Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 31st October 2016
Venue: Methodist Church, Bridewell Lane, Acle
Time: 7.30 p.m.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

There were eight members of the public present. Matters raised included: the missing manhole cover on the pavement by the church (already reported to NCC but will be reported again), plans to advertise the Social Club to visitors and the recent award for the Acle Resilience Group.

**County Councillor Brian Iles** gave a report: The Government is encouraging councils to vote in favour of devolution, voting is to take place shortly. NCC needs to find reductions of £40m in the forthcoming budget. Negotiations continue for the future of the Herondale site.

**PRESENT:**
Tony Hemmingway – Chairman
Sally Aldridge, Angela Bishop, David Burnett, Jackie Clover, Barry Coveley, Roger Jay, Julia Line, Ellen Thompson and Parish Clerk Pauline James.

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| 1 | **APOLOGIES**Annie Bassham and Jamie Pizey. |
| **2** | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**Jackie Clover, Barry Coveley, Roger Jay and David Burnett declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in any financial transactions with the Recreation Centre, as Trustees.  |
| **3** | **MINUTES**The minutes of the meetings of 26th September 2016 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Tony Hemmingway as Chairman of the Parish Council. |
| **4**4.1 | **MATTERS ARISING**The clerk contacted Broadland District Council to express the Parish Council’s concern that the training example used in the recent Overview & Scrutiny training was based on APC’s application for a Compulsory Purchase Order and portrayed APC in a poor light, despite some details being changed. |
| 4.2 | The Police confirmed that several young people have been spoken to about recent vandalism at the public toilets. Acle Academy also said that they would raise the issue of inappropriate behaviour. |
| 4.3 | The owner of the land north of Hermitage Close replied that the ditch is part-owned by them and part-owned by the adjacent residents. |
| 4.4 | Broadland District Council confirmed that planning permission is not required for the proposed portacabin for the outdoor bowls club; parish councils are permitted to erect small buildings for use by the community. It was noted that the new portacabin will be erected next to the current pavilion. |
| **5**5.1 | **CORRESPONDENCE**The Parochial Church Council asked for the Parish Council’s grant towards grasscutting in the churchyard to be increased. For 2016, the Parish Council gave a donation of £1,250, leaving the PCC with £612 to pay (£510 + VAT). It was agreed to pay 100% of the grasscutting cost for 2017 so long as the cost did not increase by more than 2%.  |
| 5.2 | It was reported that First Responders have to pay £2,000 personally for their uniform and kit. The councillors wish to support local first responders but, without any further information at present, it was agreed to discuss a donation at a later meeting. |
| 5.3 | The Police website listed 22 reported crimes in Acle in August 2016. |
| 5.4 | Correspondence was noted re concerns about visitors’ moorings north of Boat Dyke Lane. |
| 5.5 | Councillors were invited to attend the Service of Remembrance on Sunday, 13th November. Angela Bishop offered to do the Bible reading on behalf of the Council. A wreath will be laid on behalf of the Council. There will also be a short event on Friday, 11th November at 11.00 at the war memorial.It was agreed to make a donation of £50 to the Poppy Appeal under LGA1972 s137. |
| 5.6 | The clerk submitted the forms to ask BDC to list the Lloyds Bank building as an Asset of Community Value. Assets currently listed are: Acle Public Library, The Public Toilets, the signal box at Acle Station, The Kings Head and Herondale. The listing for most of these buildings expires in December 2018. This was noted. |
| 5.7 | BDC sent notification that a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment will be made shortly, from the new housing north of Springfield, totalling £9,644.28. Councillors noted that this is £3,857 more than if the Neighbourhood Plan had not been in place. The district council passes on 25% of the CIL to the parish council and the money must be spent on something which addresses the demands that new development places on the locality, including the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure. |
|  | **District Councillor Lana Hempsall** entered the room at this point and gave a report:* The Top Dog scheme has been re-launched in the district
* There is no news on plans for the use of the Herondale site. Lana felt that BDC may allow new housing on the site, since it is within the planning line for the village. It was suggested that Overview & Scrutiny Committee could be asked to look at BDC’s input into the scheme
* The local Ambulance Service had been questioned on its results. Stroke services had improved
* Lana had tried to raise APC’s request for a CPO for cemetery land with Sajid Javid, the Secretary of State for the Department of Communities and Local Government, when she met him recently, but without much success
* Lana was asked to discuss with BDC’s O & S committee local problems with deliberate littering (e.g. at the bus shelter). It was also suggested that O&S could review the local policy on public toilets and on litter collection at tourist sites
* Lana was asked to follow up BDC’s request that flood gates be fitted at the new homes on Beighton Road to ensure that Circle Anglia carry this out
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| **6**6.1 | **PLANNINGPlanning applications:****Mr Molineux, Fishley Hall –** change of use of barns for use as a wedding venue. Temporary permission was given in 2015 with restrictions on the use of music to only between midday and midnight. The councillors had no objections but agreed that the restrictions on the playing of music should be continued, and that music should not be played outside the building. They also felt that fireworks should not be permitted at events. |
| 6.2 | Planning results from **Broadland District Council**:1. **Mr Gurney, The Post Office –** creation of flat over post office including two storey extension (20161517) – approved.
2. **Mr Thompson, Windle Farmhouse, The Windle** – change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house and provision of cart lodge garage (20161475) – full approval.
3. **Crocus Contractors, Land north of Springfield** – revisions of garages to plots 1 – 4 and 13 -15 (20161477) –approved.
4. **Acle Antiques, The Street** – change of use of part of building from A1 retail to tearoom (A3) (20161582) – prior approval given. Opening hours 8.00 to 18.00 hours, Monday to Saturday.
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| **7** | **HIGHWAYS MATTERS** |
| 7.1 | Information on the Norfolk County Council website confirms that NCC is responsible for maintaining the surfaces of rights of way including the control of natural vegetation. |
| 7.2 | Evening closures of the A1064 will take place between 7.00pm and midnight from 7th to 11th November to allow resurfacing works. |
| 7.3 | NCC sent notice under Section 100 of the Highways Act 1980 that drains will have to be constructed on land by the A47 roundabout in order to improve highways drainage. The Acle Lands Trust has been informed. |
| 7.4 | Notification has been received that BT plans to remove the public phone box on Reedham Road. It was noted that only one call had been made from that phone box during the past 12 months. The councillors therefore had no objections. |
| 7.5 | It was reported that there is frequent dog fouling in Carters Loke. Additional signage will be requested from BDC. |
| 7.6 | It was noted that the sign for Fairhaven Gardens obscures visibility at the junction of Bridewell Lane and Old Road. This will be discussed with NCC Highways. |
| 7.7 | It was reported that the lighting on the northern station footpath is either out, or dim. This will be reported to Abellio Great Anglia. |
| **8.**8.1 | **RECREATION CENTRE**Trustee Barry Brooks gave a report; phase 2 of the works to improve the main hall is almost complete. The Trustees who have helped with the work were thanked for their assistance. The base for the portacabin at the outdoor bowls will be put in shortly. Some recent vandalism had been reported to the Police. It was reported that there has been some damage to the ceiling tiles by young people attending the youth club – this will be reported to the supervisors. The website for the Centre is being up-dated. |
| **9** | **PROJECTS** |
| 9.1 | **Springfield:**Councillors enjoyed a recent site visit and were able to look around two houses. The clerk has met with several suppliers of play equipment. It was agreed that Sally Aldridge and Tony Hemmingway would assist the clerk in choosing the preferred designs.There was some discussion as to the planned treatment of the boundary hedge along the A1064. The clerk will seek clarification. |
| 9.2 | **CPO for Cemetery Land**The application is still being considered by the Government. |
| 9.3 | **Fletcher Room**A rough estimate for a brick built classroom, rather than a room for the Pre-school was given as £250,000. Councillors felt that this was a large sum to spend on a few Acle residents. The clerk was asked to contact the Pre-school for their predictions of numbers of children requiring pre-school education.NPS have asked for dimensions of land required to enable the new lease to be drawn up.In response to concerns about the outdoor kitchen area, the Pre-school replied that the outdoor kitchen area is much praised by visiting professionals, and that outdoor play is always carefully supervised. The Pre-school will arrange for the building and outdoor space to be cleaned shortly. |
| 9.4 | **Youth Club**Julia Line reported that up to twenty young people are attending each week, but only in the younger age range. It has been agreed to change the hours to 6.45 – 9.00 for 11+ and that over 14s can stay until 9.45pm.DBS checks are being done for one parent/helper. Young people from YMCA have attended as Peer Mentors to help out at the sessions.The clerk was asked to contact the treasurer of the previous youth club one more time to request sight of the accounts and to request that any outstanding monies be returned to pay towards the new youth club. |
| 9.5 | **A1064**The work continues to improve the drainage scheme on A1064 and to install a refuge to assist people crossing the road. The contractors will dig out and prepare the planting areas alongside the road before finishing the work. |
| **10** | **FINANCE** |
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| **Receipts:** |  |  £ |
| Upton PC | Share of exps | 50.56 |
| BDC | 2nd half precept | 41,630.00 |
| Barclays Bank | 1/4ly rental | 6,375.00 |
| Broadland DC | Payments for toilets | 4,879.60 |
| Cemetery | Memorial and burial fees | 320.00 |
| Barratt & Cooke | Interest on Government Stocks | 800.81 |
| Lloyds Bank | Monthly bank interest | 11.56 |
| **Direct Debits:** |  |  |
| Veolia | Skip hire for month | 177.00 |
| SWALEC | Street lighting electricity for month | 738.74 |
| PHS | Waste disposal fee | 88.08 |
| Anglian Water | Water at public toilets | 616.80 |
| Anglian Water | Water at allotments | 81.00 |
| Anglian Water | Water at cemetery | 21.02 |
| **Online Payments:** |  |  |
| Employment costs: |  | 3,257.08 |
| Pauline James | Clerk’s fee and expenses - SO |  |
|  | * Balance of exps
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| Norfolk Pension Fund | Clerk’s pension – E’ees and E’ers |  |
| Mick Ward  | Cleaning - SO |  |
|  |  - Balance |  |
| HMRC | PAYE & NIC |  |
| Garden Guardian | Grasscutting | 1,158.59 |
| BDC | Training costs | 20.00 |
| Hopkins | Catering equipment (part of donation) | 4,866.00 |
| Acle Recreation Centre | Room hire for Youth Club - September | 60.00 |
| Hugh Crane Ltd | Supplies for Fletcher Room | 42.83 |
| Copy IT | Copying charges | 195.92 |
| Broadland DC | Bins at Fletcher Room | 318.60 |
| Broadland DC | Bins at cemetery | 234.00 |
| **Cheques for payment:** |  |  |
| Wilkerson’s | Consumables | 21.73 |
| Wendy Butler | Cleaning | 234.00 |
| T T Jones Electrical | Replacement cheque for June | 138.91 |
| T T Jones Electrical | Repairs of street lights | 582.61 |
| Methodist Church | Meeting room hire | 34.00 |
| Bal c/f 31st October 2016 |  | 242,294.28 |
| Government Stocks | Increased by £8,182 | 136,446.00 |
| Cambridge B/Soc | Instant access 0.15% | 75,000.00 |
| Lloyds Bank | 12m to Feb 2017 1.05% | 175,000.00 |
| Nationwide B/Soc | 12m to Feb 2017 1.2% | 75,000.00 |
| Total monies |  | 703,740.28 |

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|  | £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 7 months to 31st October 2016 was presented and noted. |
|  | Following advice from stockbrokers Barratt & Cooke, some stocks were sold and others were bought. |
| **11** | **MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING** - it was noted that Jack Horner-Glister has not attended meetings for six consecutive months so ceases to be a parish councillor. There is therefore a casual vacancy which will be advertised in the usual way. If an election is not requested by 10 or more electors, the councillors can fill the vacancy by co-option at the next meeting.* Improvements to the VisitAcle website
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| **12** | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 28th November 2016** |

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10.05 pm

Signed:…………………………………. Dated: 28th November 2016
 Chairman