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3rd NOVEMBER 2015

A meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 3rd November 2015 in the Community Centre at 7.30pm.

Councillors present:- Mr R Leighton - Chairman, Mr A Ketteringham - Vice-Chairman, Mrs M Forsyth, Mrs M Helsby, Mrs J Lusher, Mr M Blackman, Mr J Leggett plus 14 members of the public.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr K Collins, Mr L Ready & District Councillor, Mr F Sharpe.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Mr Ketteringham declared his interest in Ashill Estate.

The meeting was attended by PCSO Paul Bailey who came to explain the increase in Crime figures for the village. He said there was no major concern and that the violence against a person reported in last few months only concerns one person. He did explain that if any domestic incident involves children this has to be reported to Social Services.

There were no questions from the public so Chairman thanked Paul for his attendance.

The Minutes of Meeting held on 22nd September 2015 were taken as read, passed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

HIGHWAYS - The Clerk had contacted Highways re 20mph signs for School and they were happy for us to go ahead with application for funding. A quote had been received from Westcotec for £4378-06 + VAT. This includes £1000-00 which is NCC commuted sum for maintenance and energy for ten years which cannot be claimed in funding application. It was agreed by all to go ahead and apply.

The Partnership funding now covers pothole maintenance carried out by Rangers - a cost of £300 per repair but Members were not happy to fund 50% of this. Clerk to ask NorfolkALC if other Parishes are taking this up. Report potholes in Hale Road and outside 11 Dunnetts Close.

PLAY EQUIPMENT – Monthly check carried out. Mrs Forsyth reported that the lower step on the Multipondo was loose and crack in dome. The roundabout needs some repairs and all swing seats could do with replacing. She asked if the wooden seats could be varnished. These matters will be discussed by working party at meeting on Thursday 5th November and suggestions brought to next meeting.

PLAYING FIELD - Mr Wil Smith informed that he had carried out the spraying of weeds at Community Centre but unfortunately this was shortly followed by downpour so of little effect. He did not seem to think it was worthwhile spraying again until Spring.

The Clerk had received immediate response to request for quotes for maintenance of Playing Field, The Limes and Acacia Avenue.

They were as follows :- NORSE for Playing Field £1745-47

For Limes + Acacia £663-97

CGM for Playing Field £1588-50 (estimated 15 cuts)

For Limes + Acacia £994-50

Wil Smith TTSR for Playing Field £1410-00

For Limes + Acacia £714-00

Members felt that although TTSR was cheaper they could not rely on Wil Smith so it was proposed by The Chairman seconded by Mrs Forsyth that the quotes from NORSE be accepted as they had done a really good job this year. All agreed.

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WAYLAND PARTNERSHIP – Mrs Forsyth reported that there is currently an art exhibition in the Dragonfly Gallery called 'When Autumn Leaves Start to Fall'.

The Youth Café has now commenced at the Christian Community Centre - open on 12th & 26th November and 17th December for years 6 & 7. 6.45 - 8.45pm.

There is to be a WW1 Exhibition in Sports Centre the weekend of 14th and 15th November. The changes made at Sports Centre have resulted in 130 more Members joining and there is now a Boxing Fitness class for over 16's on Tuesdays.

POLICE - The Crime Report for September showed 1 other crime, 3 criminal damage and 1 violence against a person in Ashill.

FOOTPATHS - The overhanging hedge at Seymour Cottage has been cut. Check to be made on path on Mr Tuft's land.

SPEEDWATCH SCHEME - Mrs Lusher reported that she and Mr Collins had attended the co-ordinators meeting at Dereham which had proved very useful and interesting to see the equipment used by Enforcement Officers and Mobile Speed vans.

The teams now have to report all drivers travelling at 35mph and more instead of 37 and over. There are now over 60 teams within the County and more waiting to be trained. 7 sessions have been held since last meeting with 32 drivers recorded at between 35 and 52mph but it was good to note that in the misty conditions the highest speed was 36. It is to be noted that the Speedwatch Scheme cannot operate within the 20mph signs.

COMMUNITY CENTRE - Problems again with reading of meter for Feed-in tariff and Clerk is meeting engineer to read this.

BUS SHELTER - The work to correct opening has now been completed.

LYCH GATE - Concerns have been received from Parishioners about the gaps appearing in woodwork and Chairman assured everyone that he will contact Mr Hyde again.

SAXON GREEN - The Clerk to the Trustees had received email from Mr Bell asking if Parish Council wished to accept the responsibility of hedge and ditch. This had been forwarded to Parish Council and it was felt that as this had been included in the sale of the land, Bennetts should be responsible. Clerk to arrange meeting on site with Adam Bell. Also to ask for bridge onto Green to be moved to original position.

DEFIBRILLATOR - Still no date for training received.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - The Clerk had managed to contact Mr Phil Mileham at Breckland Council and will arrange a time when Councillors can visit the office at Dereham to discuss further. There is no dedicated Officer at the present time to deal with Neighbourhood Plans but he is happy to provide some information. Clerk to arrange.

ALLOTMENTS - The Clerk has now received Land Registry Certificate for School Piece and she asked if the Council now wished to apply for outline Planning Permission for the northern area that they had been granted permission to sell. Members felt that this should be left for time being and Mr Leggett proposed this and Mr Blackman seconded. All agreed. All but 2 rents collected and there are 2 x half plots now available to let.

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RECYCLING CENTRE - Mr Monson had advised the Clerk that there is still the possibility of Ashill site only being opened 4days a week from next year but this is to be confirmed.

NEW YOUTH CLUB - This is due to start next week from 3.30 to 5.00pm.

ANY OTHER MATTERS - None.

CORRESPONDENCE

NCC Re-imagining Norfolk - Strategic and Financial Planning 2016/2019.

Consultation from 20th October to 14th January 2016.

Norfolk ALC - Notice of AGM and copy of proposed new Constitution.

Norfolk ALC - October Newsletter and Funding Opportunities.

East Anglian Air Ambulance - Request for funding. After consideration it was felt that although this is a worthy cause, not to donate. Proposed by Mrs Helsby seconded by Mr Leggett.

Community Action Norfolk (NRCC) - Magazine.

Clerks & Councils Direct.

Breckland Council - Taken from Agenda for Cabinet which is asking for Community Car Scheme administration and funding be handed over to Norfolk Community Foundation. Clerk to investigate.

A letter handed to Clerk at commencement of Meeting from Mrs M Thomas of Watton Road, was read by the Chairman. This was regarding the conduct of the Chairman at the September meeting which she felt was disrespectful to public and Councillors and that he was being very dictatorial and not allowing Members to express their views. She was also disappointed with Mr Ketteringham with regard to the planning application for 33 Cressingham Road.

At this point the Chairman asked if Members agreed with these complaints and if so did they wish him to stand down. Members were happy that they were able to have their say but sometimes the Chairman could come across as rather abrupt but they certainly did not wish him to stand down. Mr Ketteringham pointed out that he was elected to represent the Parishioners and felt it was his place to put their views forward.

With regard to the comments made by Mrs Thomas about the recording of the meetings not representing what is said, this will be taken on board.

AT THIS POINT THE PUBLIC WERE INVITED TO SPEAK

Mr Stowell reported that the footpath on Mr Tuft's land leading to Swaffham Road still has not been re-instated and needs levelling. When the ditch was dug out some years ago the soil was left to spread on field when cultivated but as there was a strip of set-a-side this was never done. However now the set-a-side has been incorporated into field, there is nowhere for people to walk safely. Agreed that Clerk should write to Miss Tufts.

Mr Stowell also pointed out that the weeds on estates had been sprayed when raining which is a total waste of money.

It was pointed out that there is still a problem with dog fouling near the play equipment.

Mr Monson, County Councillor, reported that the County Budget is on website for consultation, that Recycling Centre will stay open next year and that the long awaited distributor route around Norwich will be delayed for further 6 months.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3PL/2015/0844/F

Application from Mr G Morton 23 The Oaks for the erection of similar dwelling in garden of no 23 was discussed and objections raised to the entrance and Highway problems.

3PL/2015/1170/F

Application from Mr & Mrs Yeomans for erection of dwelling adjacent Redmoor Cressingham Road was discussed and no objections were raised.

3PL/2015/0897/F

Application from Mr R Morris Green Gate Farm for alterations & extensions has

been granted.

3PL/2015/1017/F

Application from Mr & Mrs Miller for Internal alterations and contemporary extension to Crossways Farm, Watton Road, Ashill has been granted.

3PL/2015/1042/F

Application from Client of I Cable for extensions and raising roof at 33 Cressingham Road has been granted.

FINANCE

(a) ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER

The following accounts were passed for payment proposed by Mrs Lusher seconded by Mrs Helsby :-

Car Scheme Payments for August & September PAID £540-36

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lights Oct..	£120-13
Jean Sangster & Mrs J Pickard Wages Oct.	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Expenses Oct..	£101-16
E.ON Power Supply to Street Lights Sept..	£205-16
NORSE Maintenance Limes + Acacia Oct.	£90-35
Mr James Marshall Strimming at Comm. Centre.	£50-00
Ashill Parochial Church Council 2/3rd Upkeep of Churchyard	
For Sept.	£106-66
Breckland Council Recharge for Election May 2015	£1236-09

(b) Current Account Details attached.

(c) Interest from investment accounts - The Clerk asked permission to get the interest from two of the accounts paid direct to current account. Mrs Lusher proposed seconded by Mrs Helsby that this could be done.

(d) Proposed Budget presented by Clerk for 2016/2017 will be studied by Members and discussed again at next meeting.

JANUARY MEETINGS

The Clerk asked if Members wished for a meeting at beginning of January 2016 as well as 4th Tuesday. It was agreed to hold Meeting on 5th January 2016 and normal meeting on 26th January 2016.

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman reported that the Rent Review for Ashill Estate had been completed and signed but that there is a big review of the lettings of County Lands especially where they are sub-let so there could be a problem in the future for Council.

He also reported that he had been notified that there are problems with Car Scheme driver. This matter was discussed and it was felt that best way forward would be to ask drivers to complete the Gold Standard assessment. Clerk was asked to check out Insurance.

The Chairman wished thanks to be recorded to Jaci Capell and Sarah Skeggs for all their hard work over the years keeping Ashlink going and wished the new Editors all the best.

The Clerk reported that one of the Car Drivers has lost another cheque and had requested that payment is made in a different way. She had explained the problems the Council have had with bank to him and it was agreed that we should continue to pay by cheque. A replacement will be issued in 6 months.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 24th November 2015 at 7.30pm in Community Centre.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.25pm.