

13/08

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council of Emneth that took place on Tuesday 29th April 2008 in the Central Hall

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

- 058/08 PRESENT** were Councillors Mr R Waterfield (Chairman), Mrs O Graham, Mrs Y Howard, Mr M Wiles, Mr S Curtis, Mr R Towler, Mrs G Harper, Mr J McCourt, Mr N Terrington, Mr A Green, Mr M White, Mr F Blake, the Clerk Mrs M Sawyer and 4 members of the public. The Chairman welcomed Councillor F Blake back after his illness.
- 059/08 APOLOGIES** for absence were received from County/Borough Councillor Mr H Humphrey and Borough Councillor Mr C Crofts.
- 060/08 COUNCILLORS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AS REQUIRED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT 2001**
None declared.
- 061/08 MINUTES** of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2008 had previously been distributed to all councillors with copies being made available for public perusal at the post office and the Central Hall notice board. They were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.
- 062/08 REPORT OF PARISH/POLICE LIAISON OFFICER & OTHER POLICE MATTERS.**
There was no Police Officer present.
Community Action Group - CAG
The Chairman reported that there were to be changes to the set up of the Safer Neighbourhood Team but details were not yet available. A councillor queried how the bicycles for PCSO use would be dispersed. The Chairman replied that he did not know but the question would be asked at a future CAG or SNT meeting.
- 063/08 CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE**
CAB Surgeries
The Chairman read out a letter from CAB thanking Council for financial help and saying that the sessions at Emneth would be continuing.
- 064/08 MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**
The following items were dealt with at the meeting:
- **Local Development Framework** - Members were advised of the dates and venues for a number of discussion sessions. Interested parties to advise the Clerk so that places can be reserved.
 - **Borough Council Standards Committee** - Members were informed that the local Standards Committee were recruiting both Independent Members and Parish Council Members. Details and application forms were circulated.
- The following items are in circulation:**
- Wash Week Photographic competition details & entry forms
 - Standards Board Bulletin 38
 - Standards Committee Minutes
 - Norfolk Matters Spring issue
 - Norfolk Carers Information Guide
 - Tapping House Times
 - CAG Meeting Minutes
 - SA Road Safety Minutes
 - Honeybee Checklist
 - Various advertising leaflets.

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FINANCIAL MATTERS**a) Received Since Last Meeting:**

- i) Oakley Farms – Newlings Charity 2006/2007 - £10.00
- ii) BCKLWN – Precept £24000.00
- iii) Anglian Co-operative – memorial tablet for the late Graham Paul Brace - £80.00
- iv) D G Hill – memorial tablet for the late Gerald Riley - £80.00

b) The following invoices were approved for payment:

- i) MHB Services Ltd – footway lights maintenance contract –April/May - £84.02 per month
- ii) Mrs J Eady – salary –March/April - £194.48
- iii) Mr D Melton – groundsman salary & expenses March/April - £59.50
- iv) E.On Energy – unmetered supply - £131.49
- v) BCKLWN – Waste Disposal - £1217.48
- vi) Fenland Hygiene – road sweeper's supplies & extra keys - £28.34
- vii) Emneth Playing Field Committee – grants - £5625.00
- viii) Allianz Insurance – renewal premium - £1219.80
- ix) NCAPTC – annual subscription - £351.29

c) Precept Calculation

The Chairman drew attention to the amount of Precept shown on current Council Tax Bills. He explained that an error had been made by Borough Finance when calculating the Precept that had been requested. He explained the method by which the Borough intended to recoup the deficit and that after taking advice on the correctness of their proposals his was his intention to challenge the decision. A draft of the letter he proposed sending to Borough Finance was read out. Council approved the wording of the letter and asked the chairman to proceed.

066/08

PLANNING MATTERS**1 The following Planning Applications were discussed and determined:**

- a) **08/00285/O (Amended)** – land north of 16 Elm High Road – construction of dwelling with integral garage – Mr & Mrs C Kinnerman - after studying the changes, no further comments were made.
- b) **08/00789/O** – Acreview Elmside – extension to dwelling – Mr M Coleman – application supported.
- c) **08/00933/F** – land east of 33 Ladys Drove – construction of 3 bedroom detached house – Mr E Cowls. The Chairman permitted a member of the public to express her views on the application. Council was informed that remnants of the old Hagbeach Hall moat were home to a colony of great crested newts. After considering all aspects concerning the application it was council's decision to object to the proposals on the grounds that the development would be over-intensive and set a precedent for similar development in other gardens in the locality. Council is also concerned that a detached house amongst other semi-detached houses would be visually out of keeping. Development control to be asked to ensure that a wildlife survey is conducted on site before any planning permission is granted.
- d) **08/00985/F** – 154 Church Road – single storey and first floor extensions to dwelling – Mr A Theobald - supported.
- e) **08/01028/F** – 53 Fendyke Road – two-storey extension to dwelling - Mr D Barker – application supported.
- f) **08/01109/F** – 85 Elm High Road – retention of marquees – Mr M Stratton – application supported.
- g) **08/01112/F** – land rear of plot 2 Hawthorn Road – construction of stables and tack room – Mr W Harris – application supported.

**066/08 PLANNING MATTERS(contd)
2 New Property Address**

It was noted that the property on Plot 2 Meadowgate Lane incorrectly addressed as being in Elm had now been changed into Emneth.

067/08 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Members were informed that additional bollards had now been erected at Raceys Close as cars were still squeezing through and driving on the grassed areas.

Bus Shelters

- **Gaultree Square** – on-going.
- **New matters reported:**
 - **Outwell Road & Elmside**– potholes reported. Chairman to confirm exact location.
 - **Speed Petition** – all members had previously received a copy of a letter from Christopher Fraser MP, enclosing a petition calling on the Government to reduce speed limits past schools. Agreed to pass to the post office for display.
 - **Litter Bins** – a letter from the Borough Council regarding provision of litter bins was circulated. The Chairman agreed to set up a meeting with Borough representatives as requested, to discuss the proposals.

068/08 PLAYING FIELD MATTERS

The Representative Member reported that the official opening of the pavilion will be on 2nd June 2008. Some councillors expressed concern over possible mis-use of the facility and stressed the need for proper management and control. Council was assured that measures were to be put in place to address these matters.

The Clerk confirmed that a marquee had been ordered for the football gala on 7th & 8th June at a cost of £360.00 plus insurance and VAT.

069/08 COMMUNITY INFORMATION POINT

Council received a report that the Community Information Point was officially launched on 21st April 2008. The opening event was well attended. As soon as the volunteer roster is prepared it will be opened to the public.

070/08 YOUTH CLUB

Councillor Green reported that the first meeting will be held in the Central Hall on 13th May 2008. A grant of £3000 to buy equipment has been received. Meetings will be fortnightly. The Chairman commented that at some time in the future the parish council should consider subsidising the hall hire fees.

071/08 FOOTWAY LIGHTING MATTERS

Outages - None reported.

072/08 AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS MATTERS

Hungate Road Holdings

The Chairman reported that Mr Hill was still upset that he had been given notice to quit his holdings. The clerk was instructed to write to him again and explain the situation regarding his Leases and to issue new Notices as needed to take effect from Michaelmas 2009.

Vacant Land – Hungate Road

There was further discussion regarding the vacant land off Hungate Road and how it should be looked after. Council was advised that it had not been possible to find anyone to farm the land short-term as was hoped at the last meeting. The Chairman was asked to arrange for a contractor to spray the land with herbicide. Mr Hill to be advised when this will take place so that he can clearly mark where his land begins.

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CEMETERY MATTERS

1 Working Party Report

It was reported that the inspection went ahead as planned on 8th April 2008. There were now four headstones surrounded by netting. After considerable discussion it was decided that the next of kin of the graves in question should be reminded of the cemetery regulations and be asked to remove the netting.

2 The Chairman reported that he had received a request for a coloured headstone on a recent interment in plot J20. A sample was circulated. It was agreed that the request be allowed.

3 Headstones

Council as advised that the Clerk had received a telephone call from a Church Warden regarding insurance liability to say the matter was being investigated.

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PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

On-going.

075/08

CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

The following document is in circulation:

- Consultation on Improving Access to primary Care.

076/08

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the Annual Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as being Tuesday 27th May 2008, commencing at 7.00pm in the Emneth Central Hall.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm

R Waterfield

CHAIRMAN

Dated 27th May 2008