

## **26<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022**

**The monthly meeting** was held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022 in the Community Centre at 7.30pm  
In attendance: Mr A Ketteringham(AK)) Chair, Mr R Leighton(RL) Vice-Chair, Mrs A Binns (AB), Mr K Collins(KC), Mr J Leggett(JLg), Mrs J Lusher(JL), Mrs A Shepherd(AS), Mr A Thomas(AT), 28 Members of the Public & the Clerk Jean Sangster. Mr F Eagle (FE) attended later.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr L Ready (LR).

The minutes of last meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022 had been circulated and were passed and signed.

There were no additional Declarations of Interest.

Following the devastating fire that had swept through the village on 19<sup>th</sup> July Mr Ketteringham commenced the Meeting with a big thanks to all who had helped at the time and in the following days. The whole community had pulled together and he felt it was a credit to the village.

Breckland had also stepped up and the Housing Enabling Team had been on hand immediately and most people had been found temporary accommodation. Offers of goods and clothing had flooded in and thanks were expressed to the volunteers who spent many days sorting through this in the Community Centre. All funds are being handled by the Ashill Welfare Trustees and they will be advised by the Norfolk Community Foundation on the distribution but anyone in immediate need should contact the Trustees.

As this will be an on-going situation the Parish Council has organised a Wellbeing and Support Evening, Reflections and Way Forward on 9<sup>th</sup> August in the Community Centre at 7.00pm to help people who have been affected by the fire and to thank EVERYONE who had helped. Refreshments kindly donated by Ashill Brethren.

## **OPEN TO PUBLIC**

A member of public expressed his thanks to Holme Hale as they had provided food, drinks and shelter when many were evacuated from the village. Letter of thanks to be sent.

Many more thanks were expressed and at this point Fabian Eagle arrived and reiterated thanks to everyone. He explained that the Fire Service had been fully stretched at the time with field fires in Suffolk and Cambridgeshire when they would normally have been called upon to assist. Some Members of the Public who had assisted felt that there were inadequate services and hoses were not long enough to reach the water supply.

RL expressed thanks to the Chief Constable, the Chief Fire Officer who had advised that a full investigation is to be carried out. Also thanks to Mr George Freeman MP who had visited the site.

AK expressed thanks to the Bishop of Norwich who had attended the service in St Nicholas Church on Sunday and visited several people who had been affected. FE assured people that if further problems arose, they would not be forgotten and he was there to help.

He went onto inform that there is a consultation on the Library Service being carried out and urged everyone to express their views.

The Clerk asked if there were any details yet on the new Local Plan and he advised that this should be released shortly.

Other matters raised were potholes in various locations, cars parking on pavement restricting use. blocked drain. All to be reported to Highways. One resident queried the access to the permissive path that runs from Hale Road to Common now that new development commenced and was assured this will be investigated.

Another query was the installation of a TROD in Swaffham Road and RL explained that this had been raised with Highways and unless the landowner will allow the use of part of his land there is not enough room on Highways land.

## **MEETING CONTINUED**

**Matters arising from last meeting**

**Highways** – To report:- manhole cover at entrance to Dunnetts Close, although work has been carried out to pavements in Watton Road, the excess soil has not been taken away but thrown back onto bank so that once again when it rains this will be washed down onto the path. Letter to be sent to cover TROD and Cressingham Road where this has also happened.

**Play Equipment** – Monthly check awaited. Date to be arranged for working party. Clerk to write to TRELL regarding a crack that has appeared in driveway.

‘NO DOGS ALLOWED’ sign.in hand.

**Playing Field** – Agreement for Dog Show signed.

**Police** – SNAP meeting was mainly involved with the incidents in Swaffham and speedwatch. It was suggested that Parish Council and Police meet with Highways to discuss traffic calming measures for the village.

**Speedwatch** – Mr Street had reported that the SAM2 had been turned towards field again whilst in position in Watton Road and this is being monitored. All figures are now being sent to Police

**Footpaths** – Reported that footpath in Uphall Lane still blocked and AK to speak with landowner.

**Community Centre** – The repairs to roof have now been completed. To enable the clearing of the donations to storage elsewhere the Centre is closed until the following week. There had been no response to the advert for a new Lettings Officer.

**Ashill Estate** – AK informed that County Farms will be obtaining quotes for drainage of this land.

**Car Scheme** – The Clerk has been unable to devote any time to getting this set up at present. There has been no response to advert for a co-ordinator.

**Notice Board for Community Centre** – It was agreed that this could be for general use.

**Dunnetts Close Development** – Response from Breckland that no breach to DOC but agreed that Members should make further inspection the next day. There had been no response from developers

**Swaffham Road Back Land** – Reply received that the sale is being completed and that area being sold is only the back-land and did not include the area to frontage. RL requested that letter of complaint be sent to Breckland for all the distress and worry caused to these residents.

**Wayland Partnership** – Minutes of meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July reported that bid for funds for the Digital Creative Media Centre proposed for the site is about to be submitted. If successful work would commence March 2023.. Watton Men’s Shed now has 60 members and is held at the Watton Sports Centre. They hope to re-establish good links with all the Parishes so that they know what is going on.

**Community Assets** – As agreed the Clerk had submitted the application to Register the Village Shop and following this she had received call from Officer at Breckland Council advising that this has to be checked as it includes living accommodation so awaiting reply.

**Any Other Matters** – FE advised that Ashill will be top of the list for a Swift Tower and when houses are re-built they should include ‘swift bricks.’

He was thanked for his help with the arrangements with the Recycling Centre for two cars to be allowed to take rubbish from Community Centre during clear-up.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Newsletters from NorfolkALC circulated to Members along with newsletter from Breckland re Inspiring Communities.

Following complaint of lack of up to date information on Website, Grant Long offered to help get this updated.

Thanks expressed for all fire emails.

Letter from resident regarding the rumour that bungalows are to be demolished near entrance to Edward Close. This states that there are no plans to do this but if information turns out to be incorrect then Parish Council should fight this and ensure that all properties damaged by fire are replaced as they were.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Notification of TRE/2022/0162/TPO** Oak Tree at Ashil VCP School. Work to remove damaged branches.

**3PL/2022/0699/HOU** – 53 Millfield for Single storey rear and side extension. Returned between meetings with no objections.

**3PL/2022/0569/HOU** – Amendment - Changes to rear extension and reduced footprint of proposed garage at Badgers Hale Road.

Mr J Williams Old Hall Cress Rd. notified that he is applying for permission to site caravan for temporary accommodation for family who have lost their home.  
Reply re comments on Caravan Park Sw. Rd. that were sent in by PC.

**ACCOUNTS**

**Account Paid Direct Debit - SWALEC payment for Power supply JUN.** £.287-62

**The following accounts due for payment for JULY 2022 were passed proposed by JLg seconded by JL:-**

K & M Lighting Services Maint St Lights Jul.	£150-03
Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Jul)	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Jul.+ 18hrs)	
Expenses Jul.	£70-29
Bidwells LLP Invoice for work carried out to date	£1816.80

**Current account Details had been circulated to Members together with copy of Bank Statement.**

The Clerk requested confirmation that these had been checked and it was proposed by RL seconded by KC that all in order and all agreed.

The clerk was given permission to transfer from the Savings Capital Fund to the Current A/C the sum of £1816-80 to cover the invoice from Bidwells. This was agreed.

**THE MEETING WAS AGAIN OPEN TO PUBLIC**

Reported that old swings in need of attention.

As great concern expressed re the Dunnetts Close development, it was agreed for site visit the following day at 10.00am.

It was suggested that Parish Council should draw up a resilience document and Chair advised that this is something to discuss further following the Wellbeing Meeting.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Pavement o/s 19 Dunnetts Close still has not been repaired and clerk will report again.

Clerk to request that Victory HA arrange for hedge to be cut back o/s 63 Dunnetts Close.

Lights at Comm. Centre by containers will be inspected.

Problems with water level in Pond were discussed and this will be investigated.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING –TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST 2022 AT 7.30PM IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

**Meeting Closed at 9.45pm**

**Signed**

**Date**

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