

COLTISHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall 5th January 2015

Present

Chairman Robert Watson, Vice-Chairman Mike Warren, John Harding, Penny Loiez, Michael Spinks, Doreen Snelling, Keith Childerhouse, Mark Rischmiller, District Councillor Alan Mallett, and 5 parishioners.

1. Apologies

Mike Kirkham tendered apologies, which were accepted. Sue Furness had formally resigned as councillor.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

Doreen Snelling and Michael Spinks declared an interest in The Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity, Item 10.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 3rd November 2014

Accepted as a true record and signed by Robert Watson as Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda

None.

5. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Alan Mallett had nothing to report. Tom Garrod was not present, and had not sent a report.

6. Police report and Speedwatch

No Police report had been received, and no Speedwatch sessions had taken place during December.

7. Correspondence – deferred to later in the meeting

8. Finance

Financial report. Copies of the current budget to date and bank reconciliation had been sent to all councillors, and were accepted.

Payments since last meeting

David Gillett tree survey	660.00
David Gillett removal of tree at school boundary	240.00
J B Elvy salary	458.03

Receipts since last meeting

Broadland DC recycle	679.99
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Bank accounts as at 5th January 2015

Current account	8195.41
Deposit account	40672.77
Total at bank	48868.18
Outstanding cheque	911.50
Total	47956.68

Payments due this meeting

Robert Watson expenses	73.45
Parish expenses	123.32
JB Elvy – salary	458.03
JB Elvy – purchase of scanner/printer	134.98

Garden Guardian – grass	4852.20
Garden Guardian – delegated verge	1158.00
Total	6799.98

NB. The printer/scanner will be added to the asset register.

Garden Guardian had submitted quotations for grass and verge cutting for 2015 with an increase of 1.3%. Councillors **accepted** the quotation, and asked that a quotation for a three-year contract be requested.

The tree survey had identified a considerable amount of work to be done. Three quotations will be obtained, and work prioritised according to the recommendations in the survey.

Payments approved, **proposed** Keith Childerhouse, **seconded** Doreen Snelling, unanimous.

The referendum agreed at the November meeting was published in the December issue of the Marlpit, with collection boxes for votes situated at various points in the village. Votes were counted at the end of December. There was a very low response rate of only 29 votes cast, of which 8 were against the proposal, 21 for. Standing orders were suspended. It was noted that the existing fencing had been damaged by vandals, was now a safety hazard, and would have to be replaced irrespective of any work to the courts themselves. Councillors and parishioners debated the pros and cons of renovating the tennis courts to provide a multi-use, all-weather surface available to all ages and abilities, and noted that the surface and fencing would be completed from the 2015-16 budget, with appropriate equipment purchased from subsequent budgets. It is envisaged that the primary school and playgroup would use the area, as would individuals for informal activities. The football fields and changing rooms are in a disgraceful state, not respected by users, damaged by vandals, with fly-tipped builders' rubbish, which raised concerns that renovated tennis courts would be equally misused. Councillors agreed that allowing the site to further degenerate would encourage misuse. Advice taken from Broadland DC indicated that the Parish Council had acted responsibly by canvassing opinion via the referendum and Marlpit articles. Mike Warren was thanked for the work he had done to obtain estimates of costs. Standing orders resumed. Robert Watson advised that there were four ways to obtain necessary funding : grants, increased precept, sale of parish lands, Community Infrastructure Levy. Grants were unavailable due to lack of community interest, parish land would not be sold, and CIL would only be accessed from new-build development which is still in the planning stage. As immediate action must be taken to make safe the fencing, he **proposed** that the tennis court plans be adopted, and the precept for 2015-16 be increased to £54,000, **seconded** Keith Childerhouse, unanimous. The clerk will advise Broadland DC accordingly and submit the precept demand. An exhibition will be held in the village hall to show plans for the tennis courts and invite comments and suggestions. Formal quotations will be gathered with the intention of beginning work as soon as possible.

9. Planning

In circulation :

Application BA/2014/0394/ FUL. Erosion protection work on Upper Bure at Coltishall Anchor Street, Belaugh, Wroxham. Objections had been raised by residents including Mr and Mrs Watson to the planting of tall grasses which would obscure their view of the river, and loss of the beach area due to dumping of dredged spoil. More appropriate alternatives had been suggested.

Application BA/2014/0007/TPOW. Coltishall Commons Management Trust, tree works to poplar, Upper Common.

Application 20142055. 13 Ling Way, single storey extension to bungalow and erection of garden shed.

Application 20141351. The Railway Tavern, Station Road, 2x two-storey extensions, amended for tree survey.

Application 2014/1936. St James Old Farm, 20 the Street, single storey and first floor extensions with associated alterations.

Objection to Application 20141836. 43 Rectory Road, new dwelling. The site is inappropriate to accommodate a dwelling. Trees may be lost to enable light to the building. The issue of overlooking neighbour's garden still exists. The Lime Kilns must be a consideration in any proposals.

No objection to Application BA/2014/0336/HOUSEH. Landfall, 8 Anchor Street, Following site visit there

January 2015/ 2

were no objections as long as suitable screening is installed. The application was passed by the Broads Authority.

7. Correspondence

1. John Harding had suggested that the £200,000 put forward by Norfolk CC for highways schemes could be sourced for improvements to the footpath at Lower Common. He will investigate.
2. Age UK and Norfolk Accident Rescue Service had requested donations. As local causes are prioritised no donation will be made to either.
3. David Francis sent thanks for the donation to the PCC.
4. The Marlpit sent thanks for the donation to the magazine.
5. Broads Authority forums will be held in several locations to engage with local communities.
6. The Local Government Finance settlement suggested that high-spending parish councils should be subject to the same referendum principle as district and county councils, i.e. to force referendum on any parish council wishing to increase the precept by more than 2%. National Association of Local Councils is opposed to extension of this principle.
7. New Local Councils Award Scheme will replace Quality Councils, with three award levels designed to improve standards in local councils and promote well-performing councils.
8. CPRE is assessing light pollution and advising councils on the use of National Planning Policy Framework clause 125 when considering planning applications.
9. The Post Office in Coltishall will be refurbished during February or March, and will provide longer opening times.
10. Mr Johnson of White Lion Road had complained about HGVs using this and St James as a rat-run to North Walsham Road, causing damage to property. He requested that Highways install notices and/or weight limits, but accepted that delivery vehicles would be exempt. The clerk had obtained an incident reference number from Highways and awaited a response.
11. Peter Croot, Tree Warden, had proposed a list of works to be carried out at the orchard. He and Bill Musson will do much of it on a voluntary basis, with contractors engaged to undertake specialist work. Councillors **agreed** that he and Mr Musson should do as much as they are able, and obtain permission before engaging contractors.
12. New Anglia Growth Hub provides support for new businesses.
13. Rural Housing Alliance publishes a guide for parish councils via Norfolk association of Local Councils. Information passed to Doreen Snelling.
14. Norfolk Constabulary invited parish councils to match-fund 10 PCSOs in Norfolk in a two-year project that could be extended. Mike Warren will investigate expectations and obligations prior to next meeting, and contact neighbouring parishes.

10. Mr Mel Douglass

Mr Douglass had written to the Parish Council submitting his resignation as Trustee and director of the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity. His letter will be circulated to all councillors, and a formal response sent. Doreen Snelling was reminded that Mr Douglass must write to her as Chairman of the Charity, the Charity Commission and Companies' House.

11. Mrs Cooper

Mrs Anne Cooper of 55 Kings Road had requested permission to remove a dead tree behind her fence alongside the bridle path, and move the fence back by 1.5m in line with other fences in the area. As Mr and Mrs Bibby were granted permission for the same matter, Mrs Cooper will be advised that the Council has no objections, proposed Robert Watson, seconded Keith Childerhouse, unanimous.

12. RAF Coltishall

The application from Red Triangle for a solar farm was approved. We are advised that some 7 vehicles per day will travel through the village, although it is not known if this will be the total number or 7 each way. There is already considerably more traffic due to lorries taking beet for storage at the airfield. Although Norfolk County Council keeps Mike Warren and Keith Childerhouse aware of developments, Councillors are unhappy that Norfolk C C concerns itself with traffic impact on Badersfield and Scottow, but has apparently little concern for Coltishall, presumably because there is no alternative route. Vitromite is already operational on the base. It is envisaged that job creation at the base could eventually be 675, which will further increase the volume of through traffic.

13. Notice boards

New notice boards are now in place, and the old notice board from Hautbois is currently under renovation by Jeremy Hall. Mike Kirkham has bought magnets at a cost of £9.00, to be reimbursed. He was thanked for his work on this project and for bringing it to a successful conclusion.

14. Any other business

None.

15. Public participation

Mrs Watson from Anchor Street asked if the council could intervene with companies operating helicopters, which fly over her property at low level and are very noisy. Their numbers have increased significantly, and if the helipad at Yarmouth closes it is expected that there will be a further increase. She was advised that permission is given to these companies by the CAA, and any variation to their routes would probably require a petition.

Paul Savory thanked the council for the new notice board which is a great improvement.

Robert Watson congratulated councillors and members of the public present on the mature response to the debate on increasing the precept.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm. Next meeting is on Monday 2nd March 2015 in the Village Hall Lounge at 7.30pm