase position. A response had been received from Norfolk Property Services advising that they had no details of boundaries ownership. The Chairman said that, in the circumstances, it was extremely regrettable that NPS had sent letters to parishioners concerning boundaries and access to the green. The Clerk had written to NPS confirming agreement to signing the lease in the original format, i.e. with the new amendment to clause 2.6 and other additional clauses removed. It had also requested that NPS consider sending a letter of apology to those parishioners involved.
- (b) Cathedral Ruins A response from English Heritage regarding the new brown tourist signs was still awaited.

- (c) Cathedral Meadows A suitable contractor had been located to carry out a weed-wipe of the meadows
- (d) Broom Green No problems
- (e) Millennium Wood Two small conifers have been taken down. These have been given to the school and playgroup for use as Christmas trees

170 Street Lights (item 150)

Mrs. Marsh reported that light 41 is still on. This will be attended to.

171 Highway Matters (item 151)

Mr. Brown had contacted a member of Yaxham Parish Council and had obtained details of their Community Speedwatch scheme. The equipment was supplied by the Police and a minimum of three people were required to operate at any one time. There had been no feedback from the Police and Yaxham Parish Council considered it debatable whether the exercise had been of any real benefit. It was agreed to invite a member of the Police to the February meeting to discuss such schemes and any other matters.

172 Sign to Village Facilities (item 152)

This will be looked into by Dr. Wade-Martins and the Clerk in the New Year

173 PCSO (item 153)

There had been no contact from the new PCSO. The Clerk will chase.

174 Eastgate Centre (item 154)

Nothing to report

175 Norfolk Minerals and Waste LDF (item 155)

Ms. Ketteringham is to draft letters in respect of the Parish Council's position on both MIN21 and MIN97. These will be sent to NCC Planning Services.

176 Pavilion and Playing Field – Play Area (item 156)

The removal of an oak tree at the top end of the field had been recommended by the tree officer together with the lopping of the ash tree near the car park. Mr. Lowe would complete the necessary documentation to enable this to happen.

177 Village Sign (item 157)

The village sign competition was open to all parishioners and it was particularly pleasing to note that several designs had been received from school pupils. There is still time to enter with the closing date being the end of December.

178 Jewsons account (item 158)

Written confirmation of the new account details had been received from Jewson

- 179 Mirrors at entrances to allotments**
This is to be discussed at the next meeting and Mr. Fletcher is to investigate costs and options
- 180 Tenders for grass cutting**
Four tenders had been received for the grounds maintenance contract. After due consideration, it was agreed to award this to Norse for one year. Proposed by Mr. Brown, seconded by Dr. Wade-Martins. All in favour.
In addition, the quotation from Mr. Allsop for work in Millennium Wood was accepted.
- 181 2010 Insurance**
The level of cover had been queried by both external and internal auditors and it was agreed to discuss this with the Insurance Company before the next renewal date in June 2010
- 182 Budget 2010/2011**
Draft budgets had been prepared by the Clerk, Chairman and Vice Chairman. These were discussed at length and amended where appropriate. It was felt necessary to increase the Council precept to £16,500. Proposed by Mr. Groom, seconded by Mr. Fletcher. All in favour.
- 183 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income:**
- (a) Resolved to approve the following Accounts for payment:**
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|----------|--|-----------|
| 13.11.09 | e-on Energy (Street Lighting August – direct debit) | £362.48 |
| 4.11.09 | North Elmham PCC (cheque issued at last meeting) | £750.00 |
| 2.12.09 | Petty Cash | £100.00 |
| 2.12.09 | R. Buck (Allotments – hedgecutting) | £97.75 |
| 2.12.09 | R. Buck (Village Green – hedgecutting) | £97.75 |
| 2.12.09 | Ashill Fire Protection (Annual Service of fire exting) | £35.07 |
| 2.12.09 | CPRE (Annual membership) | £29.00 |
| 2.12.09 | P.Lambert (October) - pavilion wages | £54.00 |
| 2.12.09 | P. Lambert (November) – pavilion wages | £54.00 |
| 2.12.09 | K. Webb (expenses – Oct and Nov) | £67.60 |
| 2.12.09 | B. Howard (litter picking) | £92.80 |
| 2.12.09 | J.Fletcher (ruins keykeeping and locks) | £76.49 |
| 2.12.09 | R. Allsop (grass and hedge cutting) | £1,050.00 |
| 2.12.09 | B. Morrison (photographs) | £72.00 |
| 2.12.09 | Veolia (Refuse colln for October) | £68.75 |
- (b) Schedule of Income**
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|----------|---|---------|
| 12.11.09 | HM Revenue (VAT rebate – July/Sept) | £179.08 |
| 25.11.09 | North Elmham Cricket Club (pavilion hire) | £415.00 |
| 2.12.09 | Allotments Rent | £36.00 |
| 2.12.09 | Rent – D. Fish | £100.00 |
| 2.12.09 | Rent – E. Howell and Sons | £155.00 |
| 2.12.09 | Pavilion Lettings | £28.00 |

To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:

- (a) **Applications**
None
- (b) **Determinations**
None

Correspondence

- a) Register of Electors 2010 – one form for each Councillor
- b) National Tree Dressing Weekend – competition and posters
- c) Town and Parish Council Forum Newsletter
- d) Breckland Council – guide for setting up a bulk fuel syndicate
- e) Police – crime figures for October
- f) Breckland Council – Town and Parish Council Newsletter
- g) River Wensum Restoration Strategy – first newsletter
- h) Details of new Jewson account
- i) War Memorials – penalties for vandalism
- j) Breckland Youth Council – funds available for local youth projects
- k) Village Green Lease – response from NCC re boundaries
- l) Empowering Local Communities and the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill – a plea for help

Additional correspondence received since printing of above list

- m) Letter from Enertrag – proposal to construct wind turbines near Guestwick
- n) Breckland Council – Standards Committee Agenda for 8/12/09
- o) Update from Grahame Bygrave following meeting at North Elmham

184 Announcements:

- (a) The Chairman reported that a letter of thanks had been received from Heather Caley, Treasurer of the North Elmham P.C.C., in respect of the Parish Council donation of £750. This pays for grass cutting in the burial ground of the Church.
- (b) Mr. Groom wished to record his appreciation of the excellent work done by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk in preparing the Draft budget figures.
- (c) Mr. Fletcher mentioned that a new gate had been made for Cathedral Meadows by one of his friends.
- (d) Dr. Wade-Martins reported that a team had been working in the Churchyard under the Community Payback scheme.

185 Next Meeting:

Wednesday, 6th January 2010 at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Chairman

Date

