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24TH MARCH 2015

A meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 24th March 2015 in the Community Centre at 7.30pm.

Councillors present:- Mr R Leighton - Chairman, Mrs M Forsyth - Vice-Chairman, Mrs J Lusher, Mr K Collins, Mr A Ketteringham, & Mr R Wright.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs J Gray (no reason given) and Mr L Ready due to family commitment.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – There were no additional declarations made.

The Minutes of last Meeting were taken as read, passed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

HIGHWAYS – The Rangers are unable to carry out the work requested in Watton Road and Church Street when they visit as time does not allow for this but request is being passed on for routine maintenance.

Lay-By in Dunnetts Close - Mr Groom has now supplied an estimate of the cost of this work. £75107-26. Mr Monson informed that County Council do not fund this work but he is to meet Mr Groom regarding the entrance to Dunnetts Close being widened as he has received complaints from the land owners in Common Road.

PLAY EQUIPMENT – Mr Wright has dealt with the problem of small slide. Only one response to setting up working party and that is from Mrs A Yeomans. Monthly check will be carried out and form completed.

PLAYING FIELD - Thanks expressed to Mr Fletcher and helpers who planted the new trees in copse and to Chairman for collecting stakes and guards.

A request was received from Andy Thomas from the Old Crown asking if he could clear and take away the cuttings from the pit at top of playing field. This was granted but stated that his responsibility to leave tidy.

WAYLAND PARTNERSHIP – March Newsletter includes result of Participatory Budget. 13 projects submitted and public vote resulted in 10 being awarded funding.

Blog website workshop to be held on 14th April. Cost £40-00.

Health & Wellbeing Marquee to be at Wayland Show on 2nd August.

Training for volunteers and the opening of Dementia Café has taken place.

Art Exhibition opens on 28th March entitled 'Spring is in the Air'.

The Partnership are holding an evening re Neighbourhood Planning on 16th April at 7.00pm at Wayland House. This is open to Chairpersons and Clerks from surrounding villages but as Clerk is otherwise engaged that evening, Mr Ketteringham will attend in her place.

The Chairman gave some information re Neighbourhood Planning and said this was a way of deciding how we see the village going over next few years. Breckland have identified 6 villages along with the towns for major development but Ashill is not included in this but development in Watton will have a severe effect on local Parishes.

Mr Ketteringham requested that the subject of Neighbourhood Planning be placed on the Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting to get the views of the Parishioners.

POLICE - Crime Report for February shows 1 Other Crime (not specified). Next SNAP meeting is on Tues. 19th May. Still problems with parking at School.

FOOTPATHS - The warden had nothing to report.

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SPEEDWATCH SCHEME - Mrs Lusher gave her report. Four sessions held with 27 drivers recorded as being over 35mph or more.
The session held between 8.30 and 9.30am showed a good sign that speeding has reduced when children are on their way to School.
A request has been made for the team to locate to a site at top of Fairholme so that drivers can be seen coming into speed limit. Mr Collins has now joined the Scheme.

SOLAR PANELS FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE - British Gas has now accepted the details and the Clerk has to send in meter readings every three months. It was agreed that when payment for Feed-In tariff is received that this is donated under Section 137 to the Community Centre.

BUS SHELTER - Partnership funding has been agreed and we should receive 50% of the cost. Site to be agreed with Mr Groom and check with resident.
Members agreed that IRS should be asked to provide shelter but first to establish why there is large gap at top of new shelter which lets in the rain.

LYCH GATE - Mr Hyde has commenced work on the wall and Chairman had a meeting with him re amendments. Mr Hyde is concerned that he could cause more damage if he removes the rendering from the other side that contains the remembrance stone as he notices that there is an old crack in the stone. The additional cost for this work would be £640-00 plus VAT plus cost of new stone. It was proposed by Mr Wright seconded by Mr Collins that wall should be un-rendered to match new side and save stone.
The walls are to be 2 bricks higher and roofing felt placed under tiles. Mr Hyde recommends that a damp course is not required under beams.
Clerk to notify Breckland that 'Church Street' sign is inside Churchyard.

SAXON GREEN - Mr Adam Bell notified that he has not been able to verify the ownership of boundary with Green. Emails from Mr Couzens who was concerned that lorries had been using access to site via Hale Road and leaving concrete on road. He had complained to Breckland who are investigating this matter.

DEFIBRILLATOR - The Clerk had received confirmation that Ambulance Service will provide defibrillator on loan and cost of box advised to be £516-00. It was agreed to order box and Trustees have confirmed that it can be sited at Call-In and will assist with payment.

LITTER PICK 2015 - Very successful this year. 26 volunteers helped over two days and Chairman thanked all concerned for their help. It was now noticeable that roadsides outside village are very untidy and Clerk to ask Breckland to clear.

BIKE RIDER - Mr Ketteringham reported that action is in hand.

TELEPHONE BOX CHURCH STREET - BT had notified that they will carry out repairs. Therefore agreed not to pursue further taking this over.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mazars Notice of Audit for 2014/2015 . Deadline for approval of Returns 30th June, deadline for submissions 3rd July, appointed date 31st July.
Weekly news from Norfolk ALC forwarded throughout month but 2 items that may be of interest are Review of NCC committee system (feed-back welcomed) and French town seeking Norfolk twin. Anyone interested should contact NALC.

EON - Changing deemed contract rates on 1st May. Fixed term contract available. Clerk to contact Norfolk ALC for further information of companies that provide unmetered supplies.
NRCC - Now merged with West Norfolk Voluntary and Community Action to form COMMUNITY ACTION NORFOLK. Norfolk RCC team will continue to operate from Dereham.

VCS Engage Survey. Views requested. This is a three year programme from NCC to support Norfolk's voluntary, community and social enterprise sector. On line survey.

Ashill Community Centre - Request for nominated person from Council for committee for ensuing year. AGM is 16th April so difficult to know who will be on Council and as Clerk is the representative at moment it was agreed that she should continue.

Norfolk Playing Fields Assoc. Newsletter and invite to subscribe. Agreed not to join.

National Plant Monitoring Survey - this will be passed onto Garden Club.

Magpas Helmed - Request for donation. Unable to donate.

Breckland/Capita Planning Newsletter.

MEETING ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC TO ASK QUESTIONS

Mrs Bunn informed that a washing machine had been dumped in Cressingham Road. Clerk to inform Breckland.

Mr Monson reported that the County Council had set their Budget and the outcome is that the Recycling Centre in the village will stay open 7 days a week and the charge of £2-00 that had been proposed had been shelved .

There should be more money available for road repairs over next 5 years due to Government support. He also informed that Government seem to be making more decisions about local issues rather than the local Councils.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3PL/2015/0239/F

Mr & Mrs B Thomas - Proposed dwelling (Revised Design to 2nd Bungalow) The Firs Watton Road. Returned with objections to height.

3PL/2015/0285/F

Application from Mr A Rees 3 Chapel Yard for erection of double cart-shed type Garage to be returned with no objections.

Applications granted.

3PL/2013/0072/F - Gospel Hall Watton Road for car parking surface.

3PL/2014/1105/D - Bennett Homes. Approval of Reserved Matters for 25 dwellings.

3PL/2014/1119/O - Bennett Homes - Removal of condition 5 of permission

3PL/2006/0441/O.

ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT FOR MARCH

The following accounts were passed for payment proposed by Mr Collins seconded by Mrs Forsyth :-

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lights Mar.	£115-27
Mrs J Pickard Playing Field Warden Mar.	£74-00
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Mar.	£312-00)
Expenses March £80-90)	£392-90
HMRC PAYE Jan. Feb. Mar	£296-00
E.ON Power Supply to Street Lights Feb	£148-97

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Campingland Surgery Car Drivers Medicals x 2	£25-00
Manor Farm Medical Centre Medical Car driver	£22-80
Plowright Medical Centre Car Driver Medicals x 2	£19-80

Information Commissioner Data Protection £35-00
Ashill Community Centre Hire of Hall Jan. x 2, Feb. Mar. £44-00
Car Scheme Payment to Drivers for Feb. & Mar. £464-76
Also agreed to make donation to Garden Club for planters £50-00
Under Section 137.
Imeratve Training Ltd Defibrillator Box £558-00

Details of Current account and Reserve account were given to Members.

ELECTIONS - The Clerk reminded that nominations had to be submitted by 4.00pm on Thursday 9th April.

ITEMS FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING THURSDAY 23rd APRIL 2015 at 7.30pm.
To Discuss Neighbourhood Planning.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

The next monthly meeting will be held on TUESDAY 28th APRIL 2015 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

The following resolution was passed :-

“That under Section 100(A)(4) of Local Government Act 1972, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on grounds that it includes the likely disclosure of confidential information”.

TO DISCUSS STAFF SALARIES

It was agreed in future the staff salaries should not be declared on agenda and minutes. The total will be given at end of year.

Members also agreed to increase the Clerks pay in line with recommendations and she will be moved up the scale to SCP 19 and this will be reviewed each year. It was also agreed to pay the Clerk the recommended allowance for the use of her home as the Parish Council Office.

The Playing Field Warden's pay is to be reviewed next month.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.