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28th JULY 2015

A meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 28th JULY 2015 in the Community Centre at 7.30pm.

Councillors present:- Mr A Ketteringham - Vice-Chairman, Mrs M Forsyth, Mrs M Helsby, Mr M Blackman, Mr J Leggett & Mr L Ready. Also in attendance Mr F Sharpe, District Councillor, Mr Ian Monson County Councillor & PCSO Paul Bailey.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Leighton due to other commitments, Mr K Collins due to holiday and Mrs J Lusher due to family commitments.

In the absence of the Chairman Mr Ketteringham took the chair.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – There were no additional declarations made.

The Minutes of Meeting held on 23rd June 2015 were taken as read, passed and signed.

The chairman welcomed PCSO Bailey who informed that there had been very little crime in the village. The SNAP meeting objectives concentrated mainly on Swaffham.

He informed that any problems should be reported on 101 and Neighbourhood team would deal with these. The Chairman thanked him for his attendance.

MATTERS ARISING

HIGHWAYS - Reply received from Mr Jacklin re quote for footway in Hale Road. More details are required to ascertain viability. Information re ownership of land opposite Recycling Centre has been provided. Matters to report :- blocked drain opposite entrance to Glebe in Swaffham Road and un-even pavement in Watton Road outside No 6 and 1 -4 Fir Park.

PLAY EQUIPMENT – Monthly check carried out. Problem with broken seat and old swing seats need replacing. ROSPA annual inspection has been carried out and they report that swing seats should be replaced too - all other equipment low risk.

Mr Wright has offered to try and get new numbers made for the board on new equipment as these have been broken.

Notification that we have been granted £2268-00 from the S106 Fund towards new play equipment. It was agreed by all that Clerk order the two new 'Springies'.

PLAYING FIELD - Still awaiting further quotes from Wil Smith and Clerk is to arrange meeting with him next week.

Mr Fletcher has inspected trees in copse and very disappointed to see that vandalism has left this in a sorry state. He has collected the trees from Mrs Forsyth and hopes to replant later.

WAYLAND PARTNERSHIP – Mrs Forsyth reported that at the recent meeting they had discussed Neighbourhood plans and that the details of Local Plan from Breckland could possibly be available in New Year. Funding is available from Breckland for village appraisals. Wayland WW1 weekend is 14th & 15th Nov.

The art exhibition by Chris Warne was very supported.

Forthcoming events include display of artist's work and a family craft fun day on 12th August.

Mr Ketteringham and the Clerk had attended a meeting re Neighbourhood planning which was very poorly supported and disappointing. Hope to hold a meeting in Sept. with Planning Officer Phil Mileham to provide more information.

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POLICE - The Crime Report already given by PCSO Bailey.

FOOTPATHS - The warden being on holiday, there was nothing to report.

SPEEDWATCH SCHEME - Mrs Lusher had provided a report informing that due to family commitments there had been no sessions held in July but she hopes to begin again in August. Details of returns for January to June show that there were 22 sessions, a total of 63 letters sent with a further 77 motorists recorded between 30 & 36mph.

COMMUNITY CENTRE - In the absence of the Chairman of Comm. Centre, the Clerk reported that the Upton Room should be completed ready for September for St John's. A new alarm system has now been installed and repairs carried out to roof.

BUS SHELTER - Repairs have now been carried out by IRS to shelter on Green. New quote received for new bus shelter at top of Fairholme - £3293-00 + VAT and one quote for base, awaiting further quote. As we now have go-ahead for this, the money needs to be paid to Norfolk County Council Partnership Scheme so this was agreed. A request for information re bus shelters had been received from NCC and Clerk had returned this.

LYCH GATE - The concerns re gaps in wooden frame have been reported to PRONTO who should be inspecting shortly. Further letter of complaint received from Mr Green but as Clerk has now requested Highways to re-paint lines in front of his entrance and he has placed a sign himself outside the property, it was felt that matter should be closed.

WEBSITE - Thanks expressed to Mr Sayers as Parish part of website is looking very good and now includes the Agenda each month.

SAXON GREEN - No further news from Solicitor re Hedge but Trustees had written to Adam Bell re overhanging branch and awaiting outcome.

DEFIBRILLATOR - Clerk had requested quotes and Mr Watts had come back offering to do work at no charge so this was accepted and Chairman had spoken to Mr Dack and Mr Jackson to explain the situation. Training to be arranged.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - As reported earlier.

ALLOTMENTS - Clerk has now let another plot to a Mr Emerson who is moving into village shortly. No charge. Clerk has arranged appointment with Solicitor.

TREES ON ACACIA - Mr Fletcher has inspected these and feels that no remedial work is required.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

Play Area Workgroup - Mr Ready is contacting those people who showed an interest in helping and meeting will be arranged.

The Clerk informed that British Gas had queried reading on Feed-In meter supplied by her and had sent person to read this but he seemed unsure of what figure to read so await further info from them.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Breckland Council - Notification of change of contractor for textile bank. New Bin already in place and number displayed for contact.
Came & Co Insurance. Notification of them joining with Stackhouse Poland Group. Business as usual.
Survey re third sector organisations, charities and voluntary groups and how they can help change future policies. Survey is on-line and takes about 30mins. Clerk to complete.
Swaffham Community Hospital - Anyone interested in joining new committee should contact Mr Houghton (Chairman) on 01760 336025. Notice to be displayed.
Information received from Mrs Helsby re transport to Call-In on a Friday. At present provided by Watton Town Council who are thinking of withdrawing the bus due to cutbacks. Other Parishes do not contribute to this whereas AVA does. Further details will be obtained and meeting arranged. AVA to report back.
Norfolk ALC - weekly info forwarded but LAIS updates might be of interest.
CAN. Sector-Led Plan for Norfolk Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise. Details of plan.

MEETING ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC TO ASK QUESTIONS

Mrs Leighton reported that she had concerns that in the future when the present Vicar retires, the Rectory will be sold along with orchard that is used for Church car parking. She felt that it is vital that there is adequate parking provided and wanted the village to be aware of what could happen. She requested support from the Parish Council as there is no way that the PCC could pay for a parking area. She was assured that the Parish Council would do all they could.

Mrs Thomas asked why the Parish Council is considering paying for a footway in Hale Road when the recent application for 3 new houses should have included this. The Chairman explained that the footway that the Parish Council is looking at is to go beyond these to last house on eastern side and developer will provide footway from the Willows to top of Fairholme.

Mrs Barnes informed that there has been a problem with sewer on Dunnetts Close. AW have been and put camera down but inform that problem is due to surface water from Hastoe houses running into sewer. As drains run only a few feet from rear of Dunnetts Close houses this is causing a real problem and Council will be kept updated.

The problem raised last month regarding 31 Millfield is still being investigated by Breckland. Mr Sharpe reported that Breckland Sports are visiting the village every Monday throughout school holiday for 5 - 11 year olds. The Clerk informed that no notices had been received and session the day before had not been supported. He assured that he would report back to Breckland.

Mr Sharpe also informed that Breckland will be taking in-house the collection of Council Tax debts as Bailiffs have been charging far too much.

Also that Breckland are holding 'an open to all businesses' for Norfolk and Suffolk on 29th September

Mr Monson County Councillor reported that there is to be a 'waste amnesty' in September at main recycling centres (not Ashill).

The new Highways Engineer has now taken over from Mr Groom to cover this area but finances are very restricted.

NCC are finding it very difficult to keep services running and we could expect to see big changes in the way County Council is run over next few years.

Mr Ketteringham thanked both Councillors for their attendance.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3PL/2015/0757/F

Application for Mr Laddiman 4 Holmere Cottis for single storey & two storey extension to rear returned between meetings with no objections.

3PL/2015/0432/O

Outline permission granted for extension to workshop for Ashill Precision Engineers.

3PL/2015/0452/F

Permission granted for extension and solar panels at Willow Lodge Cress. Rd. for Mr Weedon.

FINANCE**ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT FOR MONTH OF JULY**

The following accounts were passed for payment proposed by Mr Ready seconded by Mr Blackman :-

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lights Jul.	£115-27
Jean Sangster & Mrs J Pickard Wages	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Expenses Jul.	£65-49
E.ON Power Supply to Street Lights Jun.	£205-16
NORSE Maintenance Limes + Acacia Jul.	£90-34
Mr James Marshall Strimming at Comm. Centre.	£50-00
Ashill Parochial Church Council 2/3rd Churchyard Maint.	
Jun.	£106-66
IRS Ltd Repairs to Bus Shelter	£90-00
NCC Partnership Scheme Contribution for new bus shelter	£3050-00
Playsafety Annual ROSPA inspection	£81-60

Also Car Scheme Payments for June and July.

Re-Investment of £100,000.

The fixed rate Bond invested with Julian Hodge Bank ends at beginning of August.

The Clerk has consulted Lovewell Blake for advice and there is another bond that is offering 1.8% fixed rate for a year. This is with Cambridge & Counties BS.

The Clerk was asked to check if there would be a fee involved with changing over to them. Councillors will be advised when information received.

Auditors

The Clerk reported that there had been problems with the Audit. As one of the investments is invested for more than 1 year this has to be included in the 'fixed capital assets' so affected the accounts reported for year end which had had to be amended.

A final copy will be posted on website when signed off.

Street Light Maintenance Contract

K & M Lighting had informed of increase. If we sign for three years this would mean an increase of £5-00 per month and as due for renewal shortly it was proposed by Mrs Forsyth seconded by Mrs Helsby that this be accepted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Blackman said he had been asked if a weight restriction could be placed on Ch St but was informed that the Council had tried before unsuccessfully. Mr Sharpe warned that there is an application made for an anaerobic digester unit at Nth Pickernham and if successful could mean more traffic through Ashill.

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Ashlink - Mrs Capell and her daughter have indicated that they would like to give up publishing this and had requested that this be made known so that anyone interested could be assisted in the take-over.

Request received from Community Centre Management Committee for permission to remove small part of hedge at entrance to Centre so that banners can be placed on poles. This was agreed but inspection first.

Clerk asked if anyone would be interested in entering a team into AVA Quiz on 12th September. Volunteers include Mr Leggett, Mr Ketteringham, Mr Blackman, Mr Ready and Clerk.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 25th AUGUST 2015 at 7.30pm in Community Centre.

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