

774.

27TH JANUARY 2015

A meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 27th January 2015 in the Community Centre at 7.30pm.

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

Apologies for absence were received from Mr B Corps due to work.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – There were no additional declarations made.

PCSO Paul Bailey attended the meeting with his colleague Alison and he informed of the crimes in the Parish. There had been one dwelling burglary in December, one other crime and one violence against a person in January. He pointed out that there had been several burglaries through villages and if anyone required a crime prevention assessment to contact 101 and it could be arranged.

It was reported that the motor-bike rider was again using the footpath from Low Common to Cressingham Road and having been told by Highways that they could not help, it was being reported to Police. Paul informed that action could only be taken if statements were made and registration number and times recorded so public were asked to be vigilant and report on 101 and then a warning can be given to the rider. If he has to be spoken to again within a year then his vehicle could be removed.

The Chairman thanked the Police for their attendance.

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

At this point Mr Ian Monson gave his report on County Council stating that the finalising of the Budget was proving very difficult but this will be decided on 16th Feb. but there should be no increase in Council Tax this year. The large payment for the incinerator had eaten into reserves but the recent injection of funds for road repairs should see them in better condition over next few years and the gritting programme had gone well. The Broads is now designated as a National Park and it is hoped that this will attract more tourists to the area. He also informed that high speed Broadband is available in the village. The Chairman asked what is to happen to the incinerator site as he felt that this was an ideal place for a nuclear site and asked that Mr Monson put this to County Council. He then thanked Mr Monson for his attendance.

MATTERS ARISING

HIGHWAYS – Mrs Forsyth, Mr Ketteringham, Mr Collins and the Clerk had met with Mr Groom in the village to discuss a site for bus shelter and the possibility of lay-by for Dunnetts Close. It had proved very difficult to find a site for a bus shelter but there is one possibly between entrance to Fairholme and Millfield so this to be investigated further and application for grant made. Mr Groom had not been very optimistic regarding a lay-by but had since informed the Clerk that this will be looked into and a quote provided for the work.

Problems to report : Flooding on corner opposite Church and outside entrance to The Hollies Swaffham Road. Also pothole in Hale Road 50yards into village.

PLAY EQUIPMENT – The Clerk asked for letters of support from parents/grandparents of small children to submit with grant application. Advert for working group should be in next Ashlink.

PLAYING FIELD - Tennis Court netting still not repaired. Repairs to seat at entrance have been arranged with by Mr Barrett.

WAYLAND PARTNERSHIP – Mrs Forsyth reported that Dragonfly Gallery re-opens on 2nd March with an exhibition of Ceramics. The Heritage Group is to receive a talk on 'Change and development in farming during WW1 and the work of the Norfolk War Agricultural Committee'. The Partnership is hoping to start a dementia café in next month or two and volunteers are needed. Anyone interested in helping could meet with Voluntary Norfolk on Wed. 18th Feb. at Wayland House.

POLICE - Crimes as reported earlier.

FOOTPATHS - The warden pointed out that owners are not clearing up after their dogs especially on path around outside of playing field and as a vet has advised there is a virus that is making dogs very sick caused by dog faeces, owners should be aware. Still a problem with footpath on Mr Tufts land.

ALLOTMENTS - Tap ok. There is a meeting for tenants of County Council farms and land. Mr Ketteringham will look at agenda.

SPEEDWATCH SCHEME - Mrs Lusher gave her report. There had been 6 sessions held since end November with 38 drivers being recorded over 35mph. It is too early to say if the flashing signs have made much of a difference. The Enforcement Officer has visited the Parish on a number of occasions and figures will be provided by him in due course. From July to end December there had been 82 vehicles recorded by Speedwatch over 35mph and another 78 that warranted letters.

COMMUNITY CENTRE - Letter of thanks received from Community Centre Management Committee for the solar panels. Clerk having problems getting Feed-in Tariff sorted as Community Centre has never been registered as a postal address but she will endeavour to get this registered.

BUS SHELTER - Clerk has still not arranged meeting with Janet Eves re timetable board but will get this sorted next month. Application made to Partnership Scheme.

WEBSITE - Reminder that Chairman to do intro for website.

LYCH GATE - There is still no response from Insurance Company although both Clerk and Chairman have repeatedly attempted to contact them. The Clerk had managed to speak to someone from the Company who advised that the remains should not be moved until claim is sorted as could affect the final payout but as there is to be a funeral held at beginning of Feb. and family has requested that debris is cleared, it was proposed by Chairman seconded by Mr Collins that if they have not accepted liability within next 5 days then we should contact Press. All agreed.

SAXON GREEN - Still no date for Committee Meeting but Clerk will keep everyone informed. Concern expressed re Ash trees on Southern boundary.

AW PUMPING STATION - Reply received re problems at The Limes that this has now been rectified.

DEFIBRILLATOR - Mrs Lusher has arranged for the trainer from Wayland Response Team to come to our February meeting to give information and advice.

LITTER PICK 2015 - This has been arranged for Friday 6th & Saturday 7th March. Several people have already offered help but further details at next meeting.
Thanks were expressed to Mr & Mrs Peter Bunn for clearing the rubbish dumped in Cressingham Road which Breckland had failed to pick up.

106 AGREEMENT FIGURES - Confirmed as correct from last meeting.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

Information from Mr Fletcher re replacement trees for copse on playing field. These will be delivered between 2nd & 6th March so working party to be arranged at next meeting.
Notification of TPO's on 5 trees on boundary of Green and Saxon Green.
Mrs Forsyth and Clerk had attended meeting at Swaffham regarding Breckland Budget and Planning. They are really pushing for Parishes to create a Neighbourhood Plan which is very expensive to do.

CORRESPONDENCE

Norfolk ALC - Training for Elections, Finances. Matched Funded PCSO Scheme and Neighbourhood Planning.
Master Gardener - Partnership programme between Garden Organic and Breckland Council recruiting volunteer help.
Breckland Council - Emergency Planning & Community Resilience.
Breckland Council Transparency Code.
Breckland Council - Info re installing Dog Bins.
Hastoe - Info re vacancies. Anyone interested in their properties should register with the Key Select Scheme run through Breckland Council.
Light Pollution Questionnaire to be completed by Chairman.
NPS Group - Info re fire risk management services.
Campaign for support of continued funding for the ACRE network which include the NRCC.
Local Council Public Advisory Service - Training Events. This is not part of NALC.
Neighbourhood Development Plans.
Breckland Planning - Affordable Housing and Open Space provision.

MEETING ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC TO ASK QUESTIONS

Mrs Thomas asked why the Clerk had informed Breckland Planning Dept. that work had already commenced at their property to create new access as this was not correct and asked for an apology.

Mrs Barnes reported that tree trunks and brambles had been placed across Low Common path in an attempt to block the bike rider and that hedge needs cutting back.
This will all be investigated.

At this point Mr Thomas entered the meeting with no apology and asked what qualifications the Councillors held to sit on the Parish Council as he felt that every planning application for The Firs had been objected to by them and he demanded that the Clerk rectify the mistake over the driveway immediately by sending an email to the Planning Officer. He stated that the Officer concerned with application had advised him that he should sue the Clerk for the comments made in the email, which he intended to do. He then went on to accuse the Council of a vendetta against him and that he intended to take Clerk and Chairman to court and if any of the Councillors associated themselves with them, they would be included.
Mr Thomas also said he had never met the councillors before. He had, however, been to council and volunteered to move the council notice board but had never turned up.
He also made complaints about the Press, the handling of the sale of Goose Green site and seemed to be under the impression that the Council had purchased land for £100,000 which was completely incorrect. He stated that he had tried to purchase the site and Browns had refused his offer.

At this point the Chairman called the open meeting to a close.

27th January 2015 Cont.

777.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following applications were discussed and all returned with no objections :-

3PL/2014/1335/F

Mrs J Buscall 33 Dunnetts Close for single storey rear and side extensions.

3PL/2015/0026/F

Mr & Mrs B Thomas Fairwinds Watton Road for new vehicular access to existing dwelling.

3PL/2015/0072/F

Swaffham Gospel Hall Watton Road for amendment to car park surface.

ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT FOR JANUARY

The following accounts were passed for payment proposed by Mrs Gray seconded by Mr Kettering ham :-

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lights Jan.	£115-27
Mrs J Pickard Playing Field Warden Jan.	£74-00
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Jan.	£312-00)
Additional 30hrs in last ¼	£216-00) £ 621-79
Expenses Dec. + Jan..	£93-79)
E.ON Power Supply to Street Lights Dec.	£164-93
Norfolk County Council DBS check Car Driver	£25-00
NPTP Training Fee for Clerk	£30-00
Car Scheme Payments for Dec. + Jan. to be advised	

CLERK'S APPRAISAL

It was proposed by Mr Collins seconded by Mrs Gray that Mr Leighton and Mr Wright carry this out before next meeting.

AGENDA

As Members felt that this had run very well it was agreed by all to leave as it is.

DATE FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

After discussion it was agreed to hold this on THURSDAY 23rd APRIL 2015 at 7.30pm and hold monthly meeting as normal on TUESDAY 28th APRIL 2015 at 7.30pm.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Members will be kept informed of any progress with Lych Gate Claim.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on TUESDAY 24th FEBRUARY 2015 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

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