

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HEVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 4th APRIL 2017 AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Cllr D Bunn (Chairman)
Cllr P Carrick
Cllr A Bunn
Cllr S Medler
Cllr T Palmer
Cllr G Crane
Cllr A Coldham
Cllr J Norton
Cllr A Ramsbottom
Cllr M Williamson
Cllr D Fox-Willis
K Medler (Clerk)

Parishioners: 15

In attendance: County Cllr D Roper
Revd M McPhee

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from PC G Shepherd.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS

There were no declarations of interest or dispensation requests.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on the 7th March 2017 were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman following a correction under item 5h: Balance at the bank should read £49,203.82.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minutes from March 2017

Whilst the minutes correctly reflected what was reported by the Clerk in relation to the Village Hall play area costs, these were reported incorrectly. The final cost of the play area to the Parish Council was in fact £23,881.61 excluding VAT which means only £7,381.61 was used from the New Homes Bonus. The remaining figures quoted were correct. The clerk apologised for the error.

County Councillors Report

NCC Admissions have confirmed 'The Local Authority is not aware of any proposed changes to catchment areas for Aylsham at this time'.

5. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

a. Saffron Housing

In the absence of Mr S Watts, the Clerk read out a statement from Saffron which outlined their intentions for the land on Westgate and provided those present with drawings of the proposed layout. The Clerk reminded the meeting that the site is still classed as an Exception Site and therefore should benefit the village – affordable homes are considered a 'benefit'. The Housing List does not provide evidence of need for home ownership, only rented accommodation. Shared ownership homes do not necessarily go to 'local' people, but BDC residents, however BDC do usually look to the village first. The Clerk was asked to re-read to the meeting a resident's letter dated 3rd June 2016, which she did.

County Cllr Dan Roper joined the meeting at 20:20

Following much discussion, it was noted that those parishioners present are concerned about: further flooding issues, extra traffic along a narrow road, there will be no benefit to the village from the housing, School places, the street scene (on the opposite side of the road they could only build bungalows), no 'need' has been shown for additional houses and Saffron are not sticking to what they said back in October 2013. Parish Councillors were unhappy that the electricity pole was moved after Saffron advised the cost of doing so was prohibitive. It was then agreed that the residents letter dated 3rd June 2016 should be sent to Saffron, with all the concerns raised above and a request that they defer putting in their planning application until a representative attends a Parish Council meeting to answer the issues raised. County Cllr D Roper advised that when the planning application is submitted he will ensure it is called in to Planning Committee. Twelve of the resident's present wanted it recorded that in their opinion 'the whole thing stinks'.

b. Finance

i) Accounts for payment

The following accounts were presented for payment and were approved:

Mrs K Medler (Expenses)	£77.25
HMR&C (PAYE)	£143.60
NALC (Annual subscription)	£224.74
TT Jones Electrical (Street lighting maintenance)	£40.16

The Clerks standing order will be paid on the 5th April 2017.

It was noted that with effect from the 1st April 2017 the Clerks salary will increase in line with the agreement made by the National Joint Council in May 2016.

The following receipts were noted:

Allotment rent

Laurel Club refund of grant

£65.00

£173.00

Balance at the bank now stands at £48,606.07.

ii) Financial Regulations

These were reviewed and amendments agreed.

c. Parish Partnership Bid

The Clerk advised the Councils bid was partially successful in that only one SAM2 sign has been approved. This is because the sign can only be in the same place for four weeks and not be put back there again for eight weeks. As we only have two sites we wish to cover one is enough. Stratton Strawless Parish Council no longer wish to share the signs so ideally, we need another site to cover the twelve week period so the sign is not sitting around idle for four weeks. The Clerk suggested The Heath and this was agreed (subject to Highways consent). Before signing the acceptance and sending a cheque we need to set up a team to manage the sign. Cllrs P Carrick and M Williamson agreed to be responsible for The Heath and Cllr G Crane agreed to cover The Street. Cllr A Ramsbottom will see if she can secure someone to cover Brick Kiln Road and report back at the next meeting.

2 members of the public left the meeting at 21:00

6. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Correspondence

The Clerk has received a letter from a resident concerning FP2 which runs from The Heath to the back of the School. As NCC are responsible for the footpaths, this has been forwarded onto them. The Chairman commented that he has looked at the path and feels just the hedge needs trimming back to allow clear access for walkers.

Norfolk Family Mediation are seeking a donation to their work. All agreed not to send anything on this occasion.

b. Youth Advocate Report

The Youth Group will be closed over Easter but they are looking at opening over the Summer again as it was so successful last year. They are hoping to be able to send some photographs in for the next magazine. The Chairman thanked Cllr A Ramsbottom for all her hard work with this.

c. Village Hall Report

Cllr J Norton advised the see saw should be fitted on the 10th April.

The Hall is having a lot of trouble with dog fouling and as a result they have contacted Environmental Health. Posters will initially be put up but if they do not help BDC have said they will look at installing CCTV. Residents may have seen on Facebook that a few weeks ago, the Youth Group picked up a whole bin bag full of dog poo before allowing the children out. This is not acceptable and all residents are encouraged to report this behaviour to BDC, wherever in the village it occurs. To stop dogs using the Hall grounds would require a Public Space Order.

Following the meeting set for the 28th March, several people have come forward (although only one person attended the meeting) and they will attend the next Village Hall meeting on the 11th April to be co-opted onto the committee so the Hall can continue.

d. Police Report

Full details for January are on the website but four crimes were recorded. February and March figures are not yet available but PC G Shepherd has confirmed that the 'Police.uk' website will run two months behind. Our local PCSO is currently off on long term sick and is not being replaced so PC G Shepherd is covering things on his own.

e. County Councillors Report

The County Council is winding down leading up to the Elections. After the Elections, County Councillors will be given a £6000 budget for Highways in their areas – at present it is not clear how this will work. There is talk that this may be merged with the Parish Partnership Scheme in the future but with some County Councillors covering more Parishes than others, it is again unclear how this will work.

The sign on Town Corner has been raised as a visibility issue and whilst Highways have stated this sign has been in that position for many years, they are happy to move it onto the wall if the landowner agrees. The Clerk advised when she raised this with Highways she was referred to BDC. Cllr G Crane believes the sign has been moved back as it has new posts. Cllr D Roper asked that the Parish Council liaise with the land owner and highways to resolve.

Advance warning that the Holt Road will be closed South of Horsford from the 10th to the 13th April 2017.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Residents believe that speeding along the A140 is still an issue however as stated in the minutes from March 2017 'Highways have said they will consider a consultation on the speed limits once the full impact of the housing in Aylsham and the NDR is known'. For now, it seems, nothing more can be done.

Cllrs A Coldham and A Ramsbottom asked if they could purchase some new plants for the Village Green and Telephone Box and this was agreed.

8. MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Saffron Housings proposals for Westgate and the Parish Partnership Bid.

Next meeting is on the 2nd May 2017 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall and will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 21:30