

24th September 2024

The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday 24th September 2024 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm

In attendance: Mr A Ketteringham (AK) Chair, Mr R Leighton (RL) Vice-Chair, Mr A Howell (AH), Mr J Leggett(JLg), Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mrs A Shepherd (AS), Mr A Thomas (AT), 11 members of the Public and the Clerk Jean Sangster..

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Binns (AB) due to family commitments and Mr F Eagle arriving later due to other meetings.

AH declared an Interest in Item 9 High Grove Farm. There were no additional Declaration of Interests.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27.08.24 having been circulated were passed and signed.

CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER

There were 3 applications for this position:-

Mr C Bunn, Mr K Kissiedu, Mr D Walsh.

All letters and forms had been circulated to members for consideration.

Mr Kissiedu had sent his apologies as was away working and could not attend the meeting.

A vote was taken which resulted in 6 votes for Mr Kissiedu, no votes for other two candidates and with one abstention. Therefore Mr Kissiedu is the New Councillor and all forms will be signed.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/ COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mr Eagle arrived later.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

A member of the public had been handed a mole trap which had been picked up by a child and there were serious concerns expressed regarding these traps.

Fly-tipping concerns were raised again and the question of a 20mph speed limit within the village. Matters for Trustees – gate on Common, seat for car park and state of hedge in Common Road. High Grove Solar Farm – Several members of public felt that this was something that Parish Council should have known about months ago and informed the public but the Chair pointed out that the PC had only just been advised of this along with rest of village. Many complaints as this is going to affect Ashill and several surrounding villages and public feel we must fight this although this will go direct to government for decision. The first consultation runs to 18th October and people are urged to complete the on-line form.

MEETING CONTINUED

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – Members had met with Luke Denney and further discussion took place over the hedge and trees in Ch.St/Watton Rd and request for letters to be sent to residents of Woodlands advising of their responsibility.

The gulleys and drains were checked in Sw. Rd and will receive attention.

The dangerous drain in Dunnetts Close was inspected and urgent request for action to be made. Cleaning of signage to be sent to Rangers.

Following inspection of suggested site in Sw.Rd for dog waste bin, this was declined due to safety issues but Clerk to apply for permission from Breckland for one to be sited in Ch.St. between seat and kiosk and if acceptable to collection operatives, Highways will issue Licence and bin can be ordered.

With regard to TROD there is no action at present and no news of Village Gates.

Play Equipment – Monthly Inspection carried out. The slide needs to be dug out so water can drain away. AT reported that basketball nets need to be replaced again and it was agreed to purchase metal nets this time. Clerk to order.

JLg had submitted a quote of £60-00 for the repairs needed and this was accepted by all.

ZIP WIRE – No news from Grant application as yet.

Playing Field – The Football Team has now moved away and changing rooms left tidy and no damage. The Clerk had been unable to contact Rhys regarding the removal of wooden compound area and following discussion it was agreed that this could be left in situ for any future use. Mr Paul Wade had advised that several traps had either been stolen or taken up and thrown away. He has purchased replacements and PC will reimburse.

Community Centre CCTV – The Clerk advised that next CC Committee Meeting is on 9th October and following agreement from them that they will take over ownership and Insurance, the Clerk will arrange purchase and installation. The siting of cameras was agreed.

Footpaths – No further news regarding Footpath no 7 changes.

Police – Next SNAP Meeting is 4th Nov. 2024 7.00pm Swaffham Town Hall.

Speedwatch – There was no report as Mr Street on holiday.

Car Parking Charges – Consultation on proposals by Breckland Council to introduce charges for parking in the market towns runs for 4 weeks. Charges will cover cost but there will be no profit. This was discussed at the recent meeting held by Breckland and attended by AK, AH and AT. Also the proposal to be sent to Government re Local Plan as Cabinet has made the decision to suspend any further action following Government plans to introduce an increase in development needed but this could affect the 5year plan that ends at beginning of 2025 and open up applications for many additional sites.

AH had spoken with Sam Chapman-Allen after the meeting and he had offered to attend one of our meetings to give more information so Clerk to ask him to attend Nov. meeting.

Allotment Rents – These are due on 9th Oct. All present holders to be notified and Clerk has already received request for plots from 4 people. It was agreed to inspect the site on Sat 12th Oct. Time to be confirmed.

Website/facebook – New site being developed for NorfolkALC. KK has agreed to join facebook and assist with new website when in place.

Wayland Partnership – AS had attended recent meeting and reported that several villages were represented and reports given from them. The Men's Shed now has a membership of 86 regular attenders with average age of 74. The new website is up and running and computer courses were very successful. Ideas needed for the Wayland Partnership 25th Anniversary

SCAM & FRAUD meeting – This was held at Necton and attended by AK, AB & Clerk. Most recent scam is QR codes being covered and used to order food etc. There is a free number (159) that can be used on mobile phone to contact your bank if you suspect fraud.

Gas Leak Dunnetts Close – Still awaiting part to stop leak.

Parcel Collection Box – This is causing residents concern due to noise and lights when collecting at 2.00am. Agreed to contact company and ask to meet on site to request moving to other side. AK had spoken with shop owners and was told that any problems should go to company and not shop. Clerk to arrange.

Konectbus – No reply but event for public was held in Watton for them to express their views. They assured public that the buses will be running at times stated and there will be an improved service.

Anglian Water Meter Problems – Reply received that details from residents would be investigated if they contact AW. Notice to be placed on facebook advising not to call plumbers if AW inform of leak but call AW first.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.

St John Ambulance – notification of Invoice details for charging for container hire.

Breckland - Healthy Homes Initiative Mainly for private landlords.

Complaint from Ch. St, resident has been forwarded to Highways.(Resident gave permission).

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Returned between meetings with no objections. 3PL/2024/0659/F- The Old Hall

Cressingham Road IP25 7BZ Proposed demolition of existing main dwelling and erection of new self-build two storey dwelling with dormer accommodation in the roof on same site.

3PL/2024/0727/LU - Cert. of Lawfulness for 25 Fir Park for proposed single storey rear extension & conversion of garage to living accommodation has been approved.

This is thought to be for Assisted Living. Resident reported this to Enforcement and raised many concerns which are being investigated.

3PL/2024/0705/VAR - Variation of Conditions 3,4,5,6,8,10,14,15 on 3PL/2021/1206/D.

To ensure the permission complies after commencing development without discharge.

HIGH GROVE Solar Farm – Leaflets circulated with dates and venues for drop-in for public. There was a great response to this item with concerns over loss a good agricultural land. Access to the site in Ashill, the size of the whole plan and many more. Public felt that PC should have been advised sooner and questioned why this was not the case. With feelings running high the Chair suggested that people attend the meeting arranged by the Company for Sat 28th Sept. and put their questions and concerns direct to them.

AT THIS POINT FE arrived and gave a brief report on the situation with County Council and the withdrawal of Government funding and problems with Western Link Road.

He is not happy with the proposals by Breckland for parking charges in the Market Towns and requested that people fill in the consultation. All details are on Breckland website.

He also advised of the new Boundary changes being submitted by Breckland for adjustments to the Wards.

FINANCE

A) Accounts

PAiD Direct Debit - SWALEC payment for Power supply AUG. £253-09
The following accounts due for payment for SEPT.2024 were passed for payment proposed by JL seconded by JLg:-

K & M Lighting Services Maint St Lights Sept.	£120-50
Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Sept.)	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Sept. + 21hrs)	
Expenses Sept.	£104-73
HMRC PAYE Jul.Aug.Sept.	£797-86
Ashill PCC Donation 137 2/3 rd Ch Yard Maint	£326-59
Steelway Fensecure Ltd New Gate Spring	£48-00
Ashill Comm. Centre Hire Hall Jul. Aug. Sept.	£54-00
PKF Littlejohn LLP Annual Audit Fee	£252-00

- B) Current A/C & Business A/C details circulated & Agreed,**
 Investments – The Clerk advised that the investment with Hampshire Bank is due to mature In October and reinvestment will be looked into by AT, KL and Clerk.
 AS asked if expert advice should be sought for the Investments but it was generally felt that No more expense should be incurred.

C) Audit Report – Audit has now concluded and was satisfactory. Notices displayed as required.

THE MEETING WAS AGAIN OPEN TO PUBLIC

A question was raised regarding the 159 number for contacting bank and was this only from mobiles to be checked.

Speed limit in Common Road was confirmed as 60mph after end of Dunnetts Close.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Thanks expressed to the volunteers who helped to clear the pond.

Complaint re overgrown Oak tree on The Limes is to be looked at.

Date of next monthly Meeting is TUESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2024 AT 7.00PM IN COMMUNITY CENTRE.

This Meeting closed at 9.55pm

Signed

Date