

COLTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall 9th January 2012

Present

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

1. Apologies

None.

2 . Minutes of the Meeting 7th November 2011

The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by Robert Watson 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

Doreen Snelling in Item 6, Jubilee events, Michael Spinks as a Trustee of the Coltishall Commons Management Trust and John Harding as a shop owner in Item 6 car parking.

5. Police reports November and December 2011

No crimes were recorded in November, and two in December; one criminal damage and one theft of horse riding equipment in Stratton Strawless. Police are again warning of metal thefts, advising CCTV, lighting and alarms to deter thieves. The next Safer Neighbourhood meeting will be at the Jubilee Family Centre in Aylsham on 16th January 2012.

Speedwatch

Of the six planned sessions only three took place in November and December due to either lack of volunteers or poor weather. Motorists were recorded as speeding in Wroxham Road, Great Hautbois Road, and North Walsham Road, all 30mph zones.

Following many instances of motorists travelling the wrong way over the bridge in Rectory Road, and requests to the Police, it was noted that the Police had been in evidence during the past week. It is hoped that they will again monitor the area over the weekend when it is thought that members of the football teams are routinely ignoring the road signs.

6. Correspondence received

1. Donation requests were considered, and it was **agreed** to give £250.00 to the Citizens' Advice Bureau, £200.00 to the North Walsham Area Community Transport, and £50.00 to Victim Support, all of which are known to assist parishioners. A donation was also made to Coltishall Parochial Church Council of £1000.00 towards grass-cutting costs, as shown in the budget.
2. Mr Savory raised the issue of parking in the village. It is accepted that parking spaces are restricted despite the Commons Trust allowing short-term parking on part of the Common. Any redevelopment of the Salvation Army building could jeopardise the existing permissive arrangements. At a previous meeting, it had been suggested that the Commons Trust be approached to consider allowing parking on the grassed area. This was not followed up, nor the suggestion that a survey be carried out among businesses to establish provision made by them for staffparking. Mr Savory suggested that the land adjoining the church could be considered for all-day parking, freeing up short-stay parking in the village centre.

Standing Orders were suspended. The owners of Piece of Cake considered that Coltishall is regenerating, but that visitors often found no parking spaces. They acknowledged that their business contributed to the problem; their staff, in common with those working in other village businesses, travelled to work by car. These vehicles take up most on-street bays and use the Common as all-day parking, severely reducing the available parking spaces for customers and visitors. Residents of Tavern Court also use this area despite the restriction signs and the efforts of the Commons Trust to prevent their doing so. Any arrangement for long-stay parking at, say, the church, would rely on the co-operation of employees to use it instead of village-centre parking. It was also suggested that land currently for sale behind the antiques centre would be ideal. After much discussion it was **agreed** that a separate meeting should be convened with the Commons Trust, the church, Highways, parish councillors, and any other interested parties to find a solution. It was also **agreed** that a questionnaire would be distributed to all businesses and residents in the village centre to ascertain their views and requirements. Standing Orders resumed.

3. Norfolk County Council had supplied a poster detailing the gritting routes for the winter.
4. Norfolk County Council had agreed to supply a permanent vehicle-activated speed sign for the Wroxham Road end of the village.
5. A request had been received from Wherry Housing for street lighting in Ling Way. The council had received no other requests, and a poll some years ago had indicated that lighting was not wanted. The Parish Plan indicated support for street lighting in some areas. Cllr Mallett thought that Highways would not install fewer than five lights, and that the cost would double the precept. Wherry Housing had also raised the problem of dog fouling, especially on Ling Common where children play. A notice will be placed in the Marlpit.
6. Broadland DC requested information on any Jubilee events planned for the parish.
7. Norfolk Police Open Meeting to discuss the budget is on 19th January 2012. Mike Warren will attend.
8. Aylsham Navigation Conservation Trust meeting is on 24th January 2012. Michael Spinks will attend.
9. Mr Chapman had suggested that Peter Croot should be nominated for an award as long-serving Tree Warden. Broadland DC advised that they have no such award, but that his name could be put forward for an EDP award. Broadland DC will be asked to consider creating one for long-standing service to the community.

7. Finance report to date

Payments since last meeting

Broadland DC – Planning for container	85.00
Garden Guardian – grass cutting 3032.70 + VAT	
Delegated verge cutting	
	882.00+ VAT 4697.64

The sum allocated by Norfolk County Council for verge cutting was 950.66; unused funds must be reimbursed to Norfolk CC by the end of the financial year.

Receipts since last meeting

Broadland DC - recycling	790.26
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Current account as at 9 th January 2012	18,980.53
Deposit account as at 9 th January 2012	4,813.97
Total at Bank	23,794.50

Payments due this meeting

Mike Warren – Land Registry Search	118.80
Mike Warren – SNAP meetings, mileage	21.64
Robert Watson – litterpick	18.00
CPRE membership	29.00
J B Elvy – Salary December - January	909.82
Expenses November - December	76.22
Ann Watson – Speedwatch July – December 2011	7.00
Total payments due	1180.48

It was **agreed** that all payments should be made, proposed Keith Childerhouse, seconded David Smith, unanimous.

8. To consider planning applications

Planning application BA/2011/0370/ADV, Coltishall Commons Management Trust. Installation of a free-standing notice-board, Lower Common, Wroxham Road. Supported, approved by Broads Authority.

Planning Application BA/2012/0001/TCA. Coltishall Commons Management Trust, fell poplar and replace with native species. No objection.

9.Land Registry search, Kings Road.

Following an enquiry concerning dead trees along the fence-line of house number 53 Kings Road, a Land Registry search was commissioned to establish the boundary between the householder's property and the bridle-path alongside the allotments. Copies of the map supplied by Land Registry were circulated; they showed the boundary as a straight line, not following the actual line of the path. After debate councillors **agreed** that the plans appear to show that the householder's curtilage includes the land on which the trees stand, and that householder would be at liberty to remove them, proposed Keith Childerhouse, seconded Mike Warren, unanimous. There was some concern that the householders, Mr and Mrs Bibby, would move their fence towards the bridle-path in order to encompass the land on which the trees stand, thereby narrowing the bridle-path. The clerk is to write to Mr and Mrs Bibby informing them of Councillors' decision, and asking that they do not move the fence to the detriment of pedestrians using the path.

A tree survey must be commissioned as agreed in the budget, and an accredited arboriculturist appointed. It is estimated that the survey itself will cost approximately £300.00, plus any work resulting from the survey. It was **agreed** that Mr Gillett be asked to undertake the survey, and Peter Croot be asked to accompany him.

10.Rectory Road one-way system

This matter was covered in Item 5.

11.Play equipment repair

Wicksteed fulfilled their promise to inspect and rectify the two zig-zag apparatus that had worked loose in their fixings. They have been re-cemented free of charge, and are now back in use.

12. Road closure in Hoveton, Highways matters

Road works in Hoveton will commence on or about 15th January 2012 for 6 days to resurface the Stalham Road, beginning at the double mini-roundabout at Horning Road, and continuing to the bridge. Highways will ensure access to properties and businesses from one direction at all times. An electrical problem near the church meant that the new road surface was dug up to effect repairs.

Footpaths

All footpaths are in reasonably good order, except for the path along the river towards Mayton. The clerk is to write to Norfolk County Council requesting action to clear it.

13. Any other business

Keith Childerhouse reported that, following the closure of the Rising Sun public house, it is being renovated and is expected to reopen shortly.

Mike Warren had been approached by a parishioner about the footpath in front of the chemist's shop. There is a ramp at one end enabling wheelchair or push-chair users to access the shop, but a raised kerb at the other end. Councillors thought that the path is owned by the proprietor of the shop, and not therefore a Highways or parish responsibility. The clerk will contact Highways for advice.

Robert Watson thanked Doreen Snelling, Mike Warren, John Harding and two parishioners who turned up to the litter-pick. It is disappointing that more parishioners did not volunteer their help to keep the village tidy.

Sue Brodie undertook Initial Training for Clerks and Councillors, and found it to be interesting and informative.

14. Public participation pursuant to Standing Order 58

County Councillor James Carswell hoped that the coming year would be better than last, although he expected it to be challenging. The Better Broadband scheme was launched on 9th January 2012 to provide high quality fast broadband to rural communities. High fuel costs and poor public transport had encouraged on-line shopping and emphasised the need for fast, reliable broadband. Businesses would be encouraged to locate to villages if broadband was dependable.

The NDR had been granted Government funding; James Carswell agreed that it would bring some benefits, but thought it would bring problems to communities such as Rackheath and Wroxham.

He had tried to secure a traffic count in Hautbois Road during the road closure in Hoveton, as it is likely to be used as a short-cut, but his request was refused. He will persevere with his endeavours to have this road gritted, and thought that the eventual sale of the airfield would add weight to his argument. He was also concerned that the problems in the one-way section of Rectory Road may be worsened due to traffic using that route during the Hoveton closure.

No information had been forthcoming from either the Ministry of Justice or North Norfolk District Council on discussions concerning the sale of the airfield. He will make enquiries.

District Councillor Alan Mallett reported that Broadland DC would discuss budgets this week.

Mrs Redstone was concerned that the two specialised buses catering for disabled parishioners, one bus on Thursday and one on Friday, would be unable to run during the road closure in Hoveton.

She was advised that buses will run to Roy's car park. She considered that disabled people and non-drivers are ill-served by public transport currently, and that the special buses should be better advertised to increase their use. The clerk will contact both organisations to suggest they advertise in the Marlpit.

It was noted that the meeting about the Good Neighbour scheme instigated by Rev Engelson had regrettably attracted only two parishioners.

Meeting closed at 9.25 pm

Next meeting is on **Monday 12th March 2012** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.