

COLTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall 7th July 2014

Present

Chairman Robert Watson, Mike Warren, John Harding, Mark Rischmiller, Mike Kirkham, Michael Spinks, Doreen Snelling, and four parishioners.

1. Apologies

Penny Loiez, Sue Furness, Keith Childerhouse, County Councillor Tom Garrod and District Councillor Alan Mallett tendered their apologies, which were accepted.

Joe Chapman

It was with great sadness that Councillors marked the death of Joe Chapman. He was a long-time parish councillor, served as parish council chairman, was a stalwart of the community, and was involved in many village organisations. Councillors recognised his many achievements, and paused for a few moments silence in his memory.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 12th May 2014

Accepted as a true record and signed by Chairman Robert Watson.

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

None.

5. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Neither was available for this meeting, and no reports were received.

6. Police report and Speedwatch

There had been five crimes reported by Aylsham Police in their area during May; three burglaries, one vehicle damage, one theft from a vehicle. Four crimes were recorded in June; one assault, one harassment, one burglary and one attempted burglary. Householders were reminded to keep doors, windows and sheds locked. There were three recent reports of theft of bees and equipment in the district, and bicycles are still being stolen. No Speedwatch sessions took place during May due to lack of volunteers, and one in June, in the Kings Road area.

7. Standing Orders

Copies of the revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, reflecting changes in Local Government law, had been given to all Councillors. The clerk was thanked for her efforts.

8. Correspondence

- a. The Bure Navigation Trust had requested support for information boards along the Navigation from Horstead to Aylsham Mill. Councillors **agreed** to support the initiative and requested that they be consulted on the design and location of the boards. The clerk to write to Mrs Baker.
- b. A Mr Bakere advised that he had inherited the title of Lord of the Manor of Coltishall from his father, purchased from Kings College in 1994. The clerk to invite him to a parish council meeting.
- c. Broadland DC had supplied their schedule of training courses and details of discounts.
- d. Norfolk Rural Community Council advised of the NHS Complaints Advocacy Service.
- e. An anonymous letter complaining about anti-social behaviour from a tenant of Wherry Housing had been received. The Council will assist any identified individual to resolve complaints, but it is the Council's policy not to respond to or pursue any anonymous complaint.

9. Finance

Paul Savory was thanked for his help in printing parish council documents for each meeting.

- a. The new bank mandate had been completed and signed by all signatories, and will be forwarded to the NatWest bank to update their records.
- b. Financial report. Copies of the budget to date and bank reconciliation had been sent to all councillors.

Payments since last meeting

None.

Receipts since last meeting

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Broadland DC – New Homes Bonus | 693.95 |
| Norfolk CC | 1054.91 |
| Broadland DC - recycling | 663.58 |
| Total | 2412.44 |

Bank accounts as at 7th July 2014

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Current account | 24060.25 |
| Deposit account | 20664.10 |
| Total at bank | 44724.35 |

Payments due this meeting

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Norfolk Rural Community Council – membership | See note |
| Norfolk Playing Fields Association - membership | 25.00 |
| Rackham Engineering – posts | 590.40 |
| Paul Savory – printing | 11.50 |
| Parish expenses | 59.87 |
| JB Elvy – salary June | 458.03 |
| Heat/light/storage/depreciation | 440.00 |
| Robert Watson – expenses | 37.53 |
| Total | 1622.33 |

N B Councillors discussed upgrading membership of Norfolk RCC from silver to gold for the additional legal cover. The clerk to ascertain if this would include the Village Hall Charity. If so, Councillors **agreed** to pay £150 for gold membership.

Payments approved, **proposed** Mark Rischmiller, **seconded** John Harding, unanimous.

10. Planning

There were no objections to Application 2014/0813. The Old Railway Station, Station Road, erection of two dwellings with garaging.

In circulation : Application 2014/1009. Land north of the Old Wireless Station, North Walsham Road. Installation of 8.7Mw solar farm. Broadland DC had been asked to give a screening opinion on whether development should be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment under the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2011. To be submitted within three weeks, is advisory only at this stage.

Application BA/2014/0032.TCA. High House, 43 Wroxham Road, tree works on seven trees.

11. Flood template

Penny Loiez had a flood template, but was not at this meeting. The clerk had a flood map from the Environment Agency, and Mike Kirkham offered a flood map prepared by an independent agency. The matter to be discussed at next meeting.

12. Former RAF base

Mike Warren and Keith Childerhouse had attended a Liaison Group meeting on 1st July, when a number of uses for the base were discussed. Several organisations were in discussion with Norfolk CC, but no applications had been received. A solar farm is envisaged covering 300 acres, which would preclude any return to farming. No planning application for aggregate removal had been received, although the process was due to begin in September or October 2014. It has been delayed by additional comments and objections which must be reviewed. An inter-related issue is that dust from aggregate removal would

compromise the effectiveness of solar panels. The question of handling increased volumes of traffic through Coltishall could not be answered. It is estimated that the combined developments will produce some extra 140 vehicle movements daily through the village. Councillors agreed that the roads to the base should therefore be gritted throughout the winter, and County Councillor Tom Garrod will be asked to press this point to Highways. The Police Force and Fire and Rescue Service are already using a hangar for training. Morgan Sindall will be submitting an application to develop the old Officers' Mess and nearby buildings for conversion to 70 units beginning in April 2015. Local access is still available subject to safety assurances. Two Heritage Days operated by Norfolk Heritage will be held on 11th and 12th September, entry by ticket only for guided tours by coach. The next meeting of the Liaison Group will be on 9th or 10th September.

13. Footpath at Girl Guides

Sue Furness and Peter Croot had gathered some written evidence that the path has been in constant use for many years. As the process to have the path designated a public right of way is not straight-forward and would probably require legal advice, it was **agreed** that the parish council should meet with the Girl Guides Association to find a workable solution.

14. War Memorial

Broadland DC had confirmed that the posts constitute a development under Section 55 of the Town and Country Act 1990, but provision under the Act for minor operations to be permitted meant that it would not be expedient to take action against the breach of planning control.

15. Notice-boards

Mike Kirkham produced a sample of the man-made timber proposed for the notice-boards. He had visited two similar boards in Salhouse and Brundall and considered them suitable. It was **proposed** by Doreen Snelling and **seconded** by John Harding that the quotation be accepted, unanimous.

16. Any other business

Three posts at the War Memorial have become loose. The clerk to contact Jeremy Hall. The footpath between Ling and Hautbois is overgrown, and horses leave manure making it difficult and unpleasant for walkers. Horses should not use the path as it is not a bridleway, but prevention is difficult. Highways should tend the path but have neglected many paths due to financial constraints. The clerk to contact Highways.

Mike Kirkham reported that the grants process for a MUGA would involve a great deal of work and time, and require considerable community input. He thought that the current lack of community support for parish council projects would cause a bid to fail. Councillors will discuss at next meeting whether a more modest scheme would be achievable.

A parishioner was concerned about glass scattered in the gravel around the bottle banks. Children persist in playing in the vicinity, and it is feared that there will be an accident. A hard-standing area on which to stand the bins would allow the area to be effectively swept. This suggestion to be discussed at next meeting. A sign should be erected warning children not to play in this area, and repeated in The Marlpit. The village sign is now in need of renovation. It was given to the village by the W I. The clerk to contact the W I to discuss the matter. Grants may be available.

21. Public participation

Mr Savory enquired about the hearing loop. He was advised that a quotation had been approved, and work was expected to start soon.

Following an enquiry about the proposed solar farm at the RAF base, Mike Warren confirmed that the application was expected but had not yet been received. Planning Officer Simon Smith had left his post at Norfolk CC to be replaced by Neil Campbell. It is thought likely that an application would be approved subject to conflict with aggregate removal being resolved.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm. Next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 1st September 2014 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm