

Pre-Meeting Business: District and County Councillor Mr. Bill Borrett attended for the first part of the meeting so those items where he was likely to have an input were to be discussed first.

Public Participation:

Mrs. Linda Richmond gave a brief update on the Parish Plan. Work was continuing on the questionnaire and it was hoped that it would be ready for print by the end of November. The aim was for a Spring distribution.

**North Elmham Parish Council**

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**Minutes of the  
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
held at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion on  
Wednesday 4th November 2009**

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**143 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, Dr. P. Wade-Martins and Mr. B. Borrett (County and District Councillor)

**Also in Attendance:** Mr. K. Webb (Clerk), Mrs. J. Smith (Newspaper Correspondent) and 5 Parishioners

**144 To Consider Apologies for Absence:**

Resolved to accept apologies from Mr. R. Don and Mr. R. Neve

**145 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.

**146 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2009:**

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

- (a) In Public Participation, Mr. Howell had also expressed concern regarding the activities of the North Elmham Planning Group
- (b) Anglian Water – Mr. Neve had had a blocked toilet at his home and his message was that, when dealing with Anglian Water, it was advisable to be both strong and persistent

## **UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING**

### **147 Local Development Framework (item 134)**

Mr. Borrett advised that a meeting covering villages north of Dereham would take place at Dereham Memorial Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> November, commencing at 9.30 a.m. As he had declared an interest, Mr. Borrett had arranged for Mr. Gordon Bambridge (Eynsford Ward) to speak on behalf of North Elmham. The Clerk would write to Mr. Bambridge stating the Council's preferred option (i.e. the status quo) and Ms. Ketteringham volunteered to also attend the meeting.

### **148 Safe Route to School (item 126):**

A communication had been received from Mr. Steve Tartelin, Project Team Manager (North), Norfolk County Council. This stated that, prior to the construction of the footway/cycleway, numerous attempts were made to identify the landowner, without success. It was decided to go ahead with the scheme and continue with attempts to locate the owner. When the landowner finally came forward, several years after the construction of the scheme, attempts were made to agree terms for the acquisition of the land but these were unsuccessful. As the Council did not have legal title to the land, the owner had the right to close the path.

What should have happened before constructing the scheme was to publish a Compulsory Purchase Order for the land, stating that the owner was unknown. This would have resulted in local notices as issued previously. However, if the owner did not see the notices and object to the Order, and the Order was subsequently confirmed by the Department of Transport, then the County Council would have been legally entitled to take possession of the land and to construct the scheme. The landowner would still have been eligible for compensation for the loss of the land but would not have been allowed to close the path. If acquisition terms could not be agreed, then the matter would have been referred to arbitration.

A further meeting would be held in the parish with County Council officials to discuss a way forward. Mr. Borrett said that he would give his full support to this effort.

### **149 Land Management Matters (item 125)**

- (a) Village Green A response had been received from Norfolk Property Services but the question regarding boundaries ownership had not been answered. A copy of the original purchase document dated 1920 had been enclosed and Mr. Borrett agreed to give his assistance in obtaining a more definitive reply.
- (b) Cathedral Ruins A recent inspection had been carried out by English Heritage (Dr. Wade-Martins and Mr. Fletcher in attendance) who were extremely satisfied with the site. The situation regarding new tourist signs was still being considered. Natural England had suggested weed wipe for the wildflower meadows and attempts are being made to locate a machine of a suitable size as the area is too small for the large vehicles normally used.

- (c) Broom Green No problems. Water levels have risen.
- (d) Millennium Wood Some conifers may need to be thinned out and it was agreed to remove two trees. Extra funds will need to be allocated in the budget for this essential work.

**150 Street Lights (item 127)**

Two lights are on during the day (numbers 34 and 68) and this will be remedied.

**151 Highway Matters (item 128)**

Speeding along Holt Road was discussed. The Chairman had recently made enquiries regarding Community Speedwatch and had been informed that Yaxham Parish Council operated such a scheme. Mr. Brown had a personal connection with a member of Yaxham Parish Council and agreed to make some initial enquiries. It was also agreed to invite the Police representative for these schemes to attend a future Parish Council meeting with a view to setting up something similar in North Elmham. However, it was noted that we must be mindful of budget implications.

**152 Sign to Village Facilities (item 129)**

No further developments.

**153 PCSO (item 131)**

The Clerk had received a reply from Dereham Police. PC1657 Woodgett has joined the safer neighbourhood team and has been given North Elmham as one of her parishes. Two new PCSO's will be starting on November 11<sup>th</sup> and one of these officers will also be allocated to cover North Elmham. Once in place, Sergeant Gareth Woodward will ensure that they visit to introduce themselves. This news was welcomed.

**154 Eastgate Centre (item 132)**

Nothing to report

**155 Norfolk Minerals and Waste LDF (item 133)**

There had recently been another meeting regarding certain sites, including MIN97. The consultation process is proceeding but Mr. Borrett is optimistic that this site will be rejected.

**156 Pavilion and Playing Field – Play Area (item 135)**

A letter had been sent to County Council regarding the possibility of a new play area being sited on the Village Green with no reply yet received. The deadline to apply for monies from the current tranche of Playbuilder Funds is 18<sup>th</sup> December 2009. The application is both complex and detailed with definite proposals needing to be in place before forms are submitted. Therefore, it was agreed that we are not in a position to make an application at this stage.

**157 Village Sign (item 136)**

Dr. Wade-Martins is to arrange for details of the design competition to be placed in the parish magazine.

## **158 Jewsons account (item 138)**

An account has been set up with Jewsons. They have asked for a list of goods that are likely to be purchased so that they can prepare a schedule of prices for consideration and approval.

### **159 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income:**

#### **(a) Resolved to approve the following Accounts for payment:**

7.10.09	J. Duffield (work on Cathedral ruins)	£445.00
14.10.09	e-on Energy (Street Lighting Sept – direct debit)	£362.48
4.11.09	Veolia Environmental Services (refuse colln)	£87.81
4.11.09	D. Shoemith (Broom Green Pond – cut and clean)	£175.00
4.11.09	J. Duffield (work in Cathedral ruins and pea shingle)	£359.62
4.11.09	M. Latham (repairs to Pavilion roof and window)	£110.00
4.11.09	P. Wade-Martins (timber path edging for Cath.ruins)	£245.12
4.11.09	Mazars (audit fee for y/e 31.3.09)	£327.75
4.11.09	B. Howard (litter picking – 4 weeks)	£92.80

#### **(b) Schedule of Income**

16.10.09	AMS Allotment Rents	£117.00
24.10.09	Rural Payments Agency (CSS)	£4,121.53
4.11.09	AMS Rent (half year) – M. Goff	£1,280.00

### **To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:**

#### **(a) Applications**

3PL/2009/0962/F

Mr. and Mrs. W. Woods, Willow Cottage, Broom Green,  
North Elmham

Proposed single storey extension and alterations to cottage

#### **(b) Determinations**

None

### **Correspondence**

- a) Annual Report (2008/09) – Norfolk Association of Local Councils
- b) Crime Figures for September 2009
- c) Timetable for the Mobile Police Office – Jan to June 2010
- d) Norfolk Playing Fields Newsletter – Autumn 2009
- e) E-mail from Sergeant Woodward re new PCSO arrangements
- f) Letter from Barclays Bank re conversion of Business Bonus account to a Business Saver account
- g) E-mail from Steve Tarttelin (NCC) re Safe Route to School
- h) Letter from Andrew Howlett (NCC) enclosing copy of the purchase document (dated 20/3/20) re Village Green
- i) Letter from Breckland D.C. notifying the publication of Breckland Core Strategy and Development Control
- j) Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework: Consultation on further issues and options (2 books – 698 pages!)

**160 Announcements:**

- (a) Mrs. Marsh mentioned that Mr. Neve had informed her that all allotment fees had been collected. She also mentioned that Mr. Albert Skipper had completed 50 years as an allotment holder but was now no longer able to continue.

**161 Items for Next Agenda:**

The possibility of mirrors being installed at the entrances to the allotments. Mr. Fletcher is to investigate.

**162 Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, 2nd December 2009 at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date