

10/09

DRAFT Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council of Emneth that took place on Tuesday 31st March 2009 in the Central Hall

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

044/09 PRESENT were Councillors Mr R Waterfield (Chairman), Mrs O Graham, Mrs Y Howard, Mr M Wiles, Mr S Curtis, Mr N Terrington, Mr R Towler, Mr M White, Mrs G Harper, Mr J McCourt, the Clerk Mrs M Sawyer, Borough Councillor Mr C Crofts, PCSO S Ross and 17 members of the public.

045/09 APOLOGIES for absence were received from Councillors Mr A Green and Mr F Blake and County/Borough Councillor Mr H Humphrey.

046/09 COUNCILLORS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AS REQUIRED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT 2007
None declared.

047/09 It was resolved to suspend Standing Orders to receive a demonstration on e-consultation. The demonstration was given by Planning Administration Officer Amanda Driver. The Chairman thanked Ms Driver for a most informative session and told her that the council would consider participation in the scheme and let her know.

At this point the Chairman asked members of the public who were present to identify themselves. He invited the group's spokesman to apprise the council of their concerns. Council was informed that following a recent circus on land at 175 Outwell Road, the owners of the land were intending to host a Horse Fair over the May Bank Holiday weekend. A petition against this event and signed by 22 local residents was handed to the Chairman. The petition itemised in detail, the many concerns of those living close to the proposed site. The Chairman stated that the Parish Council had little powers but would support the petitioners and forward their concerns to the Borough Council and police. PCSO Ross said that he would be liaising with Inspector Bates later in the week to stress his concerns.

The meeting re-convened at 7.35pm.

048/09 MINUTES of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 24th February 2009 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 were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

049/09 REPORT OF PARISH/POLICE LIAISON OFFICER & OTHER POLICE MATTERS.

PCSO Ross said that if there were no other matters for his attention he would have to leave. The Chairman thanked him for coming. The Chairman reminded Members that the next SNT meeting was to be held in the Emneth Central Hall on Friday 3rd April commencing at 7.00pm.

050/09 At this point the Chairman asked members if they would agree to Planning Matters being brought forward to permit members of the public to speak. This was agreed and Standing Orders were suspended. Mr R Glowacki the applicant of planning application 09/00329/F (see below) outlined his proposals for the site referred to in the application. A parishioner whose residence was close to the application site was also permitted to apprise the council of his concerns.

Standing Orders were re-instated and the meeting continued with:

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PLANNING MATTERS

- 1 The following Planning Applications were discussed & determined:**
- a) **09/00329/F** - Strawberry Fields, Mill Road - erection of temporary mobile home and polytunnels - Mr R Glowacki. Having previously listened to representations from the applicant and a nearby resident the council discussed the application and determined that it should be supported with reservation regarding the financial viability of the scheme.
 - b) **09/00428/F** - land south of 33 Lady's Drove - construction of 2 semi-detached dwellings - Mr W Sutton. This application was not supported on the grounds that the proposal would result in an over-intensive cramped development. Furthermore the amended design is still not in keeping with those existing nearby.
 - c) **09/00454/O** - land west of 71 Church Road - construction of one dwelling - Mr T Wiles - decision on this application was deferred until the site had been inspected.
 - d) **0900471/F** - Wellesley House, Meadowgate Lane - construction of extension to garage - Mr S J Medlock - application supported.
 - e) **09/00495/F** - 18 Elmfield Drive - extension to existing bungalow - Mr & Mrs J Brown - application supported.
- 2 The following Planning authority Decisions were Noted:**
- a) **09/00082/O** - 37 Church Road - construction of single storey dwelling - Mr A Meek - outline permission granted.
 - b) **09/00185/F** - 95 Hollycroft Road - detached double garage - Mr D Bolton - permission granted.
- 3 E-Consultation**
- There was some discussion on the presentation held earlier in the evening. Members were generally not against giving the method a try, but were not happy at not being able to view large-scale printouts. On the other hand they considered being able to view the plans projected onto a screen would be advantageous and save time as they would all be able to see the plans at the same time. The Chairman agreed to price a suitable projector. The matter will be discussed further at the next meeting.

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MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**The following items were dealt with at the meeting:**

- **Open Water Safety** - a letter from the Borough Council asking parish councils to be alert to dangers of open water under their control. There being no open water under the control of the parish council, the letter was noted and placed on file.
- **The Power of Well-Being** - information is being circulated.
- **Dog waste Bins Audit** - passed to Chairman for completion.
- **Methodist Chapel Renovations** - the Chairman reported that he had received a request from the Methodist Chapel for a grant towards the cost of new windows. He explained that if the council believed the building was of significant importance it was in order for the parish council to make a grant towards renovations/restoration. The Chairman will request sight of the quotation for the work and the organisation's last audited accounts and the matter will be discussed at the next meeting.
 - Advertising Literature on 'How to organise a Litter Pick' was noted.
 - CPRE - details of AGM on Thursday 23rd April 2009 at The Green Quay were circulated.
 - Copies of a leaflet giving guidance on how to make a complaint against members of the Borough Council and Parish & Town Councils were distributed.

053/09 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) **Members were advised that the current balance of all accounts** was £3295.40 with £2592.23 owed by VAT Office.
- b) **Cash received since the last Meeting:**
- i) The Clerk reported an amount of £1.70 owed by a parishioner who had received documents requested under the FOI Act had been paid.
 - ii) Peter Barnes - £320.00 – burial fees in respect of the late Mr Ronald Bassett
 - iii) Peter Barnes - £320.00 – plot reservation fees in respect of Mrs J Bassett.
 - iv) Mr A Clingo - £140.00 – Ashes interment fees and memorial tablet in respect of the late Mrs Ivy Melville
- b) **The following invoices were approved for payment:**
- i) CGM Ltd – grass cutting and extra work in the cemetery - £1329.80
 - ii) MHB Services Ltd – footway lights maintenance contract – March/April - £82.24
 - iii) E.On – unmetered supply – February 2009 - £128.94
 - iv) Mrs Y Howard – travelling expenses - £10.40
 - v) Mr R Waterfield – Chairman’s expenses - £50.00
 - vi) Mrs O Graham – Vice-Chairman’s expenses - £25.00
 - vii) Mrs J Eady – salary & expenses – January 2009 - £143.75. – paid using Chairman’s Delegated Powers as there was no late December meeting.
 - viii) Mrs M Sawyer – salary & expenses – March - £685.22
 - ix) Mr D Melton – salary & expenses – March - £57.50
 - x) Mrs J Eady – salary & expenses - March 2009 - £171.00
 - xi) Mr K Adams – agricultural land maintenance as agreed - £130.00
- c) **Claude Coates Fund/Playing Field Maintenance**
 Members were informed that during the present financial year expenditure on the playing field, including grants, had been £12659.76. The Clerk explained that the £5000 that had been granted towards the building of the new pavilion had been paid from the Parish Council account to protect the rate of interest gained on the Claude Coates Fund. It was agreed that this amount plus interest of £2130.86 earned on the Fund over the year should be transferred to the Parish Council to ensure a reasonable level of free reserves to carry over into the 2009/2010 year. The Clerk explained that there was no pressing need to actual transfer the money as it would gain better interest if left but it did, however, need to mentioned in the Minutes that it was parish council money. This was agreed.

054/09 HIGHWAY MATTERS**New matters reported:**

Hungate Road – overgrown hedge. Chairman to inspect and confirm ownership.

Missing Road Name Sign

The Chairman reported that he had searched the surrounding hedges and did not find the missing sign. Borough Council to be asked to fit a replacement.

Fly-tipping

The Clerk reported that the TV set on the verge along Lady’s Drove had been collected. She had been informed that there were close on 150 old tyres spread along the ditch and it had proved too dangerous for the Borough Council operative to retrieve them. The IDB will be contacted to see if they will help.

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- 054/09 HIGHWAY MATTERS (contd)**
Hollycroft Road – It was reported that wooden posts had been installed on the grass verge outside a property on Hollycroft Road. The Chairman will check the exact location and notify the Clerk so that Highways Dept can be informed.
Also on Hollycroft Road an elder tree is once again causing a nuisance where it is growing. The Highways Dept will be reminded that they had previously agreed to remove the tree.
Elm High Road – damaged 40mph speed repeater sign close to number 107.
- 055/09 PLAYING FIELD MATTERS**
The Representative Member asked for permission to allow parking on parish council land fronting the football pitches for a forthcoming event that was expected to be well attended. Permission was given on condition the land was dry at the time.
Council received a report that progress was being made towards provision of the Skate Ramp and children's play area.
- 056/09 FOOTWAY LIGHTING MATTERS**
Damaged Columns
The Clerk reported that finally a firm quotation for the replacement of the column at the junction of Lady's Drove & Gaultree Square had been received. The delay had been due to EDF 'dragging their heels'. Members were advised that MHB's costs would be £487.50 and EDF's £628.00 with the majority being paid by an Insurance claim.
The light opposite The Gaultree PH (9027) was reported OUT.
- 057/09 AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS MATTERS**
Nothing reported.

As it was now 9.30pm the Chairman asked if Members were happy for the meeting to continue to deal with the remainder of the Agenda. Agreed.
- 058/09 CEMETERY MATTERS**
1 Cemetery Extension
Still no response from Mr Nash. Members were advised that Borough Councillor Mr C Crofts was assisting.
2 The Chairman read out a letter he had received regarding the recent removal of a wire mesh surround from a grave. The writer claimed that it had gone missing. Councillor Mrs O Graham said that as far as she was aware the deceased next-of-kin had collected it from her front garden where it had been placed awaiting collection.
2 Working Party Report
It was reported that there were no serious outstanding problems.
- 059/09 EMERGENCY PLANNING - COMMUNITY PLAN**
On-going.
- 060/09 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT - NEW SCHEME**
On-going.

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CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

Core Strategy Regulation 25 -LDF

The content of the document engendered some discussion after which it was considered appropriate to suggest to Borough Planning that the area of development in the parish should be extended to include two pieces of land deemed to be suitable for development. The Chairman is to check the exact postal code/field identification numbers and notify the Clerk who will make the necessary requests to the Planning Authority.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as being Tuesday 28th April 2009, commencing at 7.00pm in the Emneth Central Hall.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.57pm

CHAIRMAN

Dated 28th April 2009