

Pre-Meeting Business: District and County Councillor Mr. Bill Borrett attended for the first part of the meeting

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 6th January 2010**

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186 Those Councillors Present Were:

Mrs. C. Payne (Chairman), Mr. C. Smith, Mr. J. Brown, Mr. R. Don, Mr. B. Fletcher, Mr. C. Groom, Ms. A. Ketteringham, Mr. N. Lowe, Mrs. E. Marsh, Mr. R. Neve and Mr. B. Borrett (County and District Councillor)

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

187 To Consider Apologies for Absence:

Resolved to accept apologies from Dr. P. Wade-Martins

188 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.

189 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd December 2009:

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

Item 184 (b) – Mr. Groom stated that his comments regarding the excellent work done by the Chairman and the Clerk not only related to the Budget but matters in general.

UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

190 Local Development Framework (item 167)

Mr. Smith declared an interest. Ms. Ketteringham stated that there are two “doughnuts” where the boundary is being put back. Mr. Borrett said that the matter would be going to consultation within the next few weeks and it was his expectation that the boundary would enter this process as originally planned. He would attempt to get a document listing all the minor changes. It was agreed to wait for the consultation document and circulate the plan, possibly after next month’s meeting. Mr. Borrett also clarified the planning rules regarding buildings on garden plots and projects on farm buildings.

191 Safe Route to School (item 168):

Nothing further to report at this stage but see item 192

192 Land Management Matters (item 169)

- (a) Village Green A response to the request regarding the possible purchase had been received from Norfolk Property Services. A number of questions were asked including the size, nature and purpose of the proposed car park which would be linked to the safe route to school. A reply would be made stressing the community benefit and worth as a general amenity in the centre of the village. In particular, it would assist in alleviating the parking problems at the school. Mr. Borrett said that the proposals would need to go through a number of committees but would have his full support. With regard to the value of the land, the County Council would no doubt be seeking the current market price.

The County Council had produced yet another Draft Lease and, again, this was not acceptable to the Parish Council. Mr. Borrett took the document together with relative correspondence with a view to bringing about an equitable solution.

- (b) Cathedral Ruins A response had been received from English Heritage regarding the new brown tourist signs. It was acknowledged that the description “North Elmham Cathedral” is misleading to visitors. A more appropriate description is “North Elmham Norman Chapel”. However, it was agreed that in order to fit the existing sign boards the wording “N. Elmham Chapel” or “North Elmham Chapel” will be used on the brown signs.
- (c) Cathedral Meadows Nothing to report
- (d) Broom Green No problems
- (e) Millennium Wood It had been noted that, following flailing from the field sides, there were a number of branches overhanging the hedges. Mr. Fletcher would speak to the farmer involved regarding these.

193 Street Lights (item 170)

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

The Parish Council were surprised by some editorial comments in the January issue of Elmham News relating to speeding traffic and street lighting. It was felt that traffic problems have been a constant concern of the Parish Council for many years with possible ways of solving the problems being sought. It was proposed by Ms. Ketteringham, (seconded by Mr. Groom, all in favour), to write to the Editorial Committee of Elmham News expressing these views.

194 Highway Matters (item 171)

The new PCSO, Charlotte Stone, will attend the next meeting of the Parish Council to discuss speeding problems and will visit the village before then to observe the traffic. It has been asked that, whilst the major part of the bus route is salted, Eastgate Street, which is part of the bus route, is not. Mr. Fletcher said that he had advice that attempts will be made to do this and Mr. Borrett said that he would look at the official list of gritting areas and hopefully arrange for Eastgate Street to be added to it. The salt bin near the Orchard Close hill had been misused by individuals taking the salt for their own driveways and, as a result, it would probably be necessary to lock the bin in future. Mr. Woodhouse's efforts in salting the hill were greatly appreciated.

195 Sign to Village Facilities (item 172)

Nothing to report

196 PCSO (item 173)

New PCSO (see item 194)

197 Eastgate Centre (item 174)

Nothing to report

198 Norfolk Minerals and Waste LDF (item 175)

Letters had been sent to NCC Planning Services in respect of MIN21 and MIN97. These confirmed the Parish Council's continuing view that these sites are unacceptable and not suitable for development.

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

The light on the end of the Pavilion needed attention. Mr. Groom offered to do this.

200 Village Sign (item 177)

A further entry had been received from a parishioner. This, together with previous entries from school pupils, will be on display from 7 p.m. for judging by councillors before the next meeting.

201 2010 Insurance (item 181)

The annual renewal date is in June and contact will be made with the Insurance Company within the next two months

202 Budgets (item 182)

The agreed Budget for 2010/2011 will be sent to councillors with these minutes

203 Mirrors at allotments' entrances

Mr. Fletcher reported that such mirrors are illegal as there are concerns that they give a false impression of distance. As such, their use is discouraged by the authorities. It was suggested that hedges could perhaps be cut back to improve visibility. It was also suggested that the 30 mph could be extended on the approach to the village as the speed of vehicles in this area was contributing to the problems. Mr. Fletcher agreed to talk to NCC.

204 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income:

a) Resolved to approve the following Accounts for payment:

14/12/09	e-on Energy (Street Lighting December - direct debit)	£362.48
6/1/10	Veolia (Refuse collection for November)	£62.88
6/1/10	T.T.Jones Electrical (street lighting -1/4ly maintenance)	£919.00
6/1/10	B. Howard (litter picking – 5 weeks)	£116.00

(b) Schedule of Income

30/11/09	Investment dividend – 428950001T	£21.53
30/11/09	Investment dividend – 428950002T	£34.82
7/12/09	N.E. United Charities (Parish Pit)	£5.00
7/12/09	Refund of postage surcharge	£1.15

To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:

a) Applications

None

b) Determinations

3PL/2009/0962/F

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

Proposed single storey extension and alterations to cottage

Planning permission granted

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
- m) Dereham Tourist Association – 2010 AGM (28/1/10)
- n) Norfolk Police Authority – Open Meeting to discuss Budget
- o) English Heritage Inspection Report on the ruins

205 Announcements:

None

206 Agenda Items for Next Meeting
Village Sign Competition

207 Next Meeting:
Wednesday, 3rd February 2010 at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Chairman

Date