

25th JULY 2017

A meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 25TH JULY 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 L Ready & Mr J Leggett. Also in attendance Mr F Sharpe, District Councillor and 11 Members of the Public. Apologies for absence were received from Mr K Collins as he is still in hospital.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – There were none.

The Minutes of Meeting held on 27th June 2017 were taken as read, passed and signed as correct.

MATTERS ARISING

HIGHWAYS - Noted that the work on TROD did not commence on 17th but will take approx. 3 weeks. The Rangers have visited the Parish and carried out the work requested in Watton Road and Church Street.

Matters to report : Drains blocked in Acacia Avenue especially at entrance and the pathway in Dunnetts Close outside No 22 still has not been repaired. Request that Mr Jacklin meets Councillors.

Suggestions for the Partnership Scheme with NCC will be considered before December.

PLAY EQUIPMENT – Check carried out and Annual Inspection Report from ROSPA now received. All equipment considered to be LOW RISK. Awaiting quote for roundabout repairs.

PLAYING FIELD – Due to weather conditions the painting of posts etc did not commence on 17th but should be carried out asap The spraying of tennis court and car park will also be carried out when conditions allow.

FOOTBALL TEAM – As confirmed that no planning application is required for containers, the corner slabs have been put down to northern side of Community Centre but as this does not leave space for grass cutter to get through, alternative arrangements will have to be made to keep the area tidy. Once containers installed then quotes will be obtained for a concrete pathway to be put down and the electricity supply connected. The Clerk queried if the containers would need to be insulated and this will be considered when in place. After much discussion re charges for hire of field the Chairman proposed that a 'peppercorn' rent be charged for first year at £10-00 per match. This was seconded by Mr Ketteringham. All agreed. Further discussion took place later in meeting.

WAYLAND PARTNERSHIP – Mrs Forsyth reported that the new Admin Assistant and Development Manager are in place. There is an Open Day at Merton Church on 30th July with display of old photos of Merton and Thompson. Also on 30th July at Watton Sports Centre there is a Fun Day & Dog Show. Watton Carnival is on 3rd September and theme is 'Enchanted'. Newsletter to be displayed with details.

POLICE - Crime Report – 5 Crimes reported in village for April. Mrs Helsby had attended SNAP meeting and was informed that there had been 2 burglaries recently in village when tools were stolen. Suspicious vehicles should be reported to Police. Thanks to be recorded to PCSO Hazel Tampion and PCSO Paul Bailey for attending the Fete. It was agreed not to purchase 'slow down stickers' for refuse bins.

FOOTPATHS – The map drawn up some years ago cannot be traced so producing a new one will be investigated.

SPEEDWATCH SCHEME - Mrs Lusher reported that due to holidays and illness they had only managed 2 sessions this month with 7 drivers reported - 3 of these were travelling between 44 and 47mph. Although two of the team are returning there is still a need for help.

COMMUNITY CENTRE – The Chairman reported that the Fete was very well attended and extended a vote of thanks to organisers.

LYCH GATE – Chairman still awaiting wording for plaque.

SAXON GREEN – The problem with drug paraphernalia found on site has been sorted with 'heras' fencing being installed to block the access at corner of Green.

LOCAL PLAN – Notification received re timeline for adoption which could be next April 2018.

ALLOTMENTS - The three additional stand pipes have now been installed and Mr Leggett will clear small unlet plots. Clerk to ask NORSE for quote for spraying northern end. It is noted that garden waste is being dumped on site (not from allotment holders). This will be monitored. The Chairman informed that Mr Tilley has advised that there may be the opportunity for Parish to purchase an area of land from him on the western side of his new site in Hale Road. There would already be an access and hard standing in place. It was agreed to ask him to come to a meeting for further information. At this point the Clerk again asked if they wished her to apply for permission for the whole allotment site be sold but Members felt that an alternative site should be established first. However, she did point out that the allotment site has been included for development in Local Plan and Mr Sharpe, District Councillor confirmed this and that it is allocated for at least 20 dwellings but he agreed that alternative allotment site be found before any further action.

ASHILL ESTATE – Clerk to meet Mary Ralph from Brown & Co for valuation.

LEASE FOR GAS REDUCTION STATION – No reply received re our request for Lease to be amended.

COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME – It has now been confirmed that Norfolk Community Transport Association is to be winding up. Further details of future plans will be advised. Also received a letter re parking at Queen Elizabeth Hospital Kings Lynn. This will be circulated to drivers. Thanks expressed to Mrs Goodwin for covering whilst Sarah on holiday.

SHARED ACCESS LTD – Notification received that companies have taken no further action at the moment but will keep on file.

STREET LIGHTING – All work completed.

ASHILL IN BLOOM – Mrs Helsby reported that 4 out of 5 barrels were now in place but needed 2 more slabs for the one opposite School. These to be provided and she hopes to involve School with this project next term.

At this point she expressed dissatisfaction with the letter she had received with the donation from the Clerk and went on to itemise all the points raised and pointed out that she had NOT taken in donations but her accounts showed that she had allocated these sums against her expenditure and this is why at previous meeting it had been agreed that Ashill in Bloom should be kept a separate entity. She felt that this decision should have waited until she was actually at a meeting but the Clerk pointed out that this would have made no difference as it had affected the accounting system. Everyone was stunned by this reaction and eventually the Chairman expressed surprise and said this would be sorted out at end of meeting.

TREES on LIMES & ACACIA – A request for the lower branches at both sites to be removed and the conifers overhanging the layby in Acacia Avenue be cut back. Agreed to ask Mr Blackburn to carry this out.

ANY OTHER MATTERS – The Clerk asked if Members were happy with the order of Agenda as County Councillor can only attend at beginning and should District Councillor and County Councillor reports be first but it was agreed to leave as it is.

Clerk reported that she had attempted to ADOPT the Church Street telephone box but at the moment the form cannot be completed.

A discussion re purchase of containers followed with Mr Leighton proposing that two new 20ft x 8ft containers be bought from Anglo-Scottish at Fakenham. This was seconded by Mr Blackman.

An amendment was proposed by Mr Leggett seconded by Mr Ready that second-hand containers be investigated first and to obtain delivery costs. A vote resulted in the amendment being passed by 6 votes to 2. Mr Ready to organise inspection.

CORRESPONDENCE

Important Information re Preparing for General Data Protection Regulations. Changes are to take place in 2018 and we must ensure that all personal data held will be destroyed when a Member leaves the Council. Training details to follow.

Norfolk ALC details of Localism and rural issues.

Swaffham Visual Arts Festival 30th Sept to 29th Oct. Various venues.

CPRE – Info re Summer Fair. 20th August Wolteron Hall.

Breckland – Street Naming & Numbering Changes. List of names for streets will be compiled to make it easier for builders to agree new addresses.

Breckland – Details of Grant Funding.

Breckland – Market Town Initiative – Grant Re-allocation.

Clerks & Councils Direct.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Mr Sharpe gave further details regarding the Local Plan which goes before full Council on 27th July followed by a 6week period when public will be able to view final document.

He also stated that Breckland hope to introduce a Community Lottery to help raise money to replace grant fund that is being reduced.

During August there are activities at Watton Sports Centre for youngsters 5 –11 year olds. Details on website.

AT THIS POINT THE CHAIRMAN INVITED QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr Helsby raised the question of identity badges for the Car Drivers as the ones they hold still have AVA on them. It was agreed that these should read Ashill Community Car Scheme and include a passport size photo. The Clerk will ask drivers to provide these and Mr Blackman will make up new badges.

A resident of The Oaks who refused to provide her name expressed concern that Highways had contacted her re overgrown hedge that wasn't even hers and had been advised to contact Parish Council re the number of cars parked on the pavement. The Chairman stated that no anonymous request could be dealt with but this was an on-going problem.

Mrs Hardy asked if the seats were going to be varnished on the playing field and was informed that this is in hand.

Mrs Skeggs asked if the Parish Council would be willing to provide some land for a Community Garden and the Chairman advised that she bring proposed detail drawings to the Council and they would consider this.

It was reported that the pavement outside 22 Dunnetts Close still has not been repaired. Clerk will notify again.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no new applications but notification received that the application for bungalow in Watton Road for Mr & Mrs Spalding is to go before Planning Committee on 31st July as Officers recommended approval.

3PL/2017/0387/D – The Reserved Matters have been approved.

FINANCE

The following Accounts were passed for Payment for JULY proposed by Mrs Lusher seconded by Mrs Forsyth:-

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lights Jul..	£120-13
E.ON Power Supply to Street Lights Jun.	£ 257-71
Jean Sangster & Mrs J Pickard Wages Jul.	Undisclosed
Expenses Jul	£66.50
NORSE Maintenance Limes & Acacia Jul.	£ 96-76
Ashill Comm. Centre Donation 137 Feed-In Tariff	£245-33
James Marshall Strim.C C.Jun.	£50-00
Dunham Diggers Work on Allotments	£600.00
Scott Buck Builder Supply & Fit Stand Pipes Allots.	£1020-00
K & M Lighting Services Ltd Repairs to columns & new light	£1312.46
M P Dennis & Sons Work on Allots.	?
Robert Barrett Painting at Comm Centre	?
Car Scheme Payments for Jun & Jul.	to be advised

The Current A/C details had been circulated and the Clerk presented Details of the Reserves & Budget pointing out that with the allocation of the many projects in progress, this will leave very little in Reserve. The Clerk has contacted Lovewell Blake and is awaiting the details of the fund the Chairman was investigating. The Clerk informed that the Auditors had again contacted her regarding the amount of capital that is held but she had provided details of the proposed expenditure for the future and they will note this.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was reported that people are not clearing up after their dogs on the track along side the tennis court and Clerk will contact dog warden.

Notice to be put in Ashlink again.

Mrs Lusher reported that she had seen rats near the Call-in and trustees will investigate and request that ducks are not fed.

Mr Ketteringham will ask Mr Dennis to cut the hedge on allotment inside and along front. Request to be placed in Ashlink for deputy press reporter for when Mrs Peckham is not available.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 22nd AUGUST 2017 at 7.30pm in Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.46pm