

Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 24th June 2013
Venue: Methodist Church, Bridewell Lane, Acle
Time: 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mr D Burnett, Mrs J Clover, Mrs L Hemsall (also district councillor) Mr B Grint, Mr J Harriss (Chairman), Mr A Hemmingway, Mr N Law, Mr R Perry, Mrs M Steed and Mrs P Watson
Brian Iles (County Councillor)

Henry Meiklejohn from the Norfolk Rural Community Council attended the meeting to talk about the Good Neighbours Scheme. The councillors thanked Mr Meiklejohn for his talk.

1. **PUBLIC FORUM**

There were ten members of the public present. Brian Iles reported on the discussions concerning the cost of cancelling the incinerator project and the changes to staffing in Finance and Education. District Councillor Lana Hemsall gave a report on the recently opened restaurant/take away and an issue in Crossway Terrace.

2. **APOLOGIES** Mr B Coveley and Mrs D Hurst.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND REQUESTS FOR ANY DISPENSATIONS**

David Burnett, Jackie Clover, Brian Grint, Nigel Law and Rodney Perry declared a pecuniary interest in any financial transactions with the Recreation Centre, as Trustees. Brian Grint also declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the Springfield development. John Harriss reminded the meeting that his son lives in Springfield so he has a non-pecuniary interest. He also declared a personal interest in the cheque for the Acle Scouts as his son runs the group.

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

It was noted that the Parish Council would be discussing the planning application for Rob Shephard's home during the meeting and had appointed him as a trustee of the Recreation Centre.

4. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 20th May 2013 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by John Harriss as Chairman.

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

5.1 Jackie Clover, Barry Coveley, Nigel Law and the clerk reported that they had met with another website contractor and would meet with a third company shortly. This will be on the agenda for the July meeting.

5.2 The vegetation on Station Road has been cut by Greater Anglia.

5.3 The official opening of the new skatepark was held on 22nd June. Biscuits and soft drinks were handed out to the young people. Four older skaters attended from Gravity Engineering to demonstrate their skills. The clerk has ordered three benches and two litter bins for the area, as chosen by the Youth Ambassadors. A further £161 has been received from local fundraising towards the project. The clerk

has sent off the final report to Broadland District Council to obtain their grant of £10,000. The councillors expressed their disappointment at the recent graffiti and sent their thanks to the Police for their help in cleaning the skatepark.

5.4 The clerk met with representatives from Norwich City Football Club to visit the various sites proposed for the National Citizen Service in August. Acle Academy has given permission for the school to be used as a base for the project.

5.5 The Community Resilience Plan Committee members gave a report; further information on the role of the Plan has been obtained from BDC. The project will be on the agenda for the July meeting.

5.6 The Council's accounts and books are with John Gallop for the internal audit.

6. REPORT FROM YOUTH AMBASSADORS

Ciara Simpson and Gus Blake were thanked for their help with the advertising of the skatepark opening event and for choosing the new benches. They were also thanked for their contribution towards the Acle in Bloom folder.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 The AGM for the Norfolk Association of Local Councils will be held on Saturday, 5th October. Councils are invited to put forward issues for debate. John Harriss will attend a meeting of the larger councils on Wednesday, 10th July.

7.2 Residents are invited to send their comments on the Norfolk and Suffolk Local Transport Body's Long List of transport schemes. It was agreed to support the plans to dual the A47 near to Acle.

7.3 The MP, Keith Simpson, has asked to meet with the Council. It was agreed to arrange to meet with Mr Simpson on a Friday, which is his day for constituency work.

7.4 Exhibitions of the proposal for the Postwick junction will be on display at libraries around Norwich and at the District and County Council offices.

7.5 The Broads Authority is compiling a Local List of Heritage Assets, concentrating at present on traditional waterside chalets. Parishes are invited to nominate buildings for inclusion in the List.

7.6 PCSO Paul McAllister sent a report of seven recorded crimes since the last meeting. The Library has also reported some vandalism to the pram cover, and there was a complaint that someone threw an egg at a property on The Green.

7.7 The AGM of the Norfolk Playing Fields Association will be held on Thursday, 18th July.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

8.1 Plans discussed at the meeting:

i) **Mr & Mrs Sheppard, Rose Farm, Carters Loke** – two storey side and rear extension and alterations (20130721). There were no objections to the plans.

ii) **Barclays Bank** - illuminated fascia sign and hanging sign. There were no objections to the plans but it was agreed to ask for the lights to be turned off at night.

iii) **Tennis Club committee** – erection of single storey toilet block. The councillors supported the plans.

- 8.2 Planning results from **Broadland District Council**:
- i) **Monies Barn** - garden outbuilding and summer house – full approval.
 - ii) **Weavers Way Barn, The Hill** – approval of details reserved by 20121660 – approved.

9. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- 9.1 The clerk collected the new brackets from Olympic Welding. Tony Hemmingway collected the hanging baskets from Moulton Garden Centre on 13th June and was helped by councillors and by Mr & Mrs Stacey and Mr Weavers. There are now 29 baskets.
- 9.2 Acle in Bloom. The planters on the Green have been filled and will be included in the watering round. Additional material has been included in the folder for submission to the judges. Judging takes place on 11th July.
- 9.3 The clerk was asked to contact the Highways Agency and NCC Highways about extra signage from A47 and A1064. Other towns have signs for “Services, WC, petrol symbol, church and food”.
- 9.4 It was agreed not to take forward the suggestion of a “Town Crier”.
- 9.5 A complaint about weeds in the alley way between De Carle Smith Road and Fletcher Way has been forwarded to NCC.
- 9.6 The Council has been successful in its application for a new Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on A1064. The Parish Council pays £1,498.50, with the County Council paying £4,495.50.

10. STREET LIGHTING

Nothing to report.

11. ACLE RECREATION CENTRE

- 11.1 David Burnett resigned as a trustee. Jackie Clover, Brian Grint, Nigel Law and Rodney Perry declared a pecuniary interest as trustees of Acle Recreation Centre, left the room and took no part in the discussion or voting, for items 11.1 and 11.2.

Three estimates had been obtained for a replacement kitchen for the Social Club, ranging from £56,000 - £70,000. The Recreation Centre Committee requested a loan of £60,000, repayable over 20 years, using increased bowling rink fees to repay the loan, or a donation for some of the cost. The councillors decided that insufficient information had been provided as to how the Recreation Centre would generate the income to repay any loan, given other financial commitments.

The councillors requested a full budget showing how the Committee was putting money into reserves for the repair and replacement of Centre assets, including the new play equipment and skatepark, so that they could ensure the Centre could afford a loan from the Parish Council.

- 11.2 The Recreation Centre Committee has now agreed to form a joint committee with the Parish Council and has nominated Paul Cant, John Godsafe, Margery Ward and Andrew McNeil. The Parish Council appointed David Burnett, Tony Hemmingway, Debra Hurst and Pat Watson to the Joint Committee, with the clerk to be in attendance. This new Joint Committee will be asked to look at the longer-term financial management of the Centre.

12. SPRINGFIELD LAND

The clerk read a report from the planning consultant, Alan Irvine; revised plans showing additional garages will be available for the committee to look at shortly. The Council's solicitors are working on the S106 agreements. It was reported that Saffron Housing cannot be tied into the S106 agreement but will be a party to the contract when the land is sold. Their monies towards the Parish Council's costs will be put in a solicitor's account and will be paid to the Parish Council when the contract is signed.

The clerk has signed a letter of engagement from Caroline Bywater, from Mills & Reeve, who will be working on the S106 agreement for the Council.

The clerk reported that the Council had been invited to buy the house in the top right hand corner of the land, but Mr Irvine thought that this would not be economical to the Council. This was noted.

13. ACLE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Ingham Pinnock have quoted £6,000 to produce a Sustainability Appraisal for 18 days work. The cost should be covered by a grant from BDC. This was accepted. The clerk reported that the Parish Council was successful in getting a grant from The Community Development Foundation (Locality) for £7,000 towards the current costs.

The councillors were reminded of the public consultation event on the following Saturday in the Church Room. The event has been advertised on noticeboards, on the website and in the schools' newsletters.

14. ACLE LANDS TRUST

It was reported that Roman Wood needs cutting. The clerk will contact Garden Guardian.

15. FLETCHER ROOM

The Pre-school has asked the Parish Council to pay for an extension to the Fletcher Room. The committee believes that they are currently unable to meet all the requirements expected of an outstanding early years curriculum provider, due to the constraints of the building. The committee would like a new entrance and cloakroom, the current entrance to be used as both a quieter area for younger children to rest and a private area for parent consultations and the reconfiguration of the current toilets, kitchen and store room areas to better meet the needs of an increased number of children.

The Committee reported that there are currently 24 – 26 children per session, with a roll of 57, and with four children from outside Acle. The last accounts show current assets of over £30,000. The Committee explained that these assets include a contingency reserve for any redundancy costs in case the Pre-school ever had to close.

The councillors asked for costs for the proposal.

16. FINANCE

£

Receipts:

| | |
|--|----------|
| NCC – verges | 1,747.58 |
| Burial fees | 160.00 |
| BDC – New Homes Bonus | 553.88 |
| BDC – recycling credit | 135.11 |
| VAT refund | 5,083.73 |
| Candy Corner – fundraising for skatepark | 161.00 |

Cheques for payment:

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Veolia – skip hire dd | 158.59 |
| E.On – electricity toilets – dd | 156.77 |
| Siemens – copier rental dd | 134.52 |
| E.On – electricity street lights dd | 582.36 |
| HMRC – PAYE & NIC | 399.18 |
| P James – clerk’s fee and exps | 1,172.97 |
| P James – roof tiles for cemetery shed | 220.00 |
| Norfolk Pension Fund | 296.11 |
| M Ward – cleaning | 775.62 |
| Nfk Playing Fields Ass’n – subs | 25.00 |
| Acle Rec Centre – youth club hire of room | 74.00 |
| Norse – grasscutting at Fletcher Room | 89.15 |
| Bunzl – supplies | 400.98 |
| Copy IT – copying | 100.44 |
| Acle Academy – grant towards project | 250.00 |
| Mills & Reeve – on account re Springfield | 1,260.00 |
| Hugh Crane Cleaning Eq’t – supplies | 88.71 |
| Mark Knights – roofing works | 988.41 |
| Carl Knights – roofing works | 747.40 |
| Clickers Archery – donation for Scouts | 900.00 |
| Garden Guardian – grasscutting | 1,064.26 |
| Wilkersons – supplies | 10.61 |
| J Harriss – travel expenses | 27.60 |
| Gravity – skatepark | 67,728.00 |
| T T Jones – lighting repairs | 1,485.74 |
| Connor Hutchin – watering | 47.67 |
| Tom Larby – watering | 47.67 |
| Holly Hornagold – watering | 47.67 |
| Stephanie Kingston – watering | 11.92 |
| Candy Corner – refreshments | 49.25 |
| Realise Futures – benches and bins | 1,833.60 |
| Alan Irvine – Springfield land reports | 600.00 |
| J Nudd – work at cemetery | 111.00 |
| I Nicholls – work at cemetery | 39.00 |
| NCC – VAS | 1,498.50 |
| | |
| Savings account 24.05.13 | 135,237.12 |
| Gilts 05.04.13 | <u>133,108.00</u> |
| | <u>268,345.12</u> |

It was noted that there is £167 remaining of the youth club monies, which is only two months’ room hire. Malika Steed was asked to raise this with the Youth Club Committee; full accounts and a budget would be required if the Youth Club were to approach the Council for a grant.

17. MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- Community Resilience Plan
- Report from the Victorian Weekend
- Youth club

- Appointing a trustee to the Recreation Centre
- Website

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, 29th July 2013.