

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL

1185.

22nd OCTOBER 2024

The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday 22nd October 2024 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm

In attendance: Mr A Ketteringham (AK) Chair, Mr R Leighton (RL) Vice-Chair, Mrs A Binns (AB), Mr A Howell (AH), Mr K Kissiedu (KK), Mr J Leggett(JLg), Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mrs A Shepherd (AS), Mr A Thomas (AT), 12 members of the Public and the Clerk Jean Sangster..

Apologies from Mr F Eagle for arriving later AH declared an Interest in Item 9 High Grove Farm.

There were no additional Declaration of Interests.

APPLICATION FOR DISPENSATION REGARDING THE HIGH GROVE SOLAR FARM for Mr A Howell due to Pecuniary Interest. It had been agreed that as Standing Orders./Code of Conduct state that the Clerk should make this decision she had consulted NorfolkALC and on their advice AH will be allowed Dispensation for **3 MONTHS** and then review.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24.09.24 having been circulated were passed and signed.

REPORT ON EXTRAORDINARY MEETING held on 15.10.24 re High Grove Solar Farm.

This had been attended by approx. 57 Parishioners and local Councillors.

There was only ONE person who spoke in favour of this proposed development, the remainder raising major objections. However he had since reviewed the situation after hearing the concerns regarding Archaeological finds and Ecological value and felt that he needed further information. RL had composed a letter of complaint to be sent to RWE which contained many of the objections raised. (copy Attached).

It is hoped that an Action Group will be formed with the support of Swaffham Mayor and Town Council as this will affect the whole area. Names are held by Clerk and another meeting has been arranged by Bradenham Parish Council for 29th October at 7.00pm.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Nothing further raised at this point.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/ COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mr Eagle advised that NCC are adopting an Economical Strategy for next 5 years.

The Government have extended the Household support fund, free school meals, warm areas in villages and there is to be a fund set up for anyone over benefit limit that is not coping.

Regarding the proposed new Car Parking charges by Breckland, he asked that everyone complete the consultation.

He also advised that there is to be more development in villages but wished to ensure that this is right type in right place.

MEETING CONTINUED

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – Drains cleared in Sw.Rd. apart from one that will be reported.

Various potholes, state of new pavement in DC, manhole cover at entrance to Woodlands all to be reported,

Gates now installed.

Reminder that as from 18th November booking is required at the Recycling Centre and this can be done on-line. Note that consideration is also being given to closing on a Wed. Concerns that this will lead to more Fly-Tipping but FE assured that this has been well tried in Suffolk with no adverse effects.

Dog Waste Bin – The Clerk has now rec'd the Licence from NCC and confirmation from Breckland that this will be emptied. Clerk now to order new bin.

Play Equipment – Monthly Inspection carried out. The slide needs to be dug out so water can drain away and AH offered to get this done

One item of Fitness Equipment is in need of attention and JLg to fix gate spring.

No news of grant for Zip-Wire.

Playing Field – Mr P Wade is doing a marvellous job of trapping the moles and thanks were expressed to him.

Community Centre CCTV – The Clerk advised that Comm Centre had agreed to be responsible for this once installed and obtain Insurance Cover. Clerk to get this ordered.

Footpaths – Warden reported that 2 signs are still missing and clerk will follow this up along with the work required to plank across ditch at top of Ashill Estate. AK had inspected the bridleway from Saham Toney and had found this is walkable and Clerk to advise complainant.

Police – Next SNAP Meeting is 4th Nov. 2024 7.00pm Swaffham Town Hall. Police Commissioner Consultation open until 1st Nov.

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

Car Parking Charges – Discussed earlier with FE.

Allotment Rents – Most rents now collected. 5/6 plots unworked and 4 people on waiting list. AT, AS and AK had marked out the plots with new posts supplied by JLg. Much discussion followed about how to deal with getting these plots back into a workable condition before re-letting.. The Clerk had spoken with John at Groundscape who said it was going to be very difficult to quote for unknown amount of work involved It was eventually agreed to ask him to quote for **8 HOURS** work and see how much he could get done and then go from there. However AT felt that more than one quote should be obtained and this will be dealt with.

Website/facebook – Meeting to discuss further arranged with GL, KK, JL and AH. GL had pointed out that photos are still required for Website from AS, AT and KK.

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

Parcel Collection Box – Clerk has now made contact and is waiting to hear back.

Oak Tree on Limes – AK and AT have both checked this tree and feel that no work is required.

25 Fir Park – No further action unless a Change of Use is sent to Breckland. Clerk is holding docs from Resident for future.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.

G B Energy Bill – Request that PC contact Terry Jermy MP and request that he supports the amended bill going before Parliament.

Hot Spot Funding for Community Groups – passed to AVA for Call-In and they have already applied.

Wayland Partnership forwarded info from CPRE regarding actions to reduce flooding.

NorfolkALC – request for support to call an Extraordinary General Meeting on 25th October due to discrepancies in forming co-operative and the dismissal of Sarah Bristow. Agreed to support.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3PL/2024/0659/F- The Old Hall Cressingham Road now refused again.

FINANCE

A) Accounts

PAiD Direct Debit - SWALEC payment for Power supply SEPT. £244-93

The following accounts due for payment for OCT.2024 were passed for payment proposed by AH seconded by AT:-

K & M Lighting Services Maint St Lights Oct.	£120-50
Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Oct.)	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Oct. + 19hrs)	
Expenses Oct.	£133-12
NCC Rent Ashill Estate	£1000-00
Groundsscape Maint Playing Field for Season	£2495-00
Mrs A Shepherd Use of phone for recording meeting	£17-99

- B) Current A/C & Business A/C details circulated & Agreed,**
Investments – The Clerk advised that money had now been re-invested with Hampshire Bank for another year at fixed rate

Clerk to draw-up draft Budget for next meeting.

THE MEETING WAS AGAIN OPEN TO PUBLIC

There were many comments regarding the allotments and it was felt that if you take on a plot it is up to you to clear and keep it worked. Suggested that rules are changed and deposits taken.

The siting of new dog waste bin in Ch. St. was queried.

Complaints received regarding new Gates and them not being visible and siting of these.

AK explained that this was Highways stipulations.

Potholes in Dunnetts Cl. Will be reported as resident had fallen over after getting foot stuck in one.

One Parishioner asked why the Council had not provided information regarding the purchase of land to replace allotment plots and Chair advised that this is in hand and should be available at next meeting.

Highways will be contacted regarding the moving of 30mph in Watton Rd. and the bridge across ditch at top of Ashill Estate.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

AS had spoken to developers on Edward Close and advised that UK Power will be re-connecting to site in next 10days and the two standing properties will remain as they are and the others rebuilt in same positions as before.

Trustees are having discussions with them regarding fencing.

The Clerk to obtain the padlock key for compound from former Football Team.

Date of next monthly Meeting is **TUESDAY 26th NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7.00PM (subject to change) IN COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Signed

Date
