

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HEVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 7th MARCH 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
K Medler (Clerk)

Parishioners: 10

In attendance: County Cllr D Roper

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor D Fox-Willis.

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 10th January 2017 were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman following a correction under items 5a and 6c: Mr R Bowes should read Mr R Barnes. Apologies were given for the error.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minutes from December 2016

For clarification purposes, it should be noted that under item 6d of these minutes, Sarah Balls was not the complainant.

Lighting in the Herbert Phillipo car park

The lights have now been installed and are fully operational.

New Road

The Clerk has received confirmation from Highways that they will look to undertake some remedial works in the Spring when the section of road concerned has dried out a little.

Cycle racks

These have now been purchased and installed ready for use. Thank you to the Chairman for fitting them.

Blocked pipe near Cobbleacre

This has been reported and is being dealt with.

Westgate Green

Highways have now confirmed the damaged pipe will be repaired.

5. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

a. Herbert Phillipo Fund

Under 5's

The Clerk spoke to Anita, one of the committee members, back in January 2017 and made her aware of the £3780.17 still available to the group. The committee were due to meet in January but nothing more has been heard. Cllr J Norton advised the group are meeting tonight so perhaps we will hear after that.

Village Hall Play Equipment

The extra fencing is now in and the See Saw is expected to be installed on or around the 27th March 2017. The Clerk asked Mr R Barnes (who was present) if he could just touch up further areas of the fence which are chipped. The Clerk will monitor the paint situation on the fence as several areas are chipping exposing the metal – it may be that the supplier will need to be contacted should this continue. The final cost of the play area to the Parish Council was £24,411.11 excluding the VAT which can be recovered. This sum was made up of £10,500.00 re-allocated from the Adult Gym, £6,000.00 re-allocated from the Morgans Way play area and £7,911.11 from the New Homes Bonus. Cllr A Ramsbottom asked if the gate on to the field was going to be locked as the 'r clip' currently being used to secure the gate is easily removeable by children. Several members of the Village Hall committee were present and agreed the committee will look at putting a key operated lock in place.

Trod Path

Section 1 – The start date for this has been put back to the 13th March 2017 due to other schemes over running. Work is expected to take around a week.

Section 2 – The Chairman advised he visited the landowner along with Cllr T Palmer and he is prepared to grant the Parish Council a 50 year lease on the strip of land required so the path can go ahead on this section. It may be necessary to remove some hedging and the landowner has asked that this is replaced at the Parish Councils cost. The landowner has suggested a written agreement is prepared and signed by him and the Clerk to avoid incurring any legal costs. All agreed this was very generous of the landowner and the Clerk and Chairman should proceed to put the agreement in place.

b. Planning

The following plan was considered:

20170320 – Garden Cottage, New Road - No objections

The Clerk gave updates on 3 applications all of which are detailed on the Parish Councils website.

c. Grant funding given to the Hevingivers in 2014

Following discussions, it was agreed the group could retain the remaining £264.00 which they still hold and have ring fenced for hall hire. There are 3 events planned for this year so far. The committee agreed to update the Clerk with expenditure of the funds again in March 2018.

The Clerk asked whether the group could comment on insurance and damage to the Village Green as mentioned at the Council meeting in December 2016 for the event on the 19th March 2017. Cllr A Coldham was able to advise that whilst the group themselves do not have insurance to cover their fundraising activities, the suppliers attending will have insurance of their own. The event does not include any activities Insurers consider 'risky'. Participants in the event are being asked for a commitment to clear up, repair any lasting damage or sacrifice funds raised to manage any necessary repairs. Signs will be erected asking all participants to take responsibility for clearing litter and protecting the space from damage. No cars will be allowed on the Village Green. Loading and unloading is allowed on the edge of the Green but otherwise the Herbert Phillipo car park will be used. All agreed these arrangements are acceptable.

Cllr A Coldham advised The Laurel Club have not needed all the grant they were given for their winter scheme and so was able to hand the Clerk a cheque for the £173.00 remaining.

d. Overview & Scrutiny Survey

Following discussions all agreed the Council did not wish to participate in the survey.

e. Village Allotments

The Clerk advised one of the tenants has asked if it would be possible to keep some bees on their plot. Following discussions and taking into account information provided by the Clerk, a vote was taken with 8 against, 1 in favour and 1 abstention.

f. Annual Parish Meeting

This will take place on the 4th April 2017 at the Village Hall. All parishioners are encouraged to attend, as this is not a Parish Council meeting but a meeting for parishioners to raise matters and discuss issues that concern them about the Village. The agenda will be issued one week prior to the meeting so if anyone has anything they would like discussed please advise the Clerk by the 25th March 2017.

County Councillor D Roper joined the meeting at 20:15

g. CPRE Pledge

Following discussions, a vote was taken with 6 in favour of signing the pledge and 4 against. During the discussions Cllr D Roper was asked about possible alterations to the catchment area for Aylsham High School and District boundary changes. Cllr D Roper agreed to look into further and advise.

h. Finance

Accounts for payment

The following accounts had already been paid and were approved:

Anglian Water (Allotments)	£73.03
Zak Branch Tree Services (Footpath hedge cutting)	£300.00
Caloo Ltd (Play area fencing)	£2371.98
Eibe (See Saw for play area)	£2839.80
Barriers Direct (Cycle racks x2)	£42.07

The following accounts were presented for payment and were approved:

Mrs K Medler (Expenses)	£41.20
Eco Colour Print (Magazine printing)	£250.00
Miss E Medler (Magazine production)	£50.00
Felthorpe Forest Nursery (Trees for orchard)	£152.00
Information Commissioner (Data protection registration renewal)	£35.00
Mr D Seppings (Labour to install fencing at VH and remove trees)	£310.00
J Medler Ltd (Cement for play area fencing)	£70.56

The Clerks standing order was paid on the 5th February and 5th March 2017.

The following receipts were noted:

Allotment rent	£20.00
CBS interest	£97.43

Balance at the bank now stands at £49,233.82.

It was agreed that the cost of the trees for the orchard should come out of the allotment fund and the lights for the car park would be funded from the CIL and Herbert Phillipo funds.

6. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Clerks report

The Councils electricity supplier E-on are increasing their prices from the 1st April 2017 by £1.35. The Clerk recommends the Council remain with them for now as with only a few lights in the Village our options for 'shopping around' are very limited. Hopefully with the changing of the street lights to more efficient LED's this will help keep costs down.

The Clerk has been made aware of the state of the forest footpath (PROW5) which is virtually impassable and has reported this to NCC who have said they were already aware of the problem and action has been identified to resolve it. The Rangers will be visiting the Village again soon and requests for work need to be in to them by 9th March 2017. Two requests were suggested: the path areas along the edge of the A140 Cromer Road where the grass has been depleted leaving just mud and the land between the road and the defibrillator on The Heath which is being worn away by vehicles. BDC are running an initiative to keep play areas smoke free. The Clerk has spoken to Caroline Medler and Cllr Jacqui Norton and agreed to sign up to this. Signs will be erected once available.

The Clerk has met with the new vicar and the Church will be using the £1000.00 they currently hold on repairing the Church roof.

b. Youth Advocate Report

Nothing to really report other than everything is still going well.

c. Village Hall Report

Cllr J Norton advised a note has been put into the next magazine regarding the upcoming vacancies on the committee as no-one has come forward yet. Under the Charity constitution a committee cannot run without a Secretary, Chair or Treasurer. The Treasurer of the committee was present and advised that if the vacancies are not filled the Hall and Grounds will be closed from the 1st August 2017 and will include the newly re-vamped play area. The Booking Clerk is the only paid position at £75.00 per month. In answer to a question, the Parish Council were advised they could not take over the Hall and run it under the heading of the Parish Council but could all join the committee and run it as the management committee. The Parish Council are custodian trustees of the land but the Hall must be run by a management committee. Ideally the committee should consist of someone from each group which uses the Hall. A minimum of 4 people are required to meet Quorum rules.

Cllr A Bunn left the meeting at 20:45

Cllr P Carrick will speak to Hellesdon Parish Council as they have recently taken over the running of their Community Centre from the Charity which was running it. Cllr P Carrick also suggested an article should be submitted to the Press to raise awareness of the possible closure of the Hall but it was agreed to revisit that idea at the next Parish Council meeting as by then people will have had a chance to read the magazine and attend the meeting planned: Anyone interested in joining the committee is encouraged to attend an open meeting at the Village Hall at 7:30pm on the 28th March 2017 to find out more information.

d. Police Report

Full details for December are on the website but 2 crimes were recorded. January and February figures are not yet available and the Clerk will take this delay in providing information up with the Police and enquire whether we have a new PCSO in the area.

e. County Councillors Report

Following the Budget meeting, it was agreed Council Tax will be increased by 4.8%: 3% will be ringfenced for adult social care with the remaining 1.8% being used for other services. The Council are still having to make £47million worth of cuts over the year which means £3million less will be spent on Highways this year than last.

Cllr D Roper asked if residents had noticed any difference in the water on the A140 Cromer Road following clearing of the drains in January. Those present said they had not and water still flows into Low Lane following rainfall. One resident commented that until the road was dug up and resurfaced (a few years ago) there were drains along the front of her property.

Highways have advised that they will not put in white lines to stop overtaking along the stretch from Town Corner to the Church as the road doesn't meet their criteria for doing so and they are insisting the camber of the road has not been altered where the recent accidents occurred. Cllr D Roper agreed to refer back to Highways.

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.

Residents confirmed the paths have all been cleared satisfactorily.

Highways are not prepared to replace the damaged sign on The Heath which indicates the entrance to Buxton Heath car park as it doesn't meet their criteria and they have no record of installing it in the first place. Should the Parish Council wish to pay to have it replaced they can do so. All agreed to leave.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The issue of litter in the Church layby and adjoining field on the A140 Cromer Road was raised but the Clerk advised this has been looked into before and regrettably it seems there is nothing that can be done. BDC are responsible for litter and have checked the layby on various occasions following complaints and found no significant litter – they are also satisfied it is not coming from the snack van. BDC will not install a litter bin as they say bins in lay-bys are notoriously abused. The area is litter picked fortnightly. If there is a particularly bad issue with litter at any time, it can be reported to environ.protection@broadland.gov.uk.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (cont....)

A resident asked what the recent notices mean that have been put up regarding land belonging to Mr & Mrs Shaw and A Lakin as it suggests the footpaths are going to be closed. The Clerk advised the notices are saying that 'deposits' (documents) have been submitted to NCC to prevent new PROW's (Public Right of Ways) being added to the land in question. All current legally registered PROW's are still valid and these deposits will not affect these. The Clerk will put a link on the Parish Councils website to NCC's website which shows all of the legally registered PROW's in the village.

A question was also asked about housing on the Ripon Hall land and Cllr P Carrick advised the land has been put in under BDC's 'Call for Sites'. This is still at a very early stage and if the land is accepted it will go out to public consultation. There are no guarantees it will be approved.

Cllr A Coldham advised she believes the defibrillator at the Hall was deployed last week but no details were left so it is not known whether its deployment helped.

8. MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is on the 4th April 2017 which will take place immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting which is at 7:30pm at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21:10