

COLTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall 12th March 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.

1. Apologies

None.

2. Minutes of the Meeting 9th January 2012

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

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting 29th February 2012

The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by Mike Warren, Vice-Chairman, who chaired this meeting

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

Dave Smith asked why the option to contact the Church about parking was not followed up. The discussions of the 29th February 2012 are to be discussed at this meeting.

4. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

Doreen Snelling and John Harding as Trustees of the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity in Item 7 Finance.

5. Police reports January and February 2012

There were seven reported crimes in Coltishall during the period : 2 burglaries, 2 criminal damage, and 3 thefts. According to Home Office figures, Norfolk is the safest county in England, and is in the top ten for detection rates. Police ask householders to be especially vigilant, as heating oil and diesel continues to be targeted by thieves, and thefts of car tyres and wheels have been reported.

Speedwatch

Of the five planned sessions only three took place in January and February due to lack of volunteers. Motorists were recorded as speeding in Wroxham Road and Station Road, both 30mph zones.

6. Correspondence received

1. The Bure Liaison Committee meeting is on 27th March 2012. Keith Childerhouse to attend.
2. The Street, under the railway bridge, is to be temporarily closed for repairs to the bridge, from 19th – 23rd March 2012
3. CPRE are holding a Neighbourhood Planning seminar on 13th March 2012. The clerk and Chairman to attend.
4. Mark Rischmiller attended the Broads Authority Planning Forum on 29th February 2012. He reported that the Site Specific Policy document contained no proposed development in the areas of Coltishall within the jurisdiction of the Broads Authority.
5. Letters of thanks for donations were received from North Walsham Community Transport, Citizens' Advice Bureau, Victim Support, and Coltishall Parochial Church Council.
6. Major Bradshaw reported that the maintenance of the church clock had been completed at a cost of £168.00, and asked that the Parish Council forward payment in this sum. He also advised that the clock is likely to require an extensive overhaul within the next 3-4 years at a

- cost of circa £8000. Major Bradshaw invited the Council to take over responsibility for the clock, and offered to supply relevant reports and contact details. Councillors **agreed** that the sum of £168.00 be paid immediately, and the other matters be considered at the next meeting. Major Bradshaw will be invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in April.
7. The Bure Navigation Trust invited the Parish Council to become a member of the Trust, and/or make a donation. No membership fee had been set thus far. Councillors **agreed** to defer any decision until more information is available.
 8. Nigel Noble of the Coltishall Commons Management Trust asked if the Parish Council wished the Trust to administer the Parish Common land along with the Trust's land during the transition from the ESA scheme to the Higher Stewardship grant. The Higher Stewardship payment should produce a better income than at present, but it will be necessary to remove pinrush and return the entire area to a better quality wetland grazing marsh. This will be achieved with help from Natural England and the RSPB, at a cost of £600.00 in total. Work should commence in May or June. Councillors **agreed** that it would be beneficial for the Trust to handle the transition on behalf of the Parish Council, and **agreed** to pay one-third of the cost, £200.00.
 9. The Environment Agency cautioned householders to be careful not to pollute the water-course through the Village, as the Bure flows into Sites of Special Scientific Interest, including Wroxham Broad. A notice will be placed in the Marlpit.
 10. Peter Croot had written a report in the Broadsheet magazine on the planting of the Liquid Amber tree on Lower Common in memory of Alan Spinks.
 11. Mr Alan Smith had proposed to Broadland DC that land owned by him between the football field and the railway in Rectory Road would be suitable for a housing development. Standing Orders were suspended, and Mr Smith invited to address the meeting. He had noted that two sites in Coltishall were identified in the Broadland DC Site Specific document, but neither was favoured by local residents. He thought his land offered a better option, and had approached Broadland DC with his proposal. He envisaged some 75 dwellings, although Broadland DC's web-site suggested up to 100 dwellings. The Housing Needs Survey had not shown there to be a need for this number of new dwellings. It appears that Broadland DC perceive this site to be preferable to the two included in the Site Specific document. Mr Smith had taken the matter no further, preferring to gauge opinion from the Parish Council before entering into any discussions. There were concerns that this site is green-field, that any development should be sustainable, in the interests of the village, provide housing for local people, and that the Parish Council should have some influence over issues such as the mix of housing, number of dwellings, design, and open space. It is also accepted that those residents directly opposite the site will be most affected by any development. The Parish Plan had identified a need for accommodation for both elderly and young in the parish. Mr Smith was keen to include the Parish Council in discussions with Broadland DC, and agreed that an initial meeting should be arranged. It was noted that this site is currently outside the development boundary. It was **proposed** that Mr Smith be thanked for his willingness to approach the Parish Council, and his wish to include the Council in discussions was welcomed; all in favour. Standing Orders resumed.

7. Finance report to date

Payments since last meeting

British Legion - wreath	16.50
Victim Support – donation	50.00
NWACTA – donation	200.00
CAB – donation	250.00
Coltishall PCC – grass cutting	1000.00
Norfolk RCC – course fee John Harding	20.00
Brett Hewitt – Hall electrics	1980.00

Receipts since last meeting	
VAT repayment	1801.45
Web advertisement	10.00

Current account as at 12 th March 2012	14293.55
Deposit account as at 12 th March 2012	4814.57
Total at Bank	19108.12

Payments due this meeting	
Peter Croot – Jubilee Tree	24.99
Friends of Coltishall Church – clock	168.00
J B Elvy – Salary February – March	909.82
Expenses January – February	144.39
Total payments due	1247.20

Allotments account	
Payment to Rachel Thrussell for expenses	7.22

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

Mark Rischmiller had placed an order for replacement swing seats and a cradle seat as existing seats are no longer fit for purpose, cost £112.40. This expenditure was unanimously **approved**.

The delegated verge cutting payment from Norfolk County Council for the forthcoming season had been advised. It will be £996.30, an increase of 4.8% on last year. The sum remaining from this financial year is £68.66, and will be refunded to NCC if unused.

John Harding was concerned that the budget agreed for improvements to the Village Hall, football pavilion and fields will remain available. Of the £6000 allocated for repairs and maintenance, some 50% has been used, and £3000 had been allocated for heating. Costings are awaited, and further electrical work is scheduled for later in March 2012. Robert Watson confirmed that the agreement would be honoured.

8. To consider planning applications

There were no objections to :-

Application 20120025, 8 Westbourne Road, new conservatory to rear

Application BA2012/0012/0013/TCA, Orchard Hill, 10 Wroxham Road, tree works

Application BA/2012/0019/TCA, Colt Court, Anchor Street, tree works

Application BA/2012/0012/TPO, Upper Common, tree works

The following are under consideration:-

Application 20120247, 47 Wroxham Road 1) conversion of car port to habitable accommodation
2) single storey extension

Application 20120290, 45 College Close, Two storey side extension with integral garage

Application 20120350, The Lower House, White Lion Road, 1) demolition of garden room and erection of single storey extension, 2) alter pitched roof of staircase on lean-to, 3) insertion of new windows to first floor elevation.

9. Response to Community Infrastructure Levy draft charging schedule

Robert Watson had responded to the Draft Charging Schedule for the Community Infrastructure Levy. No date has yet been set for its introduction.

10 and 11. Meeting of 29th February 2012 , questionnaire

The meeting was well-attended, and the discussion productive. Businesses had responded

positively to the questionnaire, and were eager for a solution to parking problems. Business owners said that the lack of parking in the village centre sometimes discouraged visitors and customers from using local shops, but conceded that employees occupied spaces, as they want to park as close as possible to their places of work. They agreed that employees could park elsewhere in the village to free up spaces for customers. Options considered were currently unused land adjacent to the church, the village hall, and formalised car parking at Upper Common in front of the Salvation Army Hall. The church land is thought to be consecrated, and the Village Hall car park is often full. The Common is governed by several laws relating to the use of Common land, but it was agreed that discussions should take place between the Commons Trust and the Parish Council to explore any possibilities. It was suggested that the Salvation Army site itself could provide a solution, as it is expected that the Hall will close and be offered for sale. It was **agreed** that Robert Watson and Mike Warren should meet the Common Trust before next meeting. Phil Reilly had attended the meeting, and advised that all proposals to improve or alter the current on-street parking arrangements should be amalgamated into a single document for consideration by Highways, but warned that proposals could take between three and five years to implement. The meeting on 29th February 2012 was minuted and copies circulated to councillors and public.

12. Vehicle Activated Sign, Highways

Following representations to Highways, it was agreed that the VAS sign at the Wroxham Road end of the village should be sited nearer Anchor Street, opposite Coltishall Hall. The sign has been ordered by Highways, and delivery is awaited.

The footpath opposite the Post Office is blocked by fallen trees and branches. After some discussion it was agreed that John Harding would contact Highways to establish ownership. Highways had confirmed that the service road outside the Pharmacy does not belong to Norfolk County Council.

13. Tree Preservation Order, tree matters

Standing orders were suspended.

Peter Croot requested that the parish council asks Broadland DC to consider placing a Tree Preservation Order on the apple orchard. It contains many native Norfolk trees, is a haven for wildlife, a popular parish amenity, and adds value to the landscape. It therefore qualifies on several counts for TPO status. A TPO would also protect it from any kind of development. Proposed Michael Spinks, seconded Dave Smith, unanimous. An information board describing the varieties of tree and a seat were suggested.

Peter Croot pointed out that the poplar at Upper Common has a TPO; any use of the Common for parking would compact the root system and endanger the tree.

A Crimson King acer will be planted on Hautbois Common (date to be arranged), and a field maple will be planted at school on 1st June, to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Standing orders resumed.

14. Tree survey

The tree survey is scheduled for 17th March 2012. Peter Croot will accompany David Gillett.

15. War Memorial

Funds had been allocated to renovating the War Memorial. Three companies had been invited to tender, but only one had provided an estimate. No grant funding was available; the War Memorials Trust considered that the memorial is not sufficiently worn to qualify for a grant. It was **agreed** that Abbey Memorials' quotation of £4175.00 to specialist clean, repoint, and re-cut all lettering should be accepted. The clerk will ask that it is done before Remembrance Day.

16. Play area fence

Monies had been approved in the budget for the fence. Three quotations are awaited, expected to

be in the region of £2,500.00

17. Any other business

Mike Warren requested that councillors consider purchasing new, larger notice-boards, to accommodate all pages of the minutes and other notices. This will be discussed at next meeting. Robert Watson, John Harding and Doreen Snelling had attended the Good Neighbour Scheme meeting, together with Mr Mallett. The scheme has some volunteers, but needs a chairman, secretary and committee members to progress the project.

18. Public participation pursuant to Standing Order 58; reports from District and County Councillors

Mr Savory noted that the "Give Way" sign at Frogge Lane was leaning, and the Frogge Lane sign was missing.

Mr Mallett asked that the Good Neighbour Scheme organiser should be invited to the Annual Meeting in April to promote it.

He said that, following the High Court judgement on Broadland DC's proposed development at Rackheath, the Joint Core Strategy was in disarray, and a meeting was arranged for 15th March. Public exhibitions at several locations are arranged on the proposed Northern Distributor Route ; a junction is planned between Postwick and the B1150 junction. One exhibition is at Rackheath on 19th April, and another at Spixworth on 2nd May.

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting on **Monday 16th April 2012** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.