

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council of Emneth that took place on Tuesday 12th January 2010 in the Central Hall

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

001/10 **PRESENT** were Councillors Mr R Waterfield (Chairman), Mr M Wiles, Mrs G Harper, Mr N Terrington, Mr R Towler, Mrs Y Howard, Mr S Curtis, Mr M White, Mr J McCourt, the Clerk Mrs M Sawyer and County/Borough Councillor Mr H Humphrey and Borough Councillor Mr C Crofts. Mr M Clayton was also present to give an update on the Playing Field Committee's proposals for renovation of the children's play area.

002/10 **APOLOGIES** for absence were received from Councillors Mrs O Graham and Mr A Green.

003/10 **COUNCILLORS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AS REQUIRED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT 2007**

Councillor J McCourt declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 6/2 (Minute Number 007/10/iv). He signed the register and left the room whilst the matter was discussed and determined.

004/10 **MINUTES** of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1st December 2009 had previously been distributed to all Councillors with copies being made available for public perusal at the post office, the Central Hall notice board and the parish council website. They were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

005/10 The Chairman suspended Standing Orders at 7.05pm and invited Mr M Clayton to apprise Council on the Playing Field Committee's Intentions for the play area. Mr Clayton spoke of problems with the skate ramp installations and said that hopefully all was now proceeding well. He then explained what the committee hoped to do to bring the play area up to standard. The Chairman reminded him that the parish council was still holding £5000.00 of the S106 money to help with this project.

The Chairman thanked Mr Clayton for his report and Standing Orders were re-instated at 7.30pm.

006/10 **REPORT OF PARISH/POLICE LIAISON OFFICER & OTHER POLICE MATTERS.**

There was no Police Officer present.

The Chairman gave a report on the last CAG/LAG meeting that he had attended. He said that the current priority area was in and around Downham Market.

Norfolk Police Authority Budget Proposals 2010/2011

Details of an open meeting to discuss the proposals on the evening of Thursday 21st January 2010 were circulated. It is doubtful if any member will be able to attend as the date clashes with a local planning training and information event. Literature outlining the options was circulated.

Homewatch

Following the last meeting the Chairman had asked the Clerk to write to the Deputy Chief Constable voicing concerns over the withdrawal of support for Homewatch Groups in the county. The Chairman read out his response that gave an assurance that a new centralised support mechanism was in the process of being set up.

007/10 **MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- i) **Letter from Elm Parish Council** Copy of a letter sent to NCC requesting additional street lighting on the A1101/Gosmoor Lane junction. Contents noted.
- ii) **Norfolk RCC** - details of a meeting titled 'Tackling Norfolk's Rural Challenge' were circulated.
- iii) **Local Government Re-organisation - Summary of advice given to the Secretary State on Unitary Authority for Norfolk.** Content noted and decided to make a further submission along the lines of that previously sent.

The following items were dealt with at the meeting (contd):

- iv) **Application for Premises Licence submitted by Emneth Post Office.** No objections raised.
- iv) **Renewable Energy Demonstrations** – details of venue and dates circulated.
- v) **Recycling Clothing Banks.** Letter from BCKLWN asking for advice on suitable locations in the parish. No action taken at this time. Correspondence on file for future reference.

The following items are in circulation:

- Standards Board Bulletin
- Health information
- CPRE Fieldwork
- Development Services Newsletter
- Clerks & Councils Direct issue 66
- LAG/CAG Minutes of last meeting
- Norfolk Link 174
- Norfolk Gritting Routes
- SLCC Newsletter
- Police Newsletter
- NRCC Signpost
- Advertising Literature.

008/10

FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Members were advised that the balance of all accounts on 12th January 2010 was £71,281.46 of which £59,761.84 was the Claude Coates Fund. Bank Statements were available.
- b) **Cash received since the last Meeting:**
 - i) Peter Barnes Funerals – Second Interment Fees in respect of the late Winifred May Beckett - £100.00
 - ii) Anglia Co-operative Funerals – Purchase of Rights of Burial in respect of the late Barbara Spencer – £320.00 and reservation of plot for Mr John Mortimer of Friday Bridge - £640.00
 - iii) EDF Energy – wayleave payment - £110.70
- c) **The following invoices were approved for payment:**
 - i) MHB Services Ltd – footway lights maintenance contract –December/January - £82.24. Additional repairs not covered by contract - £189.75
 - ii) E.On – footway lights unmetered supply – November 2009 - £129.17
 - iii) CGM – work in cemetery and churchyard - £217.35
 - iv) Mrs M Sawyer – salary & expenses – December - £645.59
 - v) Mrs J Eady – salary & expenses – December 2009 - £182.70
 - vi) Mr D Melton – salary – December - £80.50
 - vii) Mr R Waterfield – reimburse for items purchased for road sweeper - £14.62
 - viii) Emneth Central Hall Committee – room hire - £690.00
 - ix) Brian Chilvers –groundwork for Skate Park as previously agreed - £15,438.75 from BCKLWN grant. Members were advised that the payment had already been made in order to obtain a reduction in costs that had previously been negotiated by the Chairman.
- d) **Budget & Precept 2010/2011**

A copy of the Budget proposal for the 2010/2011 financial year was given to each member present. The Chairman reported that the Finance sub-committee had met as arranged and he hoped the proposed Precept requirement of £24000.00 met with approval. The projected Budget was discussed item by item and after explanation of some figures it was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to Precept for £24,000.00, no increase on the current year.

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PLANNING MATTERS

- 1 **The following Planning Applications were discussed & determined:**
 - a) **09/01732/F-** 142 Church Road – conservatory extension to dwelling – Mr P Quinney and Miss E Barnes - application supported.
- 2 **The following Decisions by the Planning Authority were noted:**
 - a) **09/01759/F** – 74 Ladys Drove – construction of detached garage – Mr D

- Clingo – permission granted
- b) **09/01852/O** – land south of 40 Gaultree Square – one detached dwelling involving demolition of existing domestic outbuildings – Mrs E Drew – permission granted.
- 3 The following Appeal Decision was noted:**
09/00428/F – land Southeast of 33 Ladys Drove – erection of two semi-detached dwellings – Mr W Sutton – appeal dismissed.
- 4 Planning Scheme of Delegation**
Council was advised that the Clerk had transmitted their concerns over the proposals to the Head of Planning but to date there had been no response.
- 5 Proposed Development behind B&Q**
Members were advised that Frampton's, the developers of the proposed housing behind B&Q were holding an public exhibition on Friday and Saturday 15/16th January 2010 at Elme Hall Hotel to which they had been invited.
- 6 Elm High Road**
Council was advised that the Clerk had reported the suspected breach of planning to the Enforcement Officer but to date there had been no response.
- 7 NCC Validation Requirements** – information received from NCC drawing council's attention to the National and Local List of Validation Requirements when making planning application to them was circulated.

010/10

HIGHWAY MATTERS

It was confirmed that all matters reported at the last meeting have been dealt with as appropriate.

New Matters Reported to be dealt with as appropriate:

- Many potholes reported along Hollycroft Road and Church Road.

Road Safety Improvements – Elm High Road

The Chairman advised Members that he had been in communication with Mott Macdonald and after hearing that an alternative siting was being considered he is happier with the proposals.

Grit Bins

Correspondence from NCAPTC clarifying the legal and insurance implications of Parish Council owned grit bins was circulated. Members noted that as long as the bins had been sited with County Highways agreement and no one person had been designated to spread the grit, the parish council was not liable for any third party claims that might be made. A copy of the correspondence was passed to Councillor Y Howard.

Temporary Road Closure

Members were advised that the C4 would be closed at Forty Foot Engine Bridge for a period of 16 weeks whilst strengthening took place. A signposted diversion will be put in place.

'No Fouling' Signs

Members were advised that a small quantity of metal signs was available from BCKLWN. Arrangements will be made for the Chairman to meet a Borough Council Officer in the parish to identify appropriate locations.

011/10

PLAYING FIELD MATTERS

Dealt with earlier the evening and nothing further to report. See Minute 005/10

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FOOTWAY LIGHTING MATTERS

Outages - None reported.

The Lovells

County Councillor Humphrey was able to inform Members that the cul-de-sac in which the light in question is situated is a private road that has not been adopted by the County Council ergo the maintenance of both the road and the light is the responsibility of the residents. The Clerk will pass this information to the residents and suggest they consult their Deeds to see if this is correct. The Clerk agreed to do whatever she could to assist with the residents in getting repairs done.

Damaged Light at Gaultree Square

There was some discussion regarding the position of the light that had been subjected to more than one vehicular collision during the recent bad weather. It was suggested that

moving it a few feet along the footway might make it less likely to be hit in the future. MHB will be asked to advise.

Part Night Lighting

Members were advised that NCC was considering the introduction of part night lighting for some of its footway lights off the main thoroughfare areas. It was noted that the scheme would be operated piecemeal over a three year period. Members considered this to be an effective cost-cutting method with little detrimental impact.

At this point the Chairman reminded Members that it was past 9.30pm. Members agreed to deal with the rest of the business on the Agenda.

013/10

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS MATTERS

Members were advised that Mr Cutchey had still not paid his rent despite another reminder. The Chairman agreed to visit Mr Cutchey to try to resolve the problem.

014/10

CEMETERY MATTERS

Cemetery Extension

Nothing new to report at this time. Councillor C Crofts offered to try again to get a response from Mr Nash. He will try to set up a meeting at King's Court.

Exhumation Request

Nothing new to report.

015/10

DISCUSSION DOCUMENTS

King's Lynn & West Norfolk LDF – Core Strategy

In circulation.

016/10

VACANCY ON COUNCIL

The Clerk reported that the Returning Officer had been notified and posters advertising the vacancy and advising parishioners of their right to call an election if they wished, had been placed on parish notice boards. She said they would have to wait and see what transpired and if no-one asked for an election the council would be able to start the procedure to co-opt.

017/10

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as being Tuesday 23rd February 2010, commencing at 7.00pm in the Emneth Central Hall.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.58pm

CHAIRMAN

Dated 23rd February 2010