

Pre-Meeting Business: None

Public Participation: Mr. P. Howell addressed the matter of his cattle using the footpath on the disused railway line. He insisted that the path was not impassable and that the relevant gate was unlocked. Mr. Brown asked whether, in future, cattle could be restricted more from this area with possibly an electric fence being erected to protect some of the path. The Chairman said that the matter was in the hands of solicitors and, as such, further discussion was inappropriate.

Mrs. Linda Richmond gave an update on the Parish Plan. There had been an excellent response to the request for volunteers with some 40 people coming forward. A training evening will be held on 29th April and each volunteer will be allocated an area.

Mrs. Richmond also reported that the Gardening Club was arranging to dig over and replant the Jubilee Gardens. The Chairman thanked the Club for volunteering to do this work.

Mr. Martin Halliday, Manager of Splitz United Football Club, explained their plans for the 2010/2011 season. They are currently enjoying a successful time in the Central and South Norfolk League and there is a strong possibility that they will also form a reserve team. In this case, they would like to use the North Elmham pitch and pavilion facilities on every Saturday afternoon. The Council had no objections to this and the Clerk will forward details of charges to the Club who currently play at Beetley.

Dr. Wade-Martins reported an interrupted attempt the previous night to steal lead from the church roof. The Police had been notified but it was felt that, with scaffolding erected, the lead was particularly vulnerable. Photographic evidence of the damage was shown.

North Elmham Parish Council

**Minutes of the
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion on
Wednesday 7th April 2010**

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257 Those Councillors Present Were:

Mrs. C. Payne (Chairman), Mr. C. Smith (until 7.45 p.m.), Mr. J. Brown, Mr. B. Fletcher, Mr. C. Groom, Ms. A. Ketteringham, Mr. N. Lowe, Mrs. E. Marsh and Dr. P. Wade-Martins

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk), Mrs. J. Smith (Newspaper Correspondent) and 8 Parishioners

258 To Consider Apologies for Absence:

Resolved to accept apologies from Mr. R. Neve

259 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.

260 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd March 2010:

Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record

UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

261 Community Speed Watch (item 235)

All Councillors had had the opportunity to study details of the scheme. It was agreed to seek volunteers via the Elmham News. A minimum of six people plus a coordinator are required. Subject to obtaining a suitable number of volunteers, a meeting would then be held, attended by our PCSO, at which full details would be given thus enabling individual parishioners to decide whether or not they wished to become involved.

262 Local Development Framework (item 236)

Nothing further to report at this stage

263 Safe Route to School (item 237):

A reply had been received from Graham Bygrave. The County Council members have approved the highways capital programme for 2010/11. This includes a £5,000 allocation to cover design fees and land negotiation/purchase costs for the scheme. Mr. Lowe mentioned that part of the safe route across the Green had been impassable during the bad weather and wondered if a gully and drain could be installed to prevent this problem in the future. Mr. Fletcher will take this up with Jason Glasspoole.

264 Land Management Matters (item 238)

- (a) Village Green There had been no developments regarding the lease or possible purchase of the Green. Dr. Wade-Martins felt that we needed to be more aggressive on these matters and this view was supported by Mr. Groom. A meeting is to be requested with Norfolk Property Services. Mr. Borrett is to be contacted by the Chairman to check with progress on his assurance to support us on the matters of the lease and possible purchase.
- (b) Cathedral Ruins English Heritage had responded to the invoice in respect of additional work and a BACS payment of £1,685 had been received. Mr. Fletcher felt that loose stones were becoming dangerous. Dr. Wade-Martins said that any work had to be done by English Heritage. He would inform them of the problem.
- (c) Cathedral Meadows The annual Grazing Agreement needed to be completed. The Clerk would investigate and attend to this. Dr. Wade-Martins asked if this could be given to him when prepared and he would take it to Mr. Fish.
- (d) Broom Green Nothing to report

- (e) Millennium Wood Mr. Fletcher has spoken to the farmer regarding the overhanging branches and he has promised to attend to these.
- (f) Footpath on disused railway line The Clerk had spoken to David Mills, Countryside Access Development Officer for Norfolk County Council. Mr. Mills stated that he had been familiar with this area and the problems associated with it for many years. He had indeed visited it recently on a number of occasions and he had been able to view the footpath for himself. As such, he felt it was not necessary to be provided with photographs. He was also aware of the locked gate and the whole matter had been placed in the hands of solicitors. A letter is to be sent giving the farmer one month to remove the gate. If he doesn't respond to this, they will send him an application form to request for permission to have an unlocked gate. He is given a month to fill in this form. If this does not happen, the solicitors will issue a "removal of obstruction" notice. This gives a month to remove the gate. If nothing happens, the Council will then remove it.

The Clerk was asked to write to the County Council, stressing the Parish Council's dissatisfaction with the current situation especially the poor state of the footpath, and enclosing the photographs.

- (g) Lane near Wensum Drive Mr. Groom said that a number of residents had asked him who owns the lane near Wensum Drive. Mr. Lowe stated that he also had received similar questions. The Clerk will make enquiries with Norfolk County Council.

265 Street Lights (item 239)

The revised charges letter from Jones Electrical had been clarified. It related to new lanterns only and, as such, our contract is not affected. The increase will be shown as a separate item on any future quotations for lantern replacement.

266 Highway Matters (item 240)

Mr. Fletcher had met Jason Glasspoole from the Highways Department and he had been given details of pot-holes. Mr. Glasspoole had suggested a meeting of all interested parties regarding the parking area at the top of Eastgate Street with a view to considering possible solutions. Mr. Fletcher is to obtain some dates. Ms. Ketteringham reported that the gravel on the footpath near Eastgate House had been cleared. The bus timetable at the bottom of Eastgate Street had been vandalised.

267 Sign to Village Facilities (item 241)

Quote for a new sign not yet obtained but Dr. Wade-Martins has it in hand

268 PCSO (item 242)

Our PCSO was not at this meeting. Mr. Groom stated that we did not appear to be getting a presence in the village. The position was most unsatisfactory and the Clerk would write to the Chief Constable detailing the Parish Council's deep concern in this matter. (Proposed Dr. Wade-Martins, seconded Mr. Groom, all in favour)

- 269 Eastgate Centre (item 243)**
The interior is being repainted
- 270 Norfolk Minerals and Waste LDF (item 244)**
Nothing to report
- 271 Pavilion and Playing Field – Play Area (item 245)**
Ms. Ketteringham felt that a concrete area onto the car park should be considered. This will be looked at when next year's budgets are prepared.
Mr. Brown reported that two holes in the wall had been repaired. Grass cutting has commenced and trees have been lopped and cleared as planned. Mr. Lowe said that the fixed gate in the play area is in need of repair and Mr. Brown is to investigate exactly what is required.
- 272 Village Sign (item 246)**
The Clerk had taken book tokens to the School for the four pupils who had submitted the winning designs. The sub-committee have been working on the way forward with possibly some features being incorporated from each.
- 273 2010 Insurance (item 247)**
The annual renewal date is June 1st. Papers have been received from the Insurers and the Chairman, Mr. Groom and the Clerk will look at these before the next meeting to ensure that the Parish Council is adequately covered.
- 274 Allotments' entrances (item 248)**
The erection of "concealed entrance" signs is permitted. Mr. Brown will look into the possibility of hedge removal to improve visibility.
- 275 Financial standing orders (item 249)**
These have been obtained in standard format from the County. Amendments as appropriate were discussed to satisfy our own circumstances and these will be duly implemented. Clauses 17.1 and 17.2 refer to Risk Management and the Clerk will investigate through NALC whether specific standard assessments are available.
- 276 Community Farm (item 250)**
Nothing to report
- 277 Orchard Close sewer (item 251)**
The Clerk had arranged for Anglian Water to visit. Mr. Lowe reported that they do not accept that there is a problem in the main sewer and blame a build-up of fat as the problem. The situation will be monitored. The dangerous inspection chamber on the Green was recorded by Anglian Water and will be rectified.
- 278 Parish Plan (item 252)**
Please see Mrs. Richmond's report in "Public Participation"

279 North Elmham Festival Committee

It was agreed that the minute books can be loaned to the Festival Committee. These would be released two at a time. Any additional information held at the Records Office would have to be accessed via the Clerk. After the event, records for the last six years only would be retained, with any prior to this deposited with the Records Office.

280 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income

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

3/3/10 J. Fletcher (key keeping) – chq issued last meeting	£62.50
31/3/10 N. Lowe (replacement key)	£3.25
16/3/10 e-on Energy (Street Lighting for February –direct debit)	£370.36
31/3/10 e-on (Sports Pavilion electricity – first ¼ 2010)	£175.60
31/3/10 M. Latham – wall repairs (playing field)	£130.00
31/3/10 B. Howard – litter picking (4 weeks)	£92.80
31/3/10 K. Webb (expenses – February and March)	£30.00
31/3/10 BHMA Group (banners for Planning Grp)	£269.02
31/3/10 SPL Print (Flyers + colour cover for Planning Grp)	£482.00
31/3/10 SPL Print (additional flyers for Planning Group)	£39.81
31/3/10 Veolia Env. Services (Refuse – February)	£51.28

7/4/10 Nrfk Assn of Local Councils (annual sub) £209.24

b) Schedule of Income:

18/3/10 English Heritage (additional payment) £1,685.00
(BACS advise received – awaiting Bank statement showing this sum)

To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:

a) Applications

(i) 3PL/2010/0231/F

Mr. R. Matthews, 9 Wellington Road, Briston, Melton Constable, Norfolk, NR24 2SE
(garden plot 15A adj. No. 17 Station Road)

Proposed dwelling and garage (amendments to approval 3PL/2006/1228/F)

No objections

(i.i.) 3PL/2010/0284/F

Mr. P. Gyseman, Cedar House, Elmham Mill, Billingford Road, North Elmham, NR20 5HN (variation of condition 2 on pp 3PL/2003/0998/F (revised position and design)

No objections

b) Determinations

None

Correspondence – 7/4/10

- a) River Wensum Restoration Strategy – second newsletter
- b) Brochure from Pro-Teq re surfacing playgrounds
- c) Norfolk Norfolk LDF – advice of documents being submitted
- d) Norfolk RCC – notice of AGM on 27/4/10
- e) Annual Return for 31/3/10 – letter from Mazars
- f) National Non-Domestic Rate Notice for 2010/11
- g) Awards for All application acknowledgement
- h) Norfolk Police – crime figures for February
- i) Town and Parish Newsletter from Breckland Council
- j) Request from Dereham Safer Neighbourhood Team re magazine details
- k) Tree Works Application – County School Station
- l) April newsletter for Fieldwork (Campaign to Protect Rural England)

Item k) The Parish Council had been advised and asked for comments on a number of trees which are being replaced by limes at the County School Station after felling. Whilst there was no real objection to this, it was wondered whether thought had been given to not replanting at this time, with limes being planted when others are removed, thus having the area occupied at that time with one species. The Clerk will write appropriately.

281 Announcements:

Mr. Lowe mentioned that litter had been cleared off the main road on Dereham Road by volunteers from the parishes of Hoe and Worthing. He wondered if we could ask for volunteers in the magazine to carry out a similar exercise in North Elmham.

282 Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a) Litter on Dereham Road
- b) NECPG Finances

283 Next Meeting:

Wednesday, 5th May 2010 at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.38 p.m.

Chairman

Date

