

COLTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall 6th September 2010

Present

Chairman John Harding, Vice-Chairman Doreen Snelling, Robert Watson, Mike Warren, Michael Spinks, Keith Childerhouse, Dave Smith, Mark Rischmiller. Also in attendance County Councillor James Carswell, District Councillor Alan Mallett.

Apologies

Peter Baker, Joe Chapman and Nigel Haines tendered their apologies, which were accepted. PCSO Laura Munro-Oakley was unable to attend the meeting.

2 . Minutes of Meeting 5th July 2010

The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by John Harding as Chairman of the Parish Council.

3. Matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda.

None.

4. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

John Harding and Doreen Snelling declared an interest as Trustees of the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity.

5. Police report

There were three recorded incidences of criminal damage from July to September 2010, two thefts, and one other crime. Speeding along the North Walsham Road was again targeted resulting in one fine and two warnings. Allotment holders were warned to lock their sheds following a spate of break-ins in other areas, and motorists advised to secure their vehicles as vehicle crime has increased. The full report will be printed in the Marlpit and on the web-site, and is available from the clerk.

6. Correspondence received

1. Norfolk Accident Rescue Service requested a donation: deferred until later in the year.
2. Stuart Wilson, Chairman of Brampton PC invited a representative to a meeting re the Centenary of Aylsham Navigation closure, on 28th September. Mr Mallett hoped to attend.
3. The Tour of Britain cycle race is to visit Coltishall on 16th September, necessitating a rolling road block.
4. Mr Sexton expressed concern about a fence and mirror installed at the property adjoining the Chapel in Rectory Road. Broadland DC is dealing with the matter.
5. The Broads Authority advised the candidates for the Broads Forum.
6. Jamie Henry of Broadland DC Street Scene had affixed notices to the dog bin at Ling Way, but noted it was still being used for other pet waste.
7. Norfolk Rural Community Council's joint meeting with the Norfolk Rural Forum is on 15th September 2010
8. Mr Savory, on behalf of the luncheon club members, requested a new seat at the Pharmacy, to replace the damaged one. He offered to approach the Pharmacy owners re funding for a replacement.
9. Nominations for the Countryside Alliance Awards were invited by 22nd October.

10. The Annual Parish and Town Meeting is on 28th October 2010. John Harding to attend.
11. An event to meet ex-offenders and associated justice representatives is planned for 30th September at the Forum in Norwich.
12. North Walsham Area Community Transport AGM is on 20th September. A copy of their annual accounts was also received.
13. The Coltishall Commons Management Trust advised that the dykes on Upper Common, part-owned by the Parish, were in need of cleaning. Quotations are being sought, but the cost to the Parish Council last time this work was done was £1500 from the total cost of £3600.
14. Mel Douglass had written as a Trustee of the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity requesting funding for maintenance of the football changing-rooms and the cricket pavilion.

It was noted that several village facilities required maintenance, including the village hall heating system, the bowls club fence, the War Memorial, and Upper Common dykes. There was concern that a focus on the football and cricket clubs did not take account of other organisations and facilities also in need of funding, or the views of the wider community. The bowls club is self-funding, but has asked for assistance in this instance. It was suggested that the football and cricket members could support their clubs by undertaking some maintenance themselves. The Village Hall was considered to be more of a community facility than individual clubs, and heating is a priority if the Hall is to remain open. If an assortment of village facilities are to be supported financially, then parishioners will have to accept a substantial increase in the precept. It was **resolved** that a working-party be set up to examine and prioritise funding requirements throughout the village to inform the precept decision at the November meeting.

7. Finance

Peter Baker was unable to attend, but sent a report. He had prepared draft budgets ranging from no increase to an increase of £6,000. Considerations for the forthcoming year included a reduction in training, potential election costs, heating for the Village Hall, renovation of the War Memorial. A table showed cost per household of each budget. VAT will no longer be included as an income item.

The Government had indicated that it could introduce capping of parish precepts, and referendums on “excessive” increases by precepting authorities. NALC and SLCC have both argued that local councils have never been subject to any council tax capping scheme, and the cost of a local referendum would in many cases outweigh the proposed increase in the precept. It is accepted that council tax increases must have community support, but enforced referendums would constrain local councils’ ability to respond to community needs. Peter Baker had prepared a draft response on behalf of the council, to be sent to NALC and SLCC.

It was agreed that the Parish Plan constituted a mandate from parishioners. The historically low precept in Coltishall has resulted in a deterioration in facilities. A comparable village had a precept this year of £33,000 to undertake community improvements. Costings must be obtained in order that a priority list may be drawn up on which to base the precept demand. It was **resolved** that Dave Smith, Keith Childerhouse and hopefully Peter Baker from the parish council and representatives from the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity form the working-party to formulate the priority list and obtain quotations prior to the November meeting.

The Audit Return had been approved by Mazars, and was displayed in notice-boards. Peter Baker had verified the accounts in July 2010.

Payments since last meeting

Mazars - Annual Audit

158.62

Receipts since last meeting	
Web advertising	20.00
Current account as at 6 th September 2010	2816.05
Deposit account as at 6 th September 2010	9809.41
Total at Bank	12625.46
Payments due this meeting	
J B Elvy – Salary August/September	707.06
Parish expenses	186.64
Allotments Account payments	
Anglian Water Jan-July 2010	110.78
Toomer – new tap	45.00

Land Registry

Parish expenses included telephone and travel for Land Registry work in connection with the title to Hautbois Common. No expenses had been claimed for time spent on this matter since May, but John Harding proposed that the clerk be paid for the 16 hours worked during July/August, Seconded Keith Childerhouse, unanimous. It had been necessary to engage a solicitor to deal with the registration of title document for Hautbois Common, and unanimous approval had been given by councillors. All preliminary work including accumulation evidence of ownership by the parish had been done by the clerk, and copies sent to Land Registry. It was therefore estimated that solicitor's costs could be restricted to circa £500.

8. To Consider planning applications

There were no objections to :

1. Application BA/2010/0235/CON The Limes, Wroxham Road. Demolition of sheds, erection of three sheds.
2. Application BA/2010/0238/FUL 20 Wroxham Road. New conservatory.
3. Application BA/2010/0241/FUL 20 Anchor Street. Replace quay heading. It was noted that this application covered the river frontage only. A further application had been made to replace the heading some 40 metres into the dyke. This application had not yet been advised to the council.
4. Application 20101013 31 Wroxham Road. Self-contained side annexe.

Application BA/2010/0018/TCA 20 Anchor Street. Tree works in conservation area was referred to Peter Croot, tree Warden.

9. To report on play equipment

A meeting of the working party on 19th July 2010 noted that safety concerns necessitated the resurfacing of ground under existing play equipment in tandem with the installation of the new equipment. The children had chosen the Wicksteed proposal, and work was due to commence in the second week of September. Installation would take some 10 days, with fencing remaining in situ until Mike Warren returns from holiday at the end of the month. A letter had been received from Kate Wolstenholme (aged 12) suggesting an item of apparatus called iplay. The clerk to make enquiries for future phases of the work, and write to Miss Wolstenholme thanking her for her suggestion and interest in the project.

10. To report on the CETAG meeting

The meeting received two presentations from prospective purchasers of the former RAF base from

the Ministry of Justice. The first was from Pharmacie du Monde representing an aviation-based company providing, inter alia, jet hire, aircraft servicing, personnel training, storage of relief equipment for major international incidents and associated administration offices.

The second presentation was from Aylsham Growers, for an anaerobic digestion system. Such schemes are financially supported by central government on ecological grounds. Only a small section of the site would be needed, so would suit a partnership agreement with purchasers of the whole site. Locally-grown crops would feed the digester to produce up to 2 megawatt electricity, satisfying the planning requirement of the prison to use green energy.

Councillors reserved the right to comment when firmer plans are known.

11. To consider a mirror for Kimberley Terrace

A local resident has agreed to fund the mirror.

12. To discuss cockerels on allotments

A complaint had been received about noise nuisance from cockerels on the allotments. It was investigated by the allotments chairman, the clerk, and subsequently by Broadland DC. The Allotments and Smallholdings Act 1908 allows hens and rabbits, but makes no reference to cockerels. The Coltishall Allotments Agreement also allows hens and rabbits. Following some considerable discussions with all parties, it has been suggested that the four remaining cockerels live out their lives, but that no cockerels will be allowed in future. These birds must be shut up at night and let out at a reasonable time in the morning. The agreement will be rewritten for next year specifically prohibiting cockerels. The clerk is to write to the complainants with this information, and hope that the matter can now be resolved.

13. Any other business

None.

14. Public participation pursuant to Standing Order 58

Paul Savory reported that a post at the Pharmacy is loose. A traffic sign is missing near Tavern Court – this has been reported. John Lintern had noted signs for the prison at the Mayton bends. They had been paid for by the prison authority; no signs would be installed in Coltishall or Hautbois for this route. District Councillor Alan Mallett reported that the proposed conservation at the former RAF base would probably be approved by Broadland DC next week. He anticipated that Broadland DC would have a 0% increase in council tax for the forthcoming two years, as would the Police Authority. Services to tax-payers would be unaffected, saving being achieved by efficiencies. County Councillor James Carswell reported that the Connexions service to young people was to be cut by £1.2m. Children's Services would be cut by £10m, which was facing its harshest cuts in funding since the 1970s. He was concerned for the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable children as a result. Highways also faced huge pressure on its budget, main routes would be the priority. The Rectory Road footpath work will commence in November. Six objections had been received by James Carswell and responses sent, although no objections had been received by the parish council. James Carswell had arranged to meet one objector this week. He felt that the scope of the original consultation by Highways should have been broader, but that the safety of children was paramount. Cancellation of this scheme was not an option on safety grounds, and because cancellation at this stage would perhaps make requests for future projects less likely to succeed. The key concern was the likely impact on the junction of Rectory Road and North Walsham Road. The clerk is to write to Highways again requesting a mini-roundabout.

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm

Next meeting is on **Monday 1st November 2010** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall