

Pre-Meeting Business: District and County Councillor Mr. Bill Borrett was in attendance prior to the meeting but had to leave before the meeting commenced. The Chairman introduced the new PCSO, Charlotte Stone (please see item 218)

Public Participation: Mrs. Linda Richmond gave a brief update on the Parish Plan. The third draft of the questionnaire will soon be available and will hopefully be circulated before the next Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman was delighted to announce the long-awaited arrival of our new PCSO. Charlotte Stone produced a booklet giving full details of the Community Speed Watch scheme. The monitoring is carried out by trained volunteers with any follow-up action taken by Norfolk Police. A small contribution is made towards the cost of equipment. Mr. Groom asked if we could merely put out the Speed Watch signs to deter speeding motorists. Ms. Stone said that she would check with the co-ordinator of the scheme to see if this was permissible. The Scheme will be discussed further once the document has been fully examined and precise details established.

Mr. Neve mentioned that seats outside the Memorial Hall have recently been vandalised and some heating oil had been stolen from the same location.

Mark Tasker produced a written submission regarding an idea for a Community Farm. He asked about the procedures for leasing land from the Parish. It was explained that, as a Charity, letting of allotments have to follow certain procedures and regulations as stipulated by the Trust Deed. Mr. Neve (Trustee) stated that the Trustees are obliged to act through Land Management advisors and solicitors. When land becomes available, notices are published in the Eastern Daily Press, Elmham News and other local newspapers. Mr. Smith suggested that, as this was a complex matter with a number of issues to be considered, it should be discussed in full at the next meeting.

North Elmham Parish Council

**Minutes of the
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion on
Wednesday 3rd February 2010**

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208 Those Councillors Present Were:

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

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk), 7 Parishioners and PCSO Charlotte Stone (for the first part of the meeting)

209 To Consider Apologies for Absence:

Resolved to accept apologies from Mr. R. Don.

210 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.

211 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 6th January 2010:

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

Item 193 (Street Lights) – the proposal to write to the Editorial Committee of Elmham News was seconded by Mr. Lowe

UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

212 Local Development Framework (item 190)

Mr. Smith declared an interest. The consultation documents are awaited.

213 Safe Route to School (item 191):

Nothing further to report at this stage.

214 Land Management Matters (item 192)

- (a) Village Green The County Council were aware that the Parish Council wishes to purchase the Village Green in its entirety. The Councillors objected strongly to the following clauses in the new Draft Lease – 2.6 and 2.8.2. The Clerk will convey this message to Mr. Borrett in the anticipation that these clauses can be removed.
- (b) Cathedral Ruins It had been noted that the annual grant from English Heritage has been £3,415. However, annual inspection reports refer to an annual budget of £5,000. An invoice would be sent in an attempt to claim the balance, i.e. £1,585.
- (c) Cathedral Meadows Dr. Wade-Martins asked for all invoices from Mr. Duffield to be passed to him for approval before payment is made.
- (d) Broom Green No problems. Mr. Neve said the water level is high.
- (e) Millennium Wood Mr. Fletcher has not been able to see the farmer regarding the overhanging branches but will do so in the near future.

- (f) Footpath Dr. Wade-Martins mentioned that the footpath on the disused railway line had become impassable as a result of cattle trampling. The gate in the middle section of the footpath had been locked but should remain capable of being opened. Pictures were produced to demonstrate the appalling state of this area of land. Mr. Brown mentioned that Sarah Cureton of Norfolk County Council was aware of the situation and had given an assurance that action would be taken. It was agreed that a suitable letter would be sent to the Council, enclosing the pictures
(Proposed by Dr. Wade-Martins, seconded by Mr. Brown, all in favour)

215 Street Lights (item 193)

Mrs. Marsh reported that light 41 is still on. Mr. Brown said there was a similar problem with light 43. These will be attended to.

The present situation within the County regarding proposals to switch off street lights between midnight and 5 a.m. was mentioned. Mr. Smith felt that we should leave our lights as they are for now with replacements being introduced as and when required if a decision was made at a later date to fit with time clocks.

216 Highway Matters (item 194)

Gritting has still not taken place in Eastgate Street. The local bus service (Konectbus) have performed heroically during the bad weather conditions and a letter of thanks for their efforts is to be sent. Concern was expressed at the removal of salt for personal use from the bin near the Orchard Close hill. It was felt on balance, however, that the bin should not be locked. A sign stating “not for public use” would be attached to it.

217 Sign to Village Facilities (item 195)

Dr. Wade-Martins is to get a quote for a new one.

218 PCSO (item 196)

Please see Public Participation section

219 Eastgate Centre (item 197)

Ms. Ketteringham had attended a recent meeting. Whilst the day to day management is fine, a close eye needs to be kept on the budget. The aim is to keep a certain level of funds in hand but the account has dipped below this. The Parish Council has budgeted for a donation to be made and, as such, a payment of £250 is to be forwarded (proposed by Ms. Ketteringham, seconded by Mr. Groom, all in favour)

220 Norfolk Minerals and Waste LDF (item 198)

Ms. Ketteringham had rung the Planning Department and been advised that an analysis of the recent consultation had not yet been done. It will probably be towards the end of June before the new consultation period starts. There is no change in the status of MIN21 and MIN97.

221 Pavilion and Playing Field – Play Area (item 199)

The light on the end of the Pavilion had been repaired, worked for three days and then malfunctioned again. Mr. Brown suggested we replace the existing fold-down post at the entrance to the field with a new lockable one (cost approximately £100). There has recently been a problem with moles and these are to be tackled. The Cricket Club are planning to have two teams this year (Saturday and Sunday).

223 Village Sign (item 200)

35 entries had been received for the Competition and, before the meeting, Councillors took time to consider these. The task was a very difficult one with the standard of the entries being extremely high. As a result, four entries have been short-listed. The School and other entrants will be informed accordingly.

Worthing Parish Council have recently commissioned a new village sign which was generally felt to be of an impressive standard. Contact will be made with them (Roger Thornley or David Knights) to establish what actions they took to obtain this.

224 2010 Insurance (item 201)

The annual renewal date is in June and contact will be made with the Insurance Company within the next four to six weeks.

225 Budgets (item 202)

The agreed Budget for 2010/2011 has been sent to all Councillors.

226 Mirrors at allotments' entrances (item 203)

Mr. Fletcher had contacted NCC. It is not possible to extend the 30 mph limit. Mr. Groom suggested we produce signs saying "Concealed Entrance" to put in suitable positions. Mr. Fletcher is to seek permission for this course of action.

227 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income

a) Resolved to approve the following Accounts for payment:-

3/2/10 J. Fletcher (key keeping) – chq issued last meeting	£62.50
3/2/10 J. Duffield (work in ruins) – chq issued last meeting	£200.00
23/1/10 e-on Energy (Street Lighting for December –direct debit)	£362.48
3/2/10 Veolia (Refuse collection for December)	£44.78
3/2/10 e-on (Sports Pavilion electricity – last ¼ 2009)	£194.41
3/2/10 B. Howard – litter picking (4 weeks)	£92.80
3/2/10 Petty Cash	£100.00
3/2/10 W.F.Smith (sols) – advice re Village Green Lease	£115.00
3/2/10 K. Webb (expenses – December and January)	£19.60

b) Schedule of Income:

31/12/09 Annual Bank Interest	£212.44
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To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:

a) Applications

None

b) Determinations

None

Correspondence

- a) Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine – January 2010
- b) War Memorials Trust – Conference in December 2010
- c) Crime figures for December 2009
- d) Spinal Injuries Association – forthcoming event in May
- e) Norfolk ALC – coffee and a chat – 30/3/10
- f) Norfolk Waste Partnerships Awards – 29/3/10
- g) Ancient Trees in Norfolk – a talk (29th March 2009 – assume they mean 2010 !)
- h) Correspondence to Editorial Committee (Elmham News) and from Martin Sullivan
- i) NALC e-mail re red ‘phone boxes
- j) NALC e-mail – Your Parish Your Decision – an update

228 Announcements:

- a) Mr. Brown said he will not be at next month’s meeting as he will be abroad.

229 Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a) Financial standing orders.
- b) Community Farm.
- c) Problems with main sewer in Orchard Close.
- d) Parish Plan Questionnaire

230 Next Meeting:

Wednesday, 3rd March 2010 at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.21 p.m.

Chairman

Date

