

Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 27th October 2014
Venue: Methodist Church, Bridewell Lane, Acle
Time: 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mr John Harriss – Chairman

Mr Tony Hemmingway – Vice-chairman

Mrs A Bassham, Mrs A Bishop, Mr B Coveley, Mrs J Kenealy, Mr R Perry, and Mrs P Watson

1. **PUBLIC FORUM** County Councillor Brian Iles gave a report on the NCC budget setting process and on work to alleviate highways flooding.

2. **APOLOGIES** Mrs J Clover, Mrs L Hemsall (also district councillor) and Mrs M Steed

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

Rodney Perry declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in any financial transactions with the Recreation Centre, as a Trustee. John Harriss reminded the meeting that his son lives in Springfield so he has a non-pecuniary interest in that development.

4. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of 29th September 2014 were agreed to be correct and were signed by John Harriss as chairman of the Parish Council.

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

5.1 Annie Bassham signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, having been co-opted at the September meeting, and was welcomed on to the Council.

5.2 Broadland District Council approved the outline application for up to 140 dwellings on the Norfolk County Council land off Norwich Road. Natural England had raised concerns about the impact of these new residents on nearby wildlife sites so an additional hectare of open space is proposed, in perpetuity.

5.3 The drains were cleaned on A1064 on 25th September. Norfolk County Council reported that the grates opposite Hermitage Close have become corroded and may need to be replaced. There is also an ongoing issue with ditch ownership.

5.4 Lana Hemsall sent a report that she has raised councils' concerns with Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority about the removal of waste collection facilities and disposal of waste at various locations in The Broads.

- 5.5 A1064 accident in the Summer – the police replied that any delay in attending the accident would have been because there were no officers free at the time.
- 5.6 The clerk has contacted the solicitors acting for Mr Carter to ask if they would agree to an increased rental for the car park.
- 5.7 The Kings Head has been listed as an Asset of Community Value without appeal.
- 5.8 The clerk has asked Norfolk County Council to consider the recommendations of the traffic assessment and to investigate/give quotes for drawing up the specification for a pedestrian refuge in the middle of the road.

6 YOUTH AMBASSADORS

None was present.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 PCSO Paul McAllister sent details of five recorded crimes since the last meeting.
- 7.2 Councillors are invited to a lecture on Nature of Landscape: Geography on the Broads on 3rd November, followed by a reception hosted by the Broads Authority.
- 7.3 BDC has sent a Community Information Pack on recycling.
- 7.4 Details have been received of a planned refurbishment to Acle Post Office, which will be shut from 6th November, re-opening again on 12th November. Angela Bishop offered to discuss the provision for the collection of pensions during the closure of the branch.
- 7.5 A new Local Council Award Scheme is to replace the Quality Council Scheme, to be launched in January 2015. As an existing Quality Council, Acle will be able to receive Foundation status at no cost, until December 2015. The Council can also apply for a Quality Award, at half the normal fee, or it can work towards a Quality Gold Award, for 75% of the normal fee. More details to follow.
- 7.6 The Broads Authority sent details of its consultation on how the profile and special qualities of the Broads can be better promoted by common use of the term “Broads National Park” for marketing purposes.
- 7.7 Martin Greenland has confirmed that the Carols around the Tree will be held on Thursday, 4th December at 7.00 pm.
- 7.8 Acle Wellbeing Fair is on Wednesday from 10.00 to 3.00 at the Recreation Centre.
- 7.9 Acle Pre-school wish to erect a swing for a disabled child on the land at Fletcher Room. The councillors approved this request.

7.10 The councillors agreed to request that NCC preserved services for the vulnerable when it set its budget, and repairs to highways.

7.11 Councillors have been invited to visit the new Dementia Care facility in Gorleston. Angela Bishop offered to attend.

8 PLANNING MATTERS

8.1 Plans discussed at the meeting:

8.1.1 **4, The Drive** – side and rear extensions, dormer window (20141606). There were no objections to the plans.

8.1.2 **Orchard House, New Close** – subdivision for new detached dwelling (20141709). The councillors had no objections to the plans so long as the trees are adequately protected.

8.2 Decisions by Broadland District Council:

8.2.1 **Land rear of The Cottage, The Green** – erection of detached dwelling (20141144) – full approval.

8.2.2 **Coburg House, The Street** – erection of detached dwelling (20141420) – refusal.

8.2.3 **Station Road** - Installation of Offices, Associated Buildings and Parking Facilities to Serve the Broadland Flood Alleviation Project until 2021 (20141460) – full approval.

9 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

9.1 Christmas lighting; it was agreed to spend the £2,000 budget on additional lighting for the Folly Tree.

9.2 The clerk has ordered a Christmas tree from Moulton Nurseries.

9.3 New road names. The councillors put forward the following names for consideration; Finch, Sea, Roman, Smithdale, George, Porter and Great Eastern.

9.4 A resident has complained about cars parking on the visibility splay of New Close but without yellow lines, cars cannot be prohibited from parking there.

9.5 Reedham Road has been closed while the railway bridge is repaired.

10 STREET LIGHTING

10.1 Street light in Hermitage Close; the majority of residents have requested that the damaged light be replaced. This will be ordered shortly, costing £1,258.

11 ACLE RECREATION CENTRE

Rodney Perry gave a report; the Indoor Bowls season has started again, bringing in good income to the Centre. Councillors were also informed that there has been an increase in vandalism, with damage done to the zip wire and skatepark.

There were no suggestions for a trustee to fill the current vacancy.

12 CEMETERY

John Harriss, Tony Hemmingway and the clerk met with Mr Molineux, owner of the land north of the current cemetery. Mr Molineux is still unwilling to sell any land to the Parish Council, despite the request being for only ½ an acre, and has asked the Council to consider other land around the village. The clerk has contacted Norfolk County Council to ask if there is any land near to the Norwich Road site. The Parochial Church Council has offered to sell the Clerk's Piece at the top of Damgate Lane but there is a tenant until at least 2017. Councillors expressed concerns about the high water table at that location making the land unsuitable for burials. It was agreed to arrange for some test pits to be dug.

13 ALLOTMENTS

The tree surgeon has reported that the moth infestation of the poplar is significant, which risks weakening of the tree. It was therefore agreed to fell the poplar, with regret, at a cost of £650. The adjacent willow will be reduced in size for £250, to balance the tree after the recent wind damage.

14 SPRINGFIELD LAND

All the paperwork requested by Broadland District Council to support the planning application was submitted on 29th September. BDC is consulting Natural England on the Habitats Regulations Assessment. It is hoped that the plans will go before the Planning Committee on 19th November. It was confirmed that the councillors did not want terraced properties on the site, so homes will either be detached or semi-detached.

Tony Hemmingway, Barry Coveley, Jackie Clover and the clerk met with the Council's planning consultant Alan Irvine and John Whitelock of Saffron Housing; expected house prices have increased since the last meeting so the value of the land has increased. It was recommended that the Parish Council has a meeting with its solicitors to discuss the agreement, including phased payments and a percentage uplift on sales higher than anticipated. Alan Irvine will obtain revised site valuations from local valuers to back up the prices being discussed.

Councillors were given the draft S.106 agreement for information.

15 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Acle's Neighbourhood Plan needed adjusting after the Inspector's comments. The original quote from Ingham Pinnock was for work up to submission of the Plan, which was in May. They quoted £975 + VAT to amend the Plan, for final submission to BDC, which was accepted. The referendum is expected to be Thursday, 8th January 2015.

16 FINANCE

£

Receipts:

BDC	2 nd half precept	30,750.00
CDF Locality	Final grant for N Plan	700.00
Upton PC	Reimbursement costs	24.42
Burial fees		118.00

Payments:

P James	Clerk's fee and exps	1,340.74
HMRC	PAYE & NIC	491.74
Mick Ward	Cleaning	726.24
Wendy Butler	Holiday cover	236.25
Norfolk Pension Fund		372.72
Acle Society	Newsletter delivery	40.00
Acle Methodist Church	Meeting room	17.00
T T Jones Electrical	Lighting repairs	685.81
Acle Rec Centre	Youth club room hire	57.00
D Starkings	Hedge cutting at cemetery	120.00
Wilkersons	Consumables	21.38
Garden Guardian	Grasscutting	1,064.26
Acle Academy	Grant towards composter	600.00
Hugh Crane Ltd	Consumables for Fletcher Rm	69.75
Acle Community Gym	Grant	676.00
Alan Irvine	Springfield Land	4,090.80
Balance c/f 27 th October 2014		<u>51,680.50</u>
Government stocks		<u>125,764.00</u>
Total monies		<u>177,444.50</u>

VAT of £5,400 has been reclaimed

It was agreed to give a donation of £40 to the Royal British Legion. John Harriss informed the meeting that the Remembrance Day service was on Sunday, 9th November at 3.00 p.m. All councillors were invited to attend.

17 MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING: Resilience Planning, Dementia Awareness.

18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 24th November 2014

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

Signed:.....
Chairman

Dated: 24th November 2014