

GREAT WITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. Gt. Witchingham School on Thursday 28th October 2010

Present : Mark Pead, Ron Cornell, Kevin Francis, Pauline Brown, Sally Acloque and Stephen Williams in the chair.
Clerk: Peter Dilloway, James Joyce (County Councillor), Chris Alston & Matthew Harrison (NCC Highways), Sgt Richard Bedder & PCSO John Lemmon (Norfolk Police) and 6 members of the public

(991). Apologies: Roy Church.

(992). Minutes of the meeting held 22nd July 2010 were agreed to be a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

(993). Matters Arising.

- (i). Decoration of the bus shelter is still to be organised. The drainpipe also requires fixing.
- (ii). BDC are still looking into potential new locations for the recycling banks which will need to be moved from St. Faiths.

(994). Correspondence:

- (i). NCC Minerals & Waste Consultation
- (ii). BDC District Councillor info (for notice board)
- (iii). BDC Revocation of CHF permission 011409.

(995). A1067 Road closure during repairs.

- (i). The Chairman welcomed the representatives from NCC Highways Department.
- (ii). There was a lengthy discussion between all present during which it was agreed and accepted that:
 - (a) The May Gurney workforce conducted themselves in a proper manner and carried out the task of repairs to a good standard
 - (b) In complete contrast, the Trek workforce was ill-informed and lacking in common sense and courtesy. A number of specific complaints were passed to NCC to be investigated. Concern was expressed that the operatives employed by NCC's sub-contractor, Trek, caused significant distress, inconvenience and annoyance to residents as well as incorrectly informing visitors that businesses were not open.
- (iii). For their part NCC were considered wanting in their planning of the project, as signs indicating that businesses were open were sited several miles away when there should have been signs at the barriers. In addition no forethought had been given to a location for toilets and caravan, resulting in the Foreman having to ask residents for permission to leave them somewhere.
- (iv). Andrew Johnson cited a list of justifiable complaints against Trek of how the direct actions of their workforce substantially affected his business.
- (v). It was resolved that formal letter of complaint would be sent to NCC to ensure that Trek senior management are made aware and take responsibility for their failure.

(996). Police Matters.

- (i). Sgt Bedder introduced himself as the new head of the local policing team. The Chairman pointed out that by normal standards the parish had had something of a crime wave. Sgt Bedder was pleased to report that of the crimes listed some were proven to be false and of the others a good number had been detected and arrests made. He added that of those one resulted in 27 other offences being identified and solved. The crime figures show that 13 crimes took place in the last 5 month period. Even by Norfolk standards this is very low.
- (ii). The Police value the eyes and ears of the public, if suspicious activity goes unreported it helps no one.
- (iii). Whilst Policing levels in the area are the highest for some while, this may not last when the Government spending cuts start to take effect. It may not be possible for a Police Officer to attend future Council meetings.
- (iv). The subject of speeding was discussed. It may be possible for a volunteer to be trained under the Speedwatch Scheme. If anyone is interested they should contact any member of the council.
- (v). Two young members of the public made the point that there is nothing organised for young people to do in the village nor are there any shelters or equipment to utilise. The Chairman welcomed their input and invited them and other young people to come forward with ideas and proposals at any time, and GWPC would be very happy to talk with them and see what can be done.

(997). Memorial Hall

- (i). Chris Cate was unable to attend but had forwarded a written resume of the present situation.

- (998). The Trustees are hoping to exchange contracts on the Memorial hall within the next couple of weeks and are now in a position to apply for outline planning permission for the new hall.
- (999). War Memorial. The Clerk was asked to verify if the stones are in St Mary's Church.
- (1000). Website. The Clerk explained that as a Trustee of the Fuel Allotment Charity he had attended a workshop on how to go about setting one up. The charity needs one as a matter of priority. Before going it alone he wondered whether an all embracing village site should be considered. It was resolved to consult a specialist in website design before proceeding.
- (1001). Allotment Gardens. There has been a revival in interest in allotments and several requests have been received from the public. There are currently two pieces of Broadland land lying unused; the old playing field and part of the new village hall site. It may be possible to allocate some of the hall site for allotments as opposed to another use or it may be possible to utilise the playing field. The Clerk will investigate the matter.
- (1002). Planning Matters:
- (i). 011409 - Clay Hall Farm – Revocation of permission. An email attaching the revocation document was received on 18th October advising that the order was effective. The Clerk was asked to verify the exact date that the order took effect and to confirm what permissions, if any, are still valid at Clay Hall Farm.
- (1003). Payments/Financial Matters:
- (i). Precept requirement 2011/12. The Clerk had estimated a requirement of £3765. The present precept is £3500. It is possible that the parish may have to bear the cost of the next parish Council election. After much debate members agreed by majority vote that it was not acceptable to demand an increase in a period of austerity and resolved to keep the precept at the current level.
 - (ii). Audit Report. The auditors found a small error in the way the figures were presented, though the balances shown were correct.
 - (iii). Litter clearance payment to date R. Cornell Chq No. 100580 £83.29
 - (iv). Clerk's salary £387.70 & expenses £59.21. Chq No. 100581 £446.21.
 - (v). Audit fees 2009/10. Mazars. Chq No. 100582 £141.00.
All payments approved by unanimous consent.
- (1004). Any Other Business:
- (i). Parish land. The Chairman wanted to identify parish land and the clerk was asked to provide a large scale map as a starting point.
 - (ii). Armistice Day wreath laying will take place at St. Mary's Church this year.
 - (iii). Porter's Lane was reported as flooding recently. The Clerk will ask NCC Highways to inspect.
 - (iv). Richard Hawker outlined that Hockering and Weston Parish Councils were opposing a planning application for Wind Turbines at Weston airfield for Bernard Matthews Green Energy (Weston) Ltd.
 - (a) Ron Cornell and Mark Pead both declared interests in Bernard Matthews PLC and abstained from the discussion.
 - (b) The benefits and drawbacks of wind turbines and the effects upon residents were discussed. Those living closest may find a visual impact but beyond that there is little impact upon the parish.
 - (c) It was noted that Bernard Matthews has for many years been a generous benefactor to the village.
 - (d) After much discussion members were persuaded to support the objections
 - (v). The Tree Warden had put forward some proposals to utilise an offer of tree saplings for planting in the parish, in particular along Fakenham road. The Clerk was asked to check what types were available and whether they were best suited to planting along Fakenham Road, Clay Hall Farm, or both.
- (1005). Date and Time of next meeting: 27th January 2011 at 7.30pm at Gt. Witchingham School.

Meeting Closed 9.30pm

AGENDA
GWPC Meeting – 27th January 2011 at 7.30pm
at Gt. Witchingham School.

- (1006). Apologies
- (1007). Minutes of meeting 28/10/10
- (1008). Matters Arising
- (1009). Correspondence:
 - (i). Most correspondence has been circulated
- (1010). Hall Walk. (see letter attached)
- (1011). Memorial Hall (if there is any business to discuss)
- (1012). Website
- (1013). Planning Matters:
 - (i). Clay Hall Farm – Status of permissions Not covered under revocation dated 15/10/10 (883361 & 861327)
 - (ii). 20101744 - Paddock View, Heath Lane - Extension & Alterations – No objections received.
 - (iii). 20101865 - Great Witchingham House, Heath Lane – Alterations
 - (iv). 20101925 - Bernard Matthews Ltd, South Site - Erection of New Slaughter Facility etc.
- (1014). Payments/Financial Matters)
 - (i). Litter clearance payment to date (£57.50) - R. Cornell
 - (ii). Payment of Clerk's salary (£387.70) & expenses to date (£TBA)
 - (iii). Dog bin Charges Common Lane – Dec 2010 to Mar 2011. BDC - £49.50
 - (iv). Disposal of CHF Planning Consultancy fund
- (1015). Any other Business
- (1016). Date & time of next meeting: following the **Annual Parish Meeting** Thursday 24th March 2011