

COLTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall 2nd November 2013

Present

Chairman Robert Watson, Mike Warren, Keith Childerhouse, John Harding, Mark Rischmiller, Mike Kirkham, Michael Spinks, Penny Loiez, Sue Brodie, Doreen Snelling. Also in attendance County Councillor Tom Garrod and District Councillor Alan Mallett.

1.Apologies

None.

2.Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

Doreen Snelling and Michael Spinks declared interests in the Coltishall VH & RG Charity.

3.Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 2nd September 2013

The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by Vice- Chairman Mike Warren.

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

Item 6. Tom Garrod asked that the reference to “expenses” should be altered to “allowances”. **Agreed.**

5.To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Mr Mallett reported nothing new from Broadland DC. Tom Garrod reported that the revised plan for the incinerator had been approved by Norfolk CC, and that he had voted in favour. It would cost some £21-28m to cancel the scheme, which was not viable.

6.Correspondence

1. Greater Norwich Development Partnership Playing Pitch and Built Facilities Strategies workshops – letter passed to Doreen Snelling
2. Broadland DC’s Council Tax Reduction Scheme will change; the national scheme was abolished from April 2013 and a local scheme introduced. For 2014-15, working-age taxpayers will pay 17p in the pound before the reduction in council tax liability is calculated. War widows and pensioners are protected, but the second adult rebate is removed.
3. Copy of Norfolk CC’s letter to Mr Luck re his request to extend the 30mph limit on Wroxham Road to the Wroxham side of the Abbey Farm entrance. The proposal made by Highways engineer Simon Briggs will not be included in the traffic management programme for 2014-15, but will be put forward for 2015-16.
4. Peter Croot thanked the Parish Council for its comprehensive, well-balanced response to Broadland DC’s Site Allocations Preferred Options document, expressing his concerns that development in Rectory Road will be detrimental to the area and the village.
5. Norfolk CC announced its consultation on budget proposals from 19th September for 12 weeks. NCC needs to make £189m savings over three years from April 2014. Norfolk RCC is running a discussion group on NCC’s budget proposals on 13th November.
6. Mrs Bunting had offered a bench in memory of Will Branch. It was suggested that it could be placed by the Pharmacy, but would need a concrete pad. Proposed John Harding, seconded Keith Childerhouse, unanimous. The clerk to write to Mr Collishaw and Mrs Bunting.
7. A Community Resilience Workshop is at Broadland DC on 15 November. Penny Loiez to attend.

The Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity had requested a grant towards floodlighting at the football field, as reported in September minutes. A grant application form had been received, see item 7 Finance. A second email from Mr Douglass had suggested that £6500 should be ring-fenced annually for ongoing maintenance of property managed by the VH&RGC. Robert Watson advised councillors that a vote on the proposed budget was due to be taken at this meeting, and that any variation would require the proposed budget to be revamped, and an extraordinary public meeting of the full council to discuss the revised budget, so that it could be approved at the January meeting, in order to meet Broadland DC’s deadline.

7. Finance

Report to date

The budget to date and bank reconciliation had been sent to all councillors. The email from Mel Douglass was discussed. He believed that the increased precept agreed in 2011-12 was for the VH&RGC. Robert Watson said that the increased precept was to provide for ever-increasing parish obligations: £18,000 of the £27,000 precept is not negotiable. The budget of 2011-12 had allowed for items discussed at that time, listed as Appendix A, all of which had been fulfilled. The proposed budget had been circulated in September to all councillors, two of whom are Charity Trustees, to prompt comment. No comment or request had been received. The appropriate time to raise these questions is when budgets are considered, not on the eve of the vote to approve the proposed budget. The Council is not able to commit funds beyond the following year's budget, and therefore no ongoing promise could have been made. An increase in the current precept is the only way in which such a sum could be considered. Councillors were asked if they wished to revisit the proposed budget for 2014-15. They agreed that, if any request for funding of this magnitude is to be considered, the applicant's accounts should be seen to establish a need, and a business plan put forward. Councillors voted : 1 for a revamp of the 2014-15 budget, 6 against. Doreen Snelling and Michael Spinks abstained, as did Robert Watson as author of the proposed budget. There will be no alteration to the proposed budget.

Robert Watson **proposed** a grant of £500 towards floodlights. A discussion followed on hire costs, users of the football field, and beneficiaries of monies spent on floodlighting. Councillors were reminded that they had voted to ring-fence funds for a MUGA, and that the New Homes Bonus cannot be used for maintenance.

Keith Childerhouse **seconded** the proposal, **agreed** all except Penny Loiez who objected.

The budget for 2014-15 was **approved**, proposed Penny Loiez, seconded Mike Warren, **agreed** all except Doreen Snelling, Michael Spinks, and Robert Watson.

Payments since last meeting		
Robert Watson – expenses		92.11
Norfolk ALC – Conference		70.00
Norfolk ALC – Councillors' Guide		31.18
Receipts since last meeting		
Broadland DC – precept ½ year		13500.00
Rural Payments Agency		239.20
Bank accounts as at 4 th November 2013		
Current account		30804.27
Deposit account		10961.37
Total at bank		41765.64
Payments due this meeting		
Parish expenses		92.11
Mike Warren – expenses		32.00
CPRE Membership £29 + donation		35.00
Royal British Legion - £17 + donation		50.00
Zurich Insurance + play area inspection		1247.52
Coltishall VH&RGC – floodlights grant		500.00

Payments approved, proposed Mike Warren, seconded Mike Kirkham, unanimous.

8. Planning

There were objections to :-

Application 20131087, amended plan to correct location/orientation, 43 Rectory Road.

Application 20131396. First floor window with balcony to west elevation of garage, 65 Rectory Road.

There were no objections to :-

Application BA/2013/0048/TCA, tree works, Norfolk Mead Hotel, Church Loke.

Application BA/2013/0310/FIL, first floor extension, Landfall, Anchor Street.

In circulation :-

Application 20131413 Single- and two-storey extensions, 11 Chapel Lane.

Application 20131405 Subdivision of first floor flat to 2 flats, 6 High Street.

8.Site Allocations

There is to be a presentation on the proposed development of the site adjacent to St John's Close in the Village Hall on 18th November. Notices have been placed in the Marlpit, on the website, and delivered to residents of St John's Close. The scrap-yard has also been proposed by its owners as a development site.

10.War Memorial

Despite requests, vehicle owners persist in parking on the grass around the War Memorial. John Harding had obtained a quotation from Rackham engineering for 10 x galvanised steel posts, powder coated black, at £49.20 each. If the Council wishes to combine an order with the Commons Trust for 20 posts the cost would be £46.80 each. Posts should be purchased, proposed John Harding, seconded Mark Rischmiller, unanimous.

11. Notice boards

Information from ESPO has been slow to arrive. Concern about the precise siting of the notice-board at the Village Hall is to be addressed at a site meeting with the recycling company and Broadland DC.

12. MUGA/FISA

Three quotations have been obtained, the best of which is from Wicksteed for £105,000 + VAT. It is not the most expensive, and Wicksteed will help with grants from landfill companies. It was noted that such grants are available only to projects within ten miles of a landfill site. Wicksteed also has a free of charge link to help councils find a suitable funding package. Mike Kirkham asked that a working party be set up to progress the project. Funds have been ring-fenced, and the parish plan records the need for play equipment for our young people.

The Zurich reported no action needed on the play area, but suggested that a sign be erected showing the owner of the area, contact details, nearest first aid point. Mike Warren will investigate sources and costs.

13. Website financing

The domain name must be renewed every two years. Mike Warren asked that payment should be formalised through the Council by Direct Debit or Standing Order. A free service is apparently available; this to be investigated prior to January's meeting.

14. Any other business

Penny Loiez is still willing to set up a Facebook page to include Council minutes and notices, but not as a forum for debate.

Robert Watson advised that there is now a First Responder in the village. She is to be invited to January's meeting to give a short briefing on her work.

15. Public participation

Mr Mallett asked for a crime report. Mike Warren reported thefts from caravans, motorboats, and of agricultural machinery. There have been a couple of burglaries, and reports of credit card skimming machines in North Norfolk.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm. Next meeting is on Monday 7th January 2014 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm