

Page 41

Minutes of Emneth Parish Council meeting held at on Tuesday 7th December 2010 in Emneth Central Hall, Emneth at 7.00pm.

In attendance: Cllr R. Waterfield (in the Chair)

Cllrs: - Mrs Y Howard, Mr M Wiles, Mrs O Graham, Mr N Terrington,
Mr J Fleet, Mr R Towler, Mr S Curtis, Mrs G Harper & Mr M. White.

Parish Clerk:

Mrs M. Meyrick

Emneth Playing Field Committee:

Mr Michael Clayton - Chairman

Public: 0

194. Apologies & Reasons for Absence

194.1. Cllr J. McCourt.

194.2. Cllr A. Green.

194.3. Cllr C. Crofts – Borough Council

194.4. Cllr H. Humphrey – Borough Council.

195. Declarations of Interest

195.1. There were no declarations of interest.

196. Minutes

196.1. The minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 26th October 2010 were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

196.2. The minutes of the Parish Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 2nd November 2010 – amendment – page 40/10, 1st line should read Closed Meeting of the Finance Committee – subject to this amendment the minutes were agreed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

There was concern shown regarding the recording of minutes. The Clerk advised that the discussion relating to a decision need not be recorded, it is the decision that must be recorded. The Clerk will provide the Local Government Act and its legislation for the next meeting.

At this point it was agreed to bring item 203 forward for discussion – Emneth Playing Field Committee Representative Report.

Mr Clayton gave a copy of a report to all members of the Council. The purpose of the report was to: -

- Update the Council with the EPFC with their latest proposals for improving the children's play area.
- To seek formal consent to proceed with the project.
- Council agreement to accept appointment as the Accountable Body in respect of funding application to the Big Lottery.
- Confirmation of Council funding of £5001 & agreement to vary normal financial regulations to allow timely payments to suppliers.

Chairman's Signature_____

Page 42

Mr Clayton went through the report with the Councillors and answered questions when they were brought up. There was concern expressed relating to structures going near the water course and what is the specified distance allowed. Mr Clayton was asked to check this criterion. Cllr Wiles proposed and Cllr Harper seconded to agree to the 5 points raised in the report.

It was unanimously agreed to:-

- To support the project proposal for the new play area as detailed in the report.
- To give written landowner permission & to confirm that no other written permission is necessary for the provision of the play area.
- For Emneth Parish Council to be appointed as the Accountable Body for the HLP funding bid.
- To attach any overriding conditions to the project.
- To approve funding in the total sum of £5001 and agree to vary normal financial regulations so that the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman is authorised to make payments in respect of professional fees up to a maximum of £5000 on certification by Emneth Playing Field Committee and production of invoices that such amounts are due.

197. Items Relating to The Crime & Disorder Act S17 and Other Police Matters

197.1. It was reported that two PCSO's turned up at the Finance Committee meeting that was held last week instead of this one. The Clerk will be e-mailing them details of Parish Council meeting dates.

198. Correspondence Received by the Chairman and/or Clerk & Action

198.1. The Chairman reported that a letter of thanks was received from Mrs Margaret Sawyer thanking the Council for gift to her on her retirement.

199. Miscellaneous Correspondence

199.1. A circular letter from the Fenland CAB and its Annual Report was received. It gave details. The letter thanked the Council for its contribution to its operating costs last year.

It was agreed to carry on with the arrangement the Parish Council has with paying the cost of hiring a room for the CAB to hold its surgeries.

199.2. A letter was received from Elizabeth Truss MP regarding a visit to a Parish Council Meeting.

It was agreed for the Clerk to write to Elizabeth Truss MP inviting her to a future meeting to discuss the issue of unauthorised encampments of Travellers.

199.3. Circulated mail – A letter was received from Norfolk County Council regarding the Big Conversation consultation. The issue of the withdrawal of subsidy for travelling costs for the over 16's who are in education was discussed.

It was agreed for this issue to be put on the next agenda for discussion.

Chairman's Signature_____

Page 43

200.To Deal With Financial Matters

200.1. A copy of the Bank Account Reconciliation to the 30th November was given to Councillors.

200.2. Monies received since last meeting.

- £1021.00 was received from Norfolk County Council for the payment of the light column that was damaged and had to be replaced.
- £1049.31 was received for annual rent of Agricultural Holdings.
- £1260 was received for Cemetery Fees.

200.3. Accounts for Payment since the last meeting.

Accounts for payment December 2010						
NO	Name	Chq No	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
1	Paul Downham	101999	Work on Playing Field re: Barrier	396.00		396.00
2	MHB Services	102041	Footway Light Maintenance Nov/Dec	76.96	13.47	90.43
3	Country Grounds Maintenance	102042	Grass Cutting	569.10	99.60	668.70
4	E-On	102043	Unmetered Supply Oct	112.32	19.66	131.98
5	Mrs M. Sawyer	102044	Clerk's Salary & Expenses	678.57	12.32	690.89
6	Emneth Central Hall Committee	102045	Room Hire Jan 2010 – Dec 2010	490.00		490.00
7	British Telecom	102046	Telephone	48.25	8.44	56.69
8	Mrs O. Graham	102047	Re-imburement – Clerk Leaving Gift	55.31	9.68	64.99
9	Mr Bailey	102048	Caretaker Salary	165.00		165.00
10	Mrs Eady	102049	Salary	189.76		189.76
	Total			2781.27	163.17	2944.44

The accounts for December were agreed for payment.

200.4. It was reported that notice has been given by the Emneth Central Hall Management Committee that the hiring charge for Parish Council meetings will go up to £12.50 from the 1st January 2011.

200.5. Report from Finance/Budget Panel for the Parish Precept 2011/12. Each Councillor were given a copy of the budget recommendations from the Finance committee. There followed a discussion whereby concern was shown regarding the level of increase in the

Chairman's Signature_____

Page 44

Precept. It was proposed by Cllr Harper and seconded by Cllr Wiles to accept the Finance Committee recommendation of a £26,000 Precept.

It was agreed with 2 against to have a Precept of £26,000 for the year 2011/2012. It was also agreed to conduct a review of the allotment rents and cemetery fees.

201. Planning Matters

201.1. Planning Decisions received.

10/01574/EXCU - 242 Outwell Road, Emneth - Extension for time for the implementation of a planning permission reference 05/01030/CU - Change of use from farm produce shop to dwelling - REFUSED BY BOROUGH COUNCIL	
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201.2. Planning Applications

10/02060/CM – Emneth Nursery School, Holycroft Road - storey flat-roofed extension to the north elevation, and the replacement of 2no. doors on the south elevation, including associated works NO OBJECTION	
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201.3. Correspondence was received from the Borough Council informing the Parish Council that the Local Development Framework, Core Strategy has been submitted to the Secretary of State for examination.

201.4. The Borough Council are holding two Planning training sessions on the 25th and the 26th January. If any Councillors wish to attend please inform the Clerk by the 16th December.

202. Highway Matters

202.1. The Clerk reported that she has received a number of complaints regarding the provision of grit bins. The Clerk will source the cost of grit bins and any liabilities regarding the dispersal of grit on the footway.

It was agreed to place the issue of grit bins on the next agenda for discussion.

202.2. An issue relating to the blocking of public right of way, this side of the drain in Mill Road was discussed. The Chairman will look into this and report at a future meeting.

202.3. It was reported that there is a gravel footpath with unauthorised curbing at the top of Fen Dyke.

203. Playing Field Matters

203.1. It was reported that a quote was received by the previous Clerk regarding the hire of a marquee for the Football Gala next year. There has been no contact made from the Football Club concerning this.

It was agreed for the Chairman to contact Stuart Kierman to discuss procedures.

Chairman’s Signature_____

Page 45

203.2. Correspondence from NORSE was received regarding the Grounds Maintenance Contract for the 2011 season. The total cost of the contract is £4702.05 which includes charges for the gang mowing as well as four extra cuts and a monthly cut round the children's play area.

It was agreed to accept the NORSE contract of £4702.05 for the 2011 season.

204. Footway Lighting Matters

204.1. It was reported that the cost of street lighting has gone up by £5.45 per month due to the increase of lights from 49 to 51. The new charge should have started in August but was missed until the October invoice.

205. Agricultural Land Matters

205.1. There was no land matters to report.

206. Cemetery Matters

206.1. Details of the new Maintenance contract prices for the grounds maintenance of the Cemetery, Churchyard, Village Sign, Betsy's Pad including the use of herbicide and the litter pick of the bus shelters was received.

It was agreed to accept the Grounds Maintenance contract from Country Grounds Maintenance for the 2011 season.

206.2. Correspondence has been received from Mr Brian Krill who is a War Memorial Advisor. The letter relates to the War Memorial in Emneth asking who is responsible for it. He is currently writing a report which will present a case for a name of a British soldier to added to the Emneth War Memorial.

It was agreed that Emneth Parish Council are the custodians of the War Memorial and are responsible for it. The Clerk was instructed to write Mr Krill informing him of this.

207. Correspondence Received from Land Registry

207.1. A circular letter was received from the Land Registry inviting Parish Councils to register any land that they own.

208. Meetings, Training etc.

208.1. There has been no notification of any further training or meetings received.

209. Consultation Papers Received

209.1. Information relating to a Norfolk County Council Shopping Service had been. This is a service that is open to members of the public for a small fee who are unable to get out and do their own food shopping. The service allows for an employee of NCC to ring the person paying for the service on a regular basis taking their shopping list over the phone. They will then shop using the online shopping service at a supermarket of the customer's choice.

209.2. The Chairman reported on a briefing he attended at the Council Chamber in Wisbech which relates to an investigation into the gas monitoring of Wisbech canal. The investigation concluded that there is no contamination that is going to cause anyone any harm. The canal

Chairman's Signature_____

Page 46

does not have a liner which could be punctured. The canal has got vegetable matter and household waste which is waterlogged within it. The good thing about this investigation is that the public do not have to carry out a contamination survey when buying and selling properties in the area in future.

209.3. A discussion took place relating to the Mayors Volunteer Awards and whether they can be given posthumously.

It was agreed for the Chairman to look into this and report back at the next meeting.

209.4. A discussion took place regarding the Royal celebrations for 2011 and whether something could be given to the children.

It was agreed to place this on the next agenda for discussion.

209.5. The issue of a blocked drain on Holycroft Road was discussed.

It was agreed for the Chairman and the Clerk to liaise and for the Clerk to write a letter to the organisation/person concerned.

210. Date of next Meeting

210. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 11th January 2011, commencing at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 9.40p.m.

Chairman's Signature_____