

28th MARCH 2017

A meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 28th MARCH 2017 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.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr K Collins due to illness. There were no apologies from Mr Ready.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – There were none.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Ian Monson who gave his report on County Council. The end of year finances are better than originally thought and overspend has been reduced. Government has given extra money to repair potholes throughout Norfolk. He informed that this year the verges will be cut 3 times rather than twice and that the area for Highways maintenance will still be dealt with by Mr Jacklin but he will be based at Kettering.

He went on to advise that he will not be standing for the County Council at elections in May and the Chairman thanked him for attending so many of our meetings and for his assistance throughout the years. Mr Fabian Eagle from Nth Pickenham is the Conservative candidate. Mr Monson said he hoped to attend the Annual Parish Meeting..

The Minutes of Meeting held on 28th February 2017 were read, passed and signed as correct.

MATTERS ARISING

HIGHWAYS - Members had met with Mr Jacklin to discuss the state of Watton Road hedge and he had agreed that County Council would cut this back and tidy.

To report : drain covers a danger from Call-In to School, check that Rangers will still be making visits to village to carry out small maintenance works.

Street signs – these are the responsibility of Breckland Council and request for cleaning will be sent to them.

PLAY EQUIPMENT – Check to be carried out. Grass in need of cutting at end of slide.

MUGA – The Clerk has now been advised that planning permission is required and this will be submitted. Cannot apply for grant until permission is received and still waiting support letters.

PLAYING FIELD – Quote received for painting posts, goal posts and marking out car park from Mr Barrett. Mr Leggett to supply specification to two other painters.

Mr Kodi Griffiths is still hoping to get the football teams under way and is applying to Sport England for a grant. There is still some debate as to whether to obtain a container for storage and revamp changing rooms or to site a portacabin with shower facilities and leave storage in changing rooms. The Clerk is to send in pre-application to ascertain if permission required.

The broken bollard at end of drive has been disconnected and made safe. Still awaiting quote for replacements.

WAYLAND PARTNERSHIP – Mrs Forsyth reported that litter in Watton is to be monitored and there is still problems with clock in tower. There is to be a Food Fayre in Jubilee Gardens and a request is to be made for the National Express coach to London to be reinstated.

The Men's Shed now has 30 members and the Carbrooke Festival will be held at end of June. Wayland News to be displayed in Comm. Centre.

POLICE - Crime Report for January – 1 anti-social behavior, Acacia, 1 violence & sexual offence Dunnetts Close, 1 violence & sexual offence The Green, 1 other theft Cressingham Road.

Update from Engagement Officer.

Report from Mrs Helsby on SNAP meeting at Swafham and it is noted that Ashill is one of the priority areas for next 2 months. Also it was suggested by PCSO Hazel Tampin that a street briefing session be held in village perhaps at Fete. Clerk pointed out that PCSO Bailey used to come along to coffee mornings and this was a good opportunity to meet the public so agreed to suggest this again. Next SNAP meeting is 16th May.

FOOTPATHS – It had been brought to the attention of the Council that people were using the playing field for walking their dogs rather than the track along- side the tennis court because this was far too muddy and wet. It was pointed out that this is not the actual footpath but is a 'permitted walk'. The footpath runs from the Hale Road opposite the notice board on Green, west and then turns north across the allotment land to join up with the track along- side the playing field. This raised the question of footpath maps again and this will be investigated and notice to be put into Ashlink re walking on playing field.

SPEEDWATCH SCHEME - Mrs Lusher reported that 2 sessions had been held in March resulting in 18 drivers being reported.

2 Members of team had attended the co-ordinators meeting at Dereham and they were impressed by statistics presented. She also said she would like to think that the team provide a valuable service to the village and thanks were expressed to her for this.

COMMUNITY CENTRE – The Chairman informed that the AGM is to be held on Tuesday 4th April and invited people to attend. The recent Table Top sale had raised £200-00.

LYCH GATE – The work has now been completed and reminder that this is to be re-dedicated by Bishop of Lynn on 9th April.

SAXON GREEN – The Chairman advised that he had received a call from Mr E Parker of Bennett Homes to say that they had received permission to trim back some of the trees along boundary with Green.

LOCAL PLAN – No further news at present.

ALLOTMENTS - Update on tap installation. Holders not keen on the suggestion made last month for hose pipe and it was agreed that just one additional tap be installed on west side. The question of strimming and spraying was again raised and will be looked into further. Quote to be obtained for spraying from NORSE.

ASHILL ESTATE – Letter received from Norfolk County Farms advising of their offer for this land - £130,000-00 which is £8000 per acre. It was felt that this is far too high in view that we have been tenants for so long and it was proposed by Mr Leighton seconded by Mr Blackman that reply be sent back to this effect and contact Mr Monson.

LEASE FOR GAS REDUCTION STATION - Still being investigated.

COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME – The Clerk explained that she had received notification from Breckland on behalf of NCF that the way the funding is to be made in future is to change and this will affect the way this is administered. The funding will be made by way of a grant paid in two instalments so this cuts down the work for NCF but the Clerk can only see that this makes additional work for her and has complained to Breckland. There had been no consultation once again – just introduced at last minute as last year.

ANGLIAN WATER – This work is taking longer than anticipated and they have advised that they could be in village until Christmas.

SHARED ACCESS LTD – No further news.

STREET LIGHTING – Update from K & M Lighting re repairs. They are awaiting a new lantern and this could take up to 8 weeks. In the meantime the Clerk had requested that the broken bollard be removed and wiring made safe and this had been carried out by their Engineer very promptly. The bollard is stored at home of Clerk.

ASHILL IN BLOOM – The Clerk had sent through to Highways a map of proposed sites for barrels and it was proposed that Council purchase these if they are accepted. Next meeting is 6th April.

LITTER PICK – The Clerk reported that this had gone very well and thanked everyone who had taken part.

ANY OTHER MATTERS – The question was raised re Saxon Green signs that have appeared throughout the village and it was thought that these have been put up to help people working on site and possible purchasers to find the development.

CORRESPONDENCE

Norfolk ALC – Various Newsletters throughout the month. Information re Section 137 payments and this year's limit.

Spring Conference is to be held at Swaffham on 24th May.

Breckland Council – Notification of Planning meeting at Elizabeth House on 11th May. This also asked if we had any questions that we wished raised and the Clerk was asked to submit questions re 106 money and why this does not come direct to the village that it relates to and why did we have to pay so much upfront to Breckland for Saxon Green.

Norfolk Family Mediation – Request for funding. Unable to assist.

Ashill & Holme Hale Garden Club – Request for donation towards the existing planters. It was proposed by Mr Leggett and seconded by Mrs Forsyth that £50-00 be given under Section 137. All agreed.

Request received from Mrs Norman of 6 Goose Green for the sign to be changed near Call-In to read Goose Green as post is getting delivered incorrectly. This will be sent to Breckland.

AT THIS POINT Mr Sharpe District Councillor gave his Report

The County Council Elections are to be held on 4th May.

Survey of derelict sites throughout the district being carried out.

There are sports and games being held at Watton on 3rd 5th & 10th April for 5 to 11 year olds, charge £3-00.

The Local Plan goes before full Council on 18th May and then there will be a 6 week pre-publication viewing before submitting for scrutiny.

He thought that we would only need supporter's names for the grant application for MUGA.

The Chairman thanked Mr Sharpe and said it was good to see him back.

THE CHAIRMAN INVITED QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

It was requested that the plans for MUGA be displayed at Annual Parish Meeting.

Mrs Hardy asked if the benches were to be stained as previously agreed. Quote will be obtained.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Returned between meetings :-

3PL/2017/0244/CU

Mr Swallow The Hollies Swaffham Road for dog training facilities – No objections.

Application for Burial Plot at Quidney Farm for Mr Diprose has been approved.

FINANCE

URGENT A/C's PAID

Anglia Computer Solutions New Laptop for Clerk	£519-00
Car Scheme for 15 drivers Feb + to 18 th Mar.	£455-22

The following Accounts were passed for Payment for MARCH proposed by Mrs Lusher seconded by Mr Leggett:-

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint St Lights Mar	£120-13
E.ON Power supply St Lights Feb.	£196-80
Jean Sangster & Mrs J Pickard Wages Mar	Undisclosed
Expenses Mar	£158-57
HMRC PAYE Jan.Feb.Mar.	£408-10
Ashill Comm Centre Hire Hall Jan x 3, Feb. Mar x 2	£72-00
NCC DBS checks Car Scheme x 2	£50-00
Information Commissioner Data Protection	£35-00
M P Dennis & Sons Hedge Cutting allotments	£261-00
Donations under Section 137 Garden Club	£50-00

Current A/C details had been circulated.

Review of Asset Register. All agreed.

Clerk's Annual Appraisal – Mrs Lusher agreed to carry this out in next few weeks

Reminder – Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 11th April at 7.30pm in Community Centre.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The AVA are organising a Yard Sale for Monday `17th April.

Question of front gate being closed over night was raised and this will be tried again.

Several people had commented on village pond and thanks were to be passed on to Trustees.

Clerk to report the Street Light in Dunnetts Close that is on all day.

DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY MEETING - TUESDAY 25th APRIL 2017 at 7.30pm in Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.