

Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 25th July 2016
Venue: Methodist Church, Bridewell Lane, Acle
Time: 7.30 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM:

There were seven members of the public present. Aimee Gedge from the Broadland Youth Advisory Board attended, together with three young residents, who asked for the Parish Council to assist in the setting up of a new youth club. Other matters raised included the recent flooding in the village.

District Councillor Lana Hemsall gave a report. She has spoken to the BDC planners about the flooding at Beighton Road. Signage is available to encourage people not to smoke in children's play areas. Lana offered to contact the Internal Drainage Board to find out the ownership of ditches in the village and she also offered to help with the youth club.

PRESENT:

Tony Hemmingway – Chairman

Sally Aldridge, Annie Bassham, Jackie Clover, Roger Jay, Julia Line, Jamie Pizey, and Parish Clerk Pauline James.

1 APOLOGIES

Angela Bishop, David Burnett and Ellen Thompson
Barry Coveley will be arriving later.
County Councillor Brian Iles

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Jackie Clover and Roger Jay declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in any financial transactions with the Recreation Centre, as Trustees.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of 27th June 2016 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Tony Hemmingway as Chairman of the Parish Council.

4 MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 Annie Bassham and the clerk will attend the training on the role of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee at BDC.
- 4.2 The training on Youth Engagement was cancelled.
- 4.3 The clerk spoke to the Norfolk Community Foundation about the grant fund set up for residents in need of support. Short grant application forms have been produced to enable residents to apply for a small grant. The forms will be counter-signed by a parish councillor before being sent to the Community Foundation for payment.

- 4.4 A reply was read out from Circle Anglia to the clerk's email listing the various complaints about the recent flooding at Beighton Road. Circle Anglia stated, *"this concern (about flooding) was investigated and specialists from Norfolk County Council and a structural engineers carried out a report and confirmed that the current drainage system that was in place would be sufficient for water expected in the area within normal weather conditions in relation to the water from the field,"* and *"we are awaiting a date for the ditch to be cleared but this work will be completed very soon. We are also having discussions with the original contractors to investigate the claim that the doors were not set correctly and if any additional water management is required on the site.*

It was reported that local residents have complained about an ongoing problem with rats and there were concerns about a "sink hole" under one of the properties. It was agreed to invite Circle Anglia to attend a special meeting in September to address any concerns at that point.

Broadland District Council planners have stated that they did not have flood information at the time of the application and that there was therefore no planning condition to construct the houses at any specific level. The applicant's report stated, *"During the public consultation exercise, concerns were raised by a number of local residents that Beighton Road has been known to flood in the vicinity of this site, due to run-off from surrounding fields. The use of soakaways will ensure that the proposed development does not exacerbate this situation, and to ensure that the development itself is not at risk from flooding, the finished floor levels of the dwellings that front Beighton Road would be raised so that they are 150mm (6inches) above existing ground levels."* This was expected to be adequate to cope with any flooding.

- 4.5 Acle Allotment Association had requested assistance with the purchase of a powered wheelbarrow for the general use of all members, at a cost £1,150 including VAT. The association will apply for grants before coming back to the Parish Council for funding. Sadly it was reported that the Association's mower had been stolen recently.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 The Police website listed fifteen reported crimes in May 2016.
- 5.2 NCC sent details of an amendment of the limits for the 40mph restriction on the A1064 – this is to move the start of the restriction north by 55m so that the restriction is more easily seen by drivers
- 5.3 BDC sent the details of the adopted Growth Area Action Plan, for the villages around Norwich. The Development Plan was also received, which lists the land north of Norwich Road (150 homes), the land south of Acle Station (20 homes) and the land north of Springfield (30 homes). This was noted.

6 PLANNING

6.1 Planning applications:

i) **Mr McKay, 8 Englands Road** – erection of boundary fence to front and sides (revised proposal) (lower fence to 1m) (20161200). The previous application for a taller fence was refused by BDC because the original planning permission for the estate removed Permitted Development rights for enclosures and outbuildings in order to maintain an open plan feel. The councillors had no objections to the proposal to limit fencing to no more than 1m high, from the ground and to include any gravel board, so long as it included any fences which impact on visibility for drivers on Englands Road.

6.2 Planning results from Broadland District Council:

i) **Mr Smith, The Acorns, 38 Old Road** – attached garage with pitched roof (20160977). Full approval.

7 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

7.1 **Street lights** – the replacement of lantern MIL 2 with an Urbis Ampera 16 LED for £338.22 + VAT was approved. It was agreed that the clerk was authorised to accept any similar replacements without consulting the Parish Council.

7.2 A1064:

Norfolk County Council will now be funding all the cost of the resurfacing since the scheme no longer includes the option to widen the footway. The proposed planting to create an “entrance” to the village had been costed by contractors at £15,500 for the planting and two years maintenance. The councillors agreed to take this on themselves.

The drainage works in Old Road are expected to be 8 weeks from 5th September.

The surfacing of Old Road and the creation of an island is expected to be 1 week from 31st October.

The drainage works in New Road are expected to be 7 weeks from 7th November.

7.3 **Hanging baskets** – Tony and Christine Hemmingway would be covering the waterers’ holidays.

8. RECREATION CENTRE

8.1 Barry Brooks gave a report: the car park has been re-surfaced. The Trustees are applying for grants for the repairs to the roof and for refurbishment of the changing rooms. A summer indoor bowls league is to be introduced.

8.2 At the June meeting it had been agreed to give a grant of at least 30% towards the cost of refurbishment of the main hall, including new heating; a grant of £27,333 towards a total cost of £82,000. The trustees had asked if the grant could be increased so as to free up the charity’s monies for other repairs and refurbishment.

(Jackie Clover and Roger Jay then left the room for the discussions and decision, being Trustees.)

After some discussion it was agreed to carry out works to 100% of the money needed, being £82,000, to be donated for nil consideration.

Barry Coveley joined the meeting at this point.

9 REPLACEMENT PRE-SCHOOL/COMMUNITY BUILDING

Government funding is available to enable county councils to fulfil the requirement to offer more funded pre-school hours for 3 – 4 year olds, but it requires 25% of the funding to be met locally. NCC is looking at 12 sites for potential bids. Acle Pre-school is considered worthy of a bid because of the possibility of APC assisting with funding. There are very tight timescales for bids and the work would have to be completed by September 2017.

Tony Hemmingway and the clerk met with deputy headteacher, a school governor and a NCC officer to discuss this. The School is very keen on the project and it would appear to be very good use of APC's monies to give 25% of a larger project, rather than 100% of a smaller project, as was being considered. It is unclear at present whether the funding would be available if the new or additional building were for 3 – 4 year olds, but also for community use. It is proposed to keep the Fletcher Room for community use and move the pre-school into a new building.

The councillors supported the idea in principle to offer up to £150,000 towards a £600,000 project and it was agreed to have a site meeting shortly at the Fletcher Room to consider the site and the proposal in more detail. More details of the impact of a possible academisation would be required.

10 FUNDING OF YOUTH WORKERS TO RE-START YOUTH CLUB

Annie Bassham, Angela Bishop, Julia Line and the clerk meet with the Community Capacity Co-ordinator for North Norfolk and Broadland, an officer from the Youth Advisory Board (also with links to the YMCA) and an officer for Children's Services at BDC.

It was a helpful and enthusiastic meeting. The clerk asked for a quote to pay for a youth worker to re-start youth club on Tuesday evenings. The clerk has put a piece in the forthcoming Community News that it is hoped to re-start youth club.

It was noted that a nearby town council pays £5,500pa for two youth workers, to include safeguarding, supervision and a mobile phone for emergencies.

After some discussion it was agreed to pay up to £4,000 for a year's support, with two youth workers up to Christmas, if required, then one support worker from then on, if a committee of parents/helpers can be established.

11 SPRINGFIELD LAND

The working party met to discuss the **flood attenuation management scheme**.

Amendments were proposed to the scheme to make it clear that the APC only looks after the pond and inspects the inlet/outlet pipe for any debris or blockages. APC only has responsibility once the pipe exits the ground. Anglian Water will take over the maintenance of the underground pipe works.

Road name – the working party accepted the proposal for Oaks Lea for the spur road to the east. “Springfield” will be extended north into the site.

12 EXTENSION TO CEMETERY

In response to a query from the clerk, the Department for Communities and Local Government had reported that officers are still taking advice and gathering information regarding the request for a Compulsory Purchase Order and that the report will then be referred on to the Minister.

13 FINANCE

Receipts:		£
Beighton PC	Share of exps	85.48
Norfolk CC	Verges cutting	1,889.55
Cemetery	Memorial and burial fees	130.00
Online Payments:		
Employment costs:		3,265.60
Pauline James	Clerk’s fee and expenses	<input type="text"/>
Norfolk Pension Fund	Pensions contributions	
Mick Ward	Cleaning	
HMRC	PAYE & NIC	
Garden Guardian	Grasscutting	1,158.59
Copy IT	Photocopying and printing	145.81
Smiths of Derby	Service of church clock (donation)	223.20
Alice Auton-Warby	Watering baskets	124.20
James Auton-Warby	Watering baskets	124.20
Came & Co	Insurance for the year	3,085.24
Hugh Crane Ltd	Supplies for Fletcher Room	20.66
Playsafety Ltd	Inspection of play equipment	159.60
Blockbusters	Drain at Barclays	132.00
Cheques for payment:		
Wilkerson’s	Consumables	122.59
Wendy Butler	Cleaning	198.00
Acle Society	Delivery of newsletter	40.00
T T Jones Electrical	Repairs of street lights	138.91
SLCC	VAT training	114.00
Roy Tate	Plants for baskets	206.00
Methodist Church	Meeting room hire	34.00
Bal c/f 25th July 2016		262,460.06
Government Stocks		128,264.00
Cambridge B/Soc	Instant access 0.5%	75,000.00
Lloyds Bank	12m to Feb 2017 1.05%	175,000.00

Nationwide B/Soc	12m to Feb 2017 1.2%	<u>75,000.00</u>
Total monies		<u>715,724.06</u>

£93,791.32 is held by Mills & Reeve to be used to pay for the crossing on A1064.

The report of Actual v budget for the 4 months to 25th July 2016 was presented and noted.

With no full Council meeting planned for August it was agreed that the clerk could pay invoices for August and report them back to September meeting.

14 MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING

- length of term for chairman
- Christmas lighting

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 26th September 2016

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10.10 pm

Signed:.....
Chairman

Dated: 26th September 2016