

Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 31st October 2011
Venue: Methodist Church, Bridewell Lane, Acle
Time: 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mr B Brooks, Mr D Burnett, Mr B Coveley, Mrs E Elliott, Mrs D Fisher (Chairman), Mr B Grint, Mr J Harriss, Mr A Hemmingway, Mrs L Hemsall (also district councillor) Mr N Law, Mr R Perry and Mrs M Steed

1. **PUBLIC FORUM**

There were twelve members of the public present. District Councillor Lana Hemsall gave a report; a restitution circle dealing with anti-social behaviour was well attended, and there were some good discussions about what facilities were needed in Acle. A new youth club will be set up shortly.

2. **APOLOGIES** Brian Iles (County Councillor)

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Lana Hemsall reminded the meeting that she is also a Broadland District Councillor and as such she declares a personal interest in any matters relating to Broadland District Council which may be discussed at the meeting.

Tony Hemmingway declared a personal interest in any matters where he might be asked to carry out maintenance work for the Council.

John Harriss declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the proposed land for development off Norwich Road as his house borders this land.

4. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 26th September 2011 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Diane Fisher as Chairman.

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

5.1 The Royal British Legion sent a letter of thanks for the recent donation.

5.2 Basil Tibbenham sent a letter of thanks for the retiring gift given by the councillors.

5.3 The Norfolk County Council contractors cut through the roots of the folly tree thereby making pruning more urgent, in order to balance the tree. The Christmas lights have been removed by the Parish Council's contractors and will be replaced as soon as possible.

5.4 The front hedge of the Damgate Lane play area has been cut back.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

6.1 The Greater Norwich Development Partnership has sent details of its proposed Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedules. The Government has introduced the CIL as a way of collecting contributions from developers to provide infrastructure to support development. Neighbourhoods where CIL money is raised should receive a "meaningful proportion" of the CIL income to spend on local infrastructure projects. Communities should begin to think of projects which might benefit.

6.2 It was agreed to give a donation of £75 to the Citizens Advice Bureau.

6.3 Norfolk Rural Community Council has invited councillors to attend a meeting on 23rd November on Saving Fuel Costs in Rural Norfolk.

- 6.4 Broadland District Council has decided to withdraw the funding for the delegated functions of the monitoring of street cleaning from March 2012. Funding for the maintenance of the public conveniences will be continued and councils will continue to be consulted on street naming and numbering.
- 6.5 The Acle Community Archive Group has asked for the grant for the rental of the premises, £600. (Brian Grint declared interest as a member of the group.) The donation was agreed.
- 6.6 NCC sent an update on the project to provide better Broadband access for rural areas; residents will be invited to register their interest in receiving better access from January.
- 6.7 The committee of the former youth club has sent a cheque for £2,577.20, which was the balance in the account when the club closed. This money will be used to fund the new youth club.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

7.1 Plans discussed at the meeting:

- i) **Mr & Mrs Wells, Jadan (Crown Ground), Reedham Road** – single storey rear extension. The councillors had no objections to the plans.
- ii) BDC's shortlisted sites for development. (John Harriss declared a personal and prejudicial interest and left the room). Diane Fisher reported that the public exhibition in Acle was poorly attended. Acle has been designated a Key Service Centre with a minimum of 100 – 200 dwellings up to 2026. There are three sites proposed for Acle, including one for 150 residential units with open space provision and access from Norwich Road. There was some discussion about this and it was agreed to consider it again at the next meeting.
- 7.2 Planning results from **Broadland District Council**:
- i) **Hillside Farm, Reedham Road** – bungalow with garage – outline approval.
- ii) **Barn adj, Acle Rectory** – change of use and conversion of barn to dwelling – full approval.
- iii) **Land rear of The Cottage, The Green** – vehicular access – full approval.

8. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- 8.1 Lana Hemsall offered to contact a builder to transport the Christmas tree from Moulton Garden Centre
- 8.2 There has been a request for a grit bin in Birtles Way. The clerk explained that NCC will not fund a bin in that location as it would not be used by many residents and the road would benefit from grit which is spread on The Street. The resident has been asked to investigate possible sites for a private grit bin.
- 8.3 It was agreed to ask NCC to allow a grit bin for the junction of Reedham Road with The Street.
- 8.4 There is still standing water in the underpass. The repairs are to be carried out by the Highways Agency.
- 8.5 It was confirmed that the grass on the land behind Springfield has been cut.

9. STREET LIGHTING

- 9.1 Several lights were reported for repair.

10. QUALITY PARISH STATUS

It was agreed to apply for reaccreditation. Nigel Law, Lana Hemsall and the clerk will put together with file.

11. CEMETERY

11.1 Additional maintenance

It was agreed to pay for two additional refuse bins and to remove the composting bins either side of the entrance as these have not been used correctly by visitors to the cemetery. Justin Nudd will be asked to carry out additional gardening work in the cemetery as soon as possible; cutting back the hedge on the right hand side, edging round the tablets and memorials and paths and carting away the arisings. The ongoing maintenance will be discussed with the contractor, Garden Guardian.

11.2 Car parking at the cemetery

There have been complaints that visitors to the cemetery have been unable to park in the car park at times because users of the adjacent recreation ground have filled the car park. It was agreed to purchase a sign saying, "Parking for visitors to the cemetery".

12. RESTORATIVE CIRCLE MEETING

This item had been discussed under the district councillor report. It was also considered what land around the village could be used for facilities for the youth and the clerk was asked to find out the owner of the Old Station Road.

13. RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

A summary was received of the progress made by the Acle Working Group for Developing Play Space in Acle; the first meeting was attended by Acle residents and officers from BDC. A survey is being carried out among Acle schoolchildren to ascertain their needs for play facilities. There was a request that the Parish Council put aside £40,000 for this community project, to enable the project to apply for other funding.

There was some discussion about the role of the Parish Council, and individual councillors, in this project and it was agreed that the project must be led by the residents. The clerk was asked to invite the working group to call its next meeting so that the group could appoint its chairman and secretary.

Acle Recreation Centre has written to the Council to say that the trustees are happy to have the children's play area at the Centre but that it will remain at the current location and not be moved to another site within the property.

It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

(Lana Hemsall left the meeting at this point.)

14. FINANCE

£

Receipts:

Burial and Memorial fees	495.00
Upton PC – reimbursement of exps	22.39
BDC – second half precept	25,000.00
BDC – naming and numbering fees	85.89
BDC – public toilets fees	4,334.90

Cheques for payment:

Veolia – skip hire dd	142.94
E.ON – electricity for street lights dd	576.91

Anglian Water – water at public toilets dd	719.09
Anglian Water – water at allotments dd	171.51
Anglian Water – water at cemetery dd	57.13
Veolia – skip hire dd	189.21
E.ON – electricity for street lights dd	576.91
E.ON – electricity at public toilets dd	81.19
Mick Ward – cleaning(incl. holiday pay)	959.42
HMRC - PAYE & NIC	650.11
P James – clerk’s fee and exps	900.91
Connor Hutchin – watering baskets	34.02
Tom Larby – watering baskets	45.36
Travis Smith – watering baskets	45.36
Andrew Creak – watering baskets	22.68
Norfolk Pension Fund	201.55
Wilkersons – supplies	102.35
Garden Guardian – grasscutting	1,073.86
Norse – grasscutting	168.76
Acle Methodists – room hire	32.00
Hugh Crane Cleaning Equipment	72.42
T T Jones – lighting repairs	874.92
D Fisher – mileage	31.50
Savings Account	74,770.91
Term Investment	100,211.92
Government Stock	<u>128,924.00</u>
	<u>303,906.83</u>

The above payments were approved.

15. MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- Springfield land
- Fletcher Room maintenance
- BDC’s proposed sites for development
- Recreational facilities

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, 28th November 2011.

Signed: *Diane Fisher*

28th November 2011