

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HORNINGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT St. EDMUND'S CHURCH ON TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016 AT 7.30 P.M.**

**Present:** Councillor A Hill (Chair)  
Councillor T Hawke  
Councillor I Baker  
Councillor P Chapman

Clerk: Bryan Leigh

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris.  
District Councillor T Carter.

Seven parishioners.  
Karen O' Kane from Better Broadband for Norfolk.

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Councillor Drew who was gritting and these were accepted.

**2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.**

Councillor Baker declared a DPI under part A as he had put parcels of land in the Local Plan.

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.**

Councillor Chapman proposed and Councillor Baker seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10 November 2015 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

**4. County and District Councillor Reports.**

The District Councillor stated that the information on the Local Plan had been circulated. The Big Switch and Save campaign is running again. There is still a problem with recycling in black wheelie bins and in future Breckland Council will not collect from these if it is contaminated and a notice will be issued to the householder. There is very little problem in rural areas. Breckland Council is to open a Help Hub in Thetford which will allow residents to access help and information from multiple organisations. If this is successful it will be extended to Dereham. Breckland Council has committed £960,000 to enable faster Broadband to be installed in areas in Breckland that are not getting this through Better Broadband for Norfolk. A survey will be carried out in the poor areas and alternatives considered. A grant is available as an event for the Queen's birthday. Local elections will no longer be able to be held at Manor Farm and Breckland Council is looking for a permanent site for ongoing elections. If no site is found in Horningtoft then it may be that parishioners will have to travel to Whissonsett. The venue must have lighting, heating, toilets and parking. This will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to see if an alternative venue can be found.

District Councillor T Carter withdrew from the meeting.

The County Councillor reported that Norfolk County Council is consulting on its budget from 2016 until 2019. The Government has accepted that there is a problem with financing Adult Social care and will allow an increase in Council tax of 2% without triggering a referendum provided that this increase is ring fenced for Adult Social Care. This will bring in £6.3 million which would cover the projected deficit. The two bye elections in November were won by a Conservative from UKIP and the other was retained by LibDem. This has meant that there are

four more seats on Committees for Conservatives with one each on Policy and Resources, E.T.D., Pensions and Personnel. This means that there is now a Conservative majority on the Policy and Resources Committee which will decide the budget to be approved by the full Council. He had attended a workshop on Children's services where the Interim Director was impressed by the resolve of members and officers to improve the service. It is now possible to identify any problems but it is still difficult to provide a pathway for children to leave care. There was a baby boom about four years ago which means that there will have to be many more classroom places for children in the near future. One parishioner stated that there are inadequate nursery school places in rural areas at present. The County councillor stated that the nearest is Litcham Children's Centre.

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris withdrew from the meeting.

## **5. Matters to Report.**

### **5.1 Dudgeon Offshore Community Fund.**

This is ongoing.

### **5.2 Heritage Event 2016.**

Councillor Chapman reported that an event to celebrate the Queen's birthday is being organised by the Heritage Society and will involve a tidy up of the village and the area around the church. This will take place the weekend of 4-6 March. Councillor Chapman is applying for a grant from Breckland Council for the Queen's birthday. The grant will enable the necessary equipment for a litter pick to be obtained. On 23 April there will be a celebration in the church and on 25-26 June there will be an event in the church with marquees which will be focused around the church when the tower fell. Councillor Chapman is applying to Dudgeon for a grant for this.

### **5.3 Archiving of Records at Norfolk Record Office.**

Councillor Chapman reported that two sets of old minutes are ready to be taken to Norfolk Record Office.

### **5.5 Faster Broadband.**

Councillor Chapman introduced Karen O'Kane from Better Broadband for Norfolk.

The meeting was adjourned.

Karen O' Kane outlined where Horningtoft is in relation to better broadband. The village is too far away from any upgraded area so a new box has to be sited in the village. The six properties served from the North Elmham exchange are to be connected to a new box in the next phase. The properties in Horningtoft may have to have fibre to each property but a survey will be carried out to ascertain the optimum position for this. This may entail road closures to install. The upgrade will not be until 2017. There are still three properties served by the Great Ryburgh exchange which will not be connected at this time. The satellite voucher scheme is available for those properties with less than 2mb and an application can be made through Better Broadband for Norfolk website. The voucher is for up to £400 installation costs but will not finance ongoing costs. She suggested that if residents are going to apply for a satellite installation then to only take out a contract for 12 months as it is not a substitute for fibre. She was queried that dates are continually being moved back. She stated that the first phase had been completed early, cheaper and more had been achieved in the first phase. She also stated that the further away from the main box the property is then the speed drops-24mb at 1 kilometre and 15mb at 1.5 kilometre. She replied in response to a question that the installation of fibre will not improve the telephone service.

Councillor Chapman thanked her for her attendance and update.

Councillor Chapman informed the meeting regarding the current situation with ThinkingWISP. So far fifteen properties in Horningtoft have stated that they are interested in an installation. The engineer had investigated the village and had recommended a dedicated mast not repeaters. Planning

permission will have to be applied for the 12 metre mast. It is hoped that the mast will be erected by the end of February. Normally there would be a charge for the mast but as fifteen have stated an interest there will be no charge. Those that have the installation will be able to sign up for a 12 or 24 month contract. A parishioner stated that he was willing to have the mast on his land and apply for the planning permission for the mast on his land. The Clerk pointed out that if the Parish Council applies then the application is half price. Councillor Chapman offered to apply for the planning permission on behalf of the Parish Council.

A parishioner proposed a vote of thank to Councillor Chapman for organising the improved service.

The meeting was reconvened.

It was agreed unanimously that the Parish Council would apply for permission to install a mast. The cost would be about £190.

## **6. Planning.**

### **6.1 Applications.**

There were no applications to consider.

### **6.2 Decisions.**

The following decision was noted.

**6.2.1 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. Permission.**

### **6.3 Town and Country Conservatories.**

The Clerk reported that he had contacted Breckland Council again who had confirmed that a further visit to site would be undertaken. The landowner confirmed that he was in communication with Breckland Council.

### **6.4 Local Plan Consultation.**

The consultation is being circulated and a response has to be lodged by 22 February. Any comments are to be forwarded to The Clerk to collate and submit.

## **7. Highways.**

### **7.1 Report**

The road is still flooding outside Sycamore House and the pothole on Whissonsett Road had not been repaired. The Clerk had contacted Norfolk County Council again about both these matters and will now forward the details to the County Councillor.

The Highways Engineer is considering a 50 mph limit on Fakenham Road.

There will be a road closure in Whissonsett which will affect Horningtoft as the diversion route will be via the village.

The following problems were raised and will be reported to Breckland Council or Norfolk County Council :-

1. Gravel Pit Lane and whether there should be a weight limit on the bridge over the culvert and if the verge can be repaired.
2. The post for Horningtoft sign on B1146 at the south end had rotted.
3. The grips had been cleared along Fakenham road but the spoil had been dumped in the bottom of the ditch so allowing less water to flow away.
4. The finger post to FP1 is shrinking and will be reported again.
5. The double bend sign and a repeater sign on Oxwick Road had been damaged.
6. The culvert under the road at Apple Blossom Farm does not appear to be able to carry the amount of water and the lane floods. There is also additional pipes from Carillion at this point.
7. The sign for Gravel Pit Lane at the southern end has been damaged.

### **7.2 Addition of the footpath from Thumb Lane to FP4 to the Definitive Map.**

The documentation for this had been printed and will be distributed. The path was cleared in 1994 and walked in 1995 and there are minutes of the people who walked this path in the minutes.

**8. Correspondence.**

There following correspondence will be circulated.

**8.1 Clerks and Councils Direct January 2016**

**9. Finance.**

**9.1 Budget.**

The budget sheets had been circulated and the Clerk informed the members that CGM had agreed that the charge for the year should only be £180 and therefore it has credited the remainder. In future the amount will be invoiced at the end of the cutting season.

**9.2 Balances and cheques for authorisation.**

Councillor Chapman proposed and Councillor Hawke 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 26 09 15	2402.80
Plus interest	<u>.30</u>
Balance at 24 12 15	2403.10

**Community Account**

Balance at 03 10 15	2736.40
Less cheques authorised 08 09 15	<u>15.98</u>
Balance at 31 12 15	2720.42

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

Spend to Date : £00.00

Cheques for authorisation:

366	Beetley Parish Council	16.66%of subscription to Society of Local Council Clerks	27.83
367	Information Commissioner	Data protection Renewal	35.00

**9.3 Grass Cutting 2016.**

The Clerk had obtained a quotation from Norse Eastern which was for £251.83. As this is greater than that from CGM which is £180 it was agreed to remain with CGM.

**9.4 Precept.**

Councillor Chapman proposed and Councillor Hawke seconded the resolution that this be set at £1750 the same as last year. All were in favour.

**9.5 Norfolk Age UK.**

It was agreed unanimously not to donate to this.

**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 8 March 2016 to follow the Annual Parish Meeting in St. Edmund's Church.

The meeting closed at 2112.