

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HORNINGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT St. EDMUND'S CHURCH ON TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Councillor A Hill (Chair)
Councillor G Drew
Councillor I Baker
Councillor P Chapman

Clerk: Bryan Leigh

Twelve parishioners.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Councillor Hawke who was on holiday and these were accepted.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

There were no DPis.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Drew proposed and Councillor Chapman seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8 September 2015 having be circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

4. County and District Councillor Reports.

The County Councillor reported that the budget consultation had commenced on 30 October and all residents are able to comment Between now and 2019 the County Council needs to make savings of £111 million in its budget. There are several options within the consultation one of which is to increase the Council Tax by 1.99%. There are two bye-elections being held on 19 November, one of which is held by UKIP and the other LibDem. If these both change colour there could be a change of power at County hall. There has been a meeting with Lord Heseltine regarding the devolution of some powers to local level. This meeting was attended by Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils, District Councils and the LEP. The request was the funding for the A47 , faster trains to London and additional funding devolved to the County Councils. There is likely to be another level of government above the County Councils which will decide the amount of devolved funding.

The District Councillor informed the meeting that there is an enhanced payments on line system in place together with additional services available on line. There is a survey taking place on carers and any carer is able to take part. During the summer a Keep Fit Family programme has been running to encourage healthy families through healthy eating and growing and eating vegetables. A dementia project is running and is aimed to assist those with dementia to be able to go on trips by arranging them. Gressenhall Rural Life Museum has been visited and the archive of films seen. 80/90 participated in this trip. Breckland invested £10000 in ensuring the Tour of Britain came to Breckland and a number of villages became involved along the route. This brought in income to the district and it is hoped to repeat this in the future. The Breckland Operating Partnership had seen a reduction in Anti Social Behaviour of 16% compared with the previous year. A grant of £200 is available from Breckland Council to celebrate the birthday of the Queen in 2016.

5. Matters to Report.

5.1 Dudgeon Offshore Community Fund.

There was no information to pass on apart from the Heritage Society enquiring to see if there is any further funding available.

5.2 Heritage Event 2016.

Councillor Chapman stated that it is hoped an event will be held in 2016.

5.3 Dates of Meetings 2016.

The Clerk requested that the meeting in January be put back a week and this was agreed.

The dates for the meetings were agreed as follows:-

Parish Council Meetings.

January 19th

March 8th

May 10th

July 12th

September 13th

November 8th

Annual Parish Council Meeting.

May 10th

Annual Parish Meeting.

March 8th

5.4 Archiving of Records at Norfolk Record Office.

The Clerk reported that he had received confirmation from Norfolk Records Office that the accounts for 1985 to 2009 had been received.

Councillor Chapman reported that she had nearly finished the work on the minutes and will then take this to the Records Office.

5.5 Faster Broadband.

The County Councillor read out a report from Norfolk County Council that the first phase had been completed early and with savings made on the budget allocated. Horningtoft is not in the next phase. Councillor Chapman had e-mailed all residences that she could and had looked into alternatives. BT has put in fibre at Whissonsett and fibre is likely to be installed in Horningtoft in 2017. A voucher scheme is being developed to cover the installation of satellite and it is necessary to provide the speed you receive and apply for the grant. Karen O'Kane, who is the lead officer for Better Broadband for Norfolk at Norfolk County Council will come to the next meeting. Satellite is available to all but it is expensive to install. Mobile phones are another alternative and unlimited data is available but there is no 4G in Horningtoft which makes this impractical. WiSpire was going to be installed in Whissonsett but this will not now be going live. It may be possible to place a mast on Stanfield Water Tower, however not until 2017. Thinking WISP has already been installed to two parishioners but it is still not available to all at present. An additional mast is needed which would cost £5000 however if some properties have repeaters erected so that the majority of Horningtoft could then obtain faster broadband The cost of this varies with the amount of data that is need for the subscriber. The only avenue for the Parish Council is to assist with the promotion of WISP.

The meeting was adjourned.

One member of the public stated that she had applied for the voucher scheme but was informed that she was not eligible. The County Councillor stated that he did not think that the scheme had yet been developed. By 2015 it had been stated that 95% of properties would have faster broadband but this had not been achieved. It was stated that as fibre is installed this reduces the take up of WISP. A mast on Brake Hill could assist but Horningtoft is in a dip and as there are lots of trees this affects the signal. Planning permission would be needed for the mast. As more people go onto a system it reduces the bad width. Councillor Chapman stated that she will request WISP to investigate whether it is feasible and whether the Parish Council can fund part of the costs. It was noted that there had been opposition to masts in other areas. The matter will continue to be on the agenda.

The meeting was reconvened.

5.6 Breckland Town and Parish Forum 2 December.

Councillor Chapman may attend.

5.7 Norfolk ALC AGM 6 January.

No one will be attending.

6. Planning.

6.1 Applications.

6.1.1 3PL/2015/1109/F-Ivy Farm Thumb Lane-rebuild single storey extension to rear, change of use of land to domestic garden & erect triple bay garage.

No objection was raised to the application.

6.2 Decisions.

6.2.1 3PL/2015/0902/F-Church Farm Oxwick Road-erection of 2 holiday cottages (revised application). Permission.

6.3 Town and Country Conservatories.

The Clerk reported that he had received confirmation from Breckland Council that the request to investigate whether there had been a breach of the planning permission had been registered and would be investigated.

7. Highways.

7.1 Report

The chippings that had been left after the last visit of the Highway and Community Rangers had been removed. The road is still flooding outside Sycamore House and the pothole on Whissonsett had not been repaired.

The Chairman had received a request for a 50 mph limit on Fakenham Road and the County Councillor will investigate this. The finger posts for FP4, FP1 and FP1 in Whissonsett need replacing or refixing.

7.2 Local highway Improvement Parish Partnership.

It was agreed not to apply for a scheme.

7.3 Addition of Thumb Lane and the footpath to the Definitive Map.

Councillor Chapman had spoken to Norfolk County Council about adding the footpath from the end of Thumb Lane to the definitive map. Norfolk County Council had suggested that Thumb Lane could also be added at the same time. This footpath which is shown on maps dated 1839, 1886, 1905 and 1950 and recorded in use for the past twenty years. The footpath had not been included in the 1950s

Definitive Map and it will be necessary to show 20 years of use. There was opposition to the attempt to add these to the Definitive Map and one parishioner stated that it had not been possible to use the footpath for 20 years as it had only recently been cut.

It was agreed to proceed with requesting that the footpath from the end of Thumb Lane to FP4 be added and a finger post placed at the end of Thumb Lane pointing to FP4 only.

8. Correspondence.

The following correspondence will be circulated.

8.1 Clerks and Councils Direct September 2015

8.2 Clerks and Councils Direct November 2015

9. Finance.

9.1 Budget.

The budget sheets had been circulated and the Clerk informed the members that the budget for grass cutting had been exceeded as CGM had decided to cut fortnightly although the contract was for three weekly cuts. The contractor had been contacted but it had not replied so the Clerk had informed it that the latest invoices would not be paid until a response was received.

9.2 Balances and cheques for authorisation.

Councillor Drew proposed and Councillor Chapman seconded the resolution that the

balances and cheques for authorisation which had been circulated be approved. All were in favour.

Balances :-

Business Saver Account.

Balance at 25 03 15	2402.50
Plus interest	<u>.30</u>
Balance at 25 03 15	2402.80

Community Account

Balance at 03 07 15	2728.96
Less cheques authorised 14 07 15-108.00	
cheques authorised 08 09 15-833.41	<u>941.41</u>
	1787.55
Plus Breckland Precept-875.00	
Breckland Rate Support Grant-33.55	
VAT Refund-40.30	<u>948.85</u>
Balance at 02 10 15	2736.40
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 08 09 15	<u>15.98</u>
Balance at 03 10 15	2720.42

Amount available for Section 137 : 136x £7.36 =£1000.96

Spend to Date : £00.00

9.3 Hours of the Clerk.

Councillor Hill proposed and Councillor Drew seconded the resolution that the Clerks hours be increased by 5 hours per annum for the additional work necessary for the Code of Transparency. All were in favour.

9.4 Grass Cutting 2016.

It was agreed to obtain a price from Norse Eastern for cutting on a 3 weekly cycle.

9.5 Precept.

The figures had been circulated and it was agreed to decide the precept in January.

10. Matters for the next meeting.

There were no matters raised for the next meeting.

11. Date of next meeting.

This was confirmed as Tuesday 19 January 2016 in St. Edmund's Church at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 2105.