Acle Parish Council

Annual Meeting Date: Monday, 22nd May 2017  
Venue: Methodist Church, Bridewell Lane, Acle  
Time: 7.30 p.m.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

There were five members of the public present. Matters raised included flooding in the underpass.

Earle Jacotine, from Economic Development at Broadland District Council, spoke about the new group being set up for people with heart conditions, and their families. The first meeting is on 23rd May.

**District Councillor Lana Hempsall** sent her apologies. The councillors asked the clerk to contact Lana to express their disappointment at how few parish council meetings she has attended. There was concern that, while she is campaigning for the election in Norwich South, she does not appear to be doing much work for Acle, in her role as district councillor.

**County Councillor Brian Iles** gave a report: Brian was re-elected as county councillor. There is no more news about plans for the Herondale site.

Angela Bishop raised the issue of the financing of schools raised with Brian Iles. The headteacher at Acle Academy had recently sent parents a letter, jointly written by headteachers at over 3,000 schools, expressing concerns about funding levels. Brian agreed to report back on this at the next meeting.

**PRESENT:**   
Tony Hemmingway – Chairman  
Sally Aldridge, Annie Bassham, Angela Bishop, David Burnett, Jackie Clover, Barry Coveley, Roger Jay, Jamie Pizey and Anna Wade. Parish Clerk Pauline James.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN** Tony Hemmingway was unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Parish Council, and Barry Coveley was unanimously re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.  **Committees and Working Groups:** |
|  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Street Lighting** | Tony Hemmingway, Roger Jay and Jamie Pizey | | **Planning Committee** | Barry Coveley, Roger Jay and Annie Bassham | | **Youth** | Annie Bassham and Jamie Pizey | | **Finance** | Tony Hemmingway, Barry Coveley, David Burnett and Ellen Thompson | | **Personnel** | Tony Hemmingway, Barry Coveley and Angela Bishop | | **Fletcher Room** | Tony Hemmingway | | **Cemetery extension** | Tony Hemmingway, Barry Coveley, David Burnett, and Jackie Clover | | **Springfield Land** | Tony Hemmingway, Barry Coveley, David Burnett, Jackie Clover and Annie Bassham | | **Herondale** | Sally Aldridge, Annie Bassham and Angela Bishop | | **Resilience/Emergency Planning** | Annie Bassham, Angela Bishop, Jamie Pizey and Anna Wade | | **Acle in Need** | Angela Bishop (Elected for 4 years) | | **Acle Regatta** | Jackie Clover | | **Roads in Acle** | Sally Aldridge and David Burnett | | **Website** | Anna Wade | | **Environment** | Anna Wade | | **Acle Recreation Centre** *(elected in March)* | Barry Brooks, David Burnett, Jackie Clover, Barry Coveley, Dennis Fisher, Diane Fisher, Ken Gale, John Pryke and Tom Hiller | | **Acle Lands Trust  *(elected in March)*** | Adam Fisher, Nigel Robson, Ken Gale, Jackie Clover and Dennis Fisher | |
| 2 | **APOLOGIES** Ellen Thompson  **RESIGNATION** Julia Line has resigned as councillor as she is moving away from the area. The vacancy has been advertised and, if no election is requested, the councillors will hope to co-opt a new councillor at the June meeting. Several people have already expressed an interest. Tony Hemmingway spoke of Julia’s enthusiasm and interest in local matters. The clerk has sent a card to Julia to express the Council’s thanks for her time on the Council. |
| **3** | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** David Burnett, Jackie Clover and Barry Coveley declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in any financial transactions with the Recreation Centre, as Trustees. Jackie Clover, Roger Jay, David Burnett and Jamie Pizey declared an interest as allotment holders. |
| **4** | **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting of 24th April 2017 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Tony Hemmingway as Chairman of the Parish Council. |
| **5** 5.1 | **MATTERS ARISING** The East of England Co-Op’s new store in Norwich Road opens on Friday, 26th May at 9.00am. |
| 5.2 | Fletcher Room – the Pre-school committee asked for the discussion about any extension to be deferred to the June meeting. The clerk reported that a water leak is being investigated by plumbers. |
| 5.3 | Acle Regatta and History Walk - there was a good turnout for the regatta, raising funds for local charities. |
| **6** 6.1 | **CORRESPONDENCE** A request for a grant for a new cooker for the WI was deferred as they have raised some money at events recently. |
| 6.2 | An Acle Cardiac Rehab Support Group event will take place on 23rd May. |
| 6.3 | The Police website listed 12 reported crimes in Acle in March 2017. |
| 6.4 | Acle resident, Dave Savory, has offered to produce a calendar with local photographs to raise money for local causes. The councillors suggested that proceeds could be used to support Acle Borderland Trust. |
| **7** 7.1 | **PLANNING** i) **Electrical Testing, A1064, Fleggburgh** – erection of new storage building (BA/2017/0114/FUL). There were no objections to the plans. |
| 7.2 | **Planning decisions from Broadland District Council:**   1. **Land adj. Acle Rec Centre** – car wash facility – refusal. 2. **Mr Grimmer, 3 Damgate Close** – re-siting of existing garage (20170435) – full approval. 3. **East of England Co-Op, Budgens site** – elevational changes comprising new customer entrance/exit glazed screen and new fascia classing above entrance (20170455) – full approval. |
| 7.3 | **Planning decisions from the Broads Authority:**   1. **Horizon Craft, Acle Bridge –** change of use to bar and restaurant. Full approval subject to minor changes to visibility issues |
| 8 | **HIGHWAYS MATTERS** |
| 8.1 | It was agreed to pay NCC for a desk-based appraisal of parking issues in Acle, costing £300. |
| 8.2 | There was a report of illegal parking in front of the dropped kerb in front of the new gallery in The Street. It was noted that residents can pay for a white line to be painted across the driveway. Brian Iles was asked to raise this with NCC Highways. |
| 8.3 | Various lights were reported for repairs and replacements. It was suggested that old lanterns could be retained for parts for future repairs. |
| 8.4 | Issues with the A47 will be reported to Highways England; poor road surface, vegetation on roundabout, pale road markings. |
| 8.5 | It was noted that parking at the Kings Head is now charged for. |
| 8.6 | It was reported that Network Rail/ Greater Anglia have replaced the lights on the side of the wall on the northern station footpath but that the covers are sharp. This will be reported to their customer services for action. |
| 8.7 | People are parking cars for sale on the verge of New Road again. |
| 8.8 | A new string of Christmas lights will be put along the front of the Barclays Bank once the flats have been purchased. |
| **9** 9.1 | **RECREATION CENTRE** Trustee Barry Brooks gave a report: income for the first quarter of 2017 shows a profit of £9,000. It was reported that there was 75% occupancy of the various rooms. |
| 9.2 | There was a request for assistance with the cost of repairs to the roof of the building, costing £37,500, if done over the summer, or £44,500 if done during the winter. (David Burnett, Jackie Clover and Barry Coveley declared a pecuniary interest as trustees and left the room.) There was some discussion as to whether to give a grant, or a loan, or half-loan, half-grant. Voting was split across the three options. After the proposal to give 100% grant was withdrawn by the proposer, it was then agreed by a majority of 5:2 to give an interest-free loan over 10 years for half the cost of the summer works, and the other half as a grant. |
| **10** | **PROJECTS** |
| 10.1 | **Springfield Land and Play equipment:** work has started on the installation of the play equipment. Owing to the soil being made up in the area, deeper foundations were required, at a cost of £3,646.64 + VAT.  Mills & Reeve will prepare documents to release each plot as the houses are sole. This was noted. |
| 10.2 | **Compulsory Purchase Order for Cemetery Land:** there had been no further correspondence from the Government about the Parish Council’s request for a CPO for the land north of the current cemetery. |
| 10.3 | **Website**: Anna Wade reported that she has updated the pages for local groups and clubs on the VisitAcle.com. It was agreed to remove the pages for the Parish Council agendas and minutes on the VisitAcle.com site and instead to have a link to the Norfolk Parishes website: http://aclepc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/ |
| 10.4 | **A1064:** Jackie Clover has sourced some plants for the new flowerbeds. |
| 10.5 | **Youth Club**: Annie Bassham gave a report: the club is now so successful that it is over-subscribed as the YMCA feels that no more than 28 young people can be accommodated in the Bure Room.  The clerk had received a letter from one of the young people who attends the Youth Club saying how good the club is.  Despite several appeals, no parents have come forward to help run the club. It was suggested that this was because many young people do not want their parents to attend the club with them. If the club is to continue, it will therefore be necessary to continue to fund the club from the Parish Council precept. This will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting. |
| 10.6 | **Allotment Association:** a sub-committee has been set up to review the Association’s policies and rules. |
| 10.7 | **Purchase of Properties:** The Council’s offers to purchase the leasehold of both flats above Barclays Bank were accepted. Mills & Reeve have been appointed to do the legal work. There was some discussion about the role of managing the flats, which would both be rented out. A working party was appointed to manage the flats: Tony Hemmingway, Sally Aldridge, Angela Bishop and Barry Coveley. The clerk was asked to get prices from local estate agents to find tenants and/or to manage the properties. Another alternative is for the clerk to take on the role. It was agreed that the employment committee should discuss this further. |
| 10.8 | **No Cold Calling Zones:** there have been no new letters of support – the appeal will be repeated in the next newsletter. |
| 10.9 | **Dementia-Friendly Garden at the Methodist Church:** Angela Bishop has re-planted the flower boxes and has purchased some ornaments for the garden. |
| 10.11 | **Public Toilets:** nothing to report. |
| 11 | **ANNUAL RETURNS AND ACCOUNTS** The clerk presented the comparison of actual v budget for the year to 31st March 2017, and the Accounts for the same period. The internal audit has been completed by John Gallop without any comments for the Council’s attention.  The Annual Return Sections 1 & 2 were considered and approved. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **12** | **FINANCE** |
|  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Receipts:** |  | £ | | Lloyds | Monthly bank interest on savings account | 66.96 | | BDC | First half precept | 46,459.00 | | Beighton PC | Reimbursement costs | 36.62 | | Upton PC | Reimbursement costs | 34.62 | | HMRC | VAT refund | 4,375.19 | | **Payments between meetings:** |  |  | | Sovereign | On account payment for play area | 17,825.68 | | BDC | Premises licence | 70.00 | | SWALEC | Electricity for street lights (DD) | 784.42 | | **Online Payments:** |  |  | | Employment costs |  | 3,482.11 | | Hugh Crane Cleaning | Supplies for Fletcher Room | 26.27 | | Pauline James | Reimbursement hanging baskets | 752.50 | | Copy IT | Copying | 209.63 | | Garden Guardian | Grasscutting | 1,303.97 | | Mills & Reeve | Legal frees re Springfield | 330.00 | | Jackie Clover | Plants for tubs | 62.93 | | YMCA | Youth club staff to 31.8.17 | 2,930.00 | | Sovereign | Additional cost for deeper foundations | 4,375.97 | | **Cheques for payment:** |  |  | | Wendy Butler | Holiday cover | 18.88 | | Cozens | PAT testing at Fletcher Room | 120.00 | | John Gallop | Audit – internal | 350.00 | | Wilkerson’s | Consumables | 32.83 | | Roy Tate | Plants for hanging baskets | 258.00 | | T T Jones Electrical | Cleaning and checking street lights | 2,520.52 | | Methodist Church | Meeting room hire | 50.00 | | Community Action | Subscription | 20.00 | | **Balance c/f 22.5.17** |  | 209,027.93 | | **Balances in Savings:** |  |  | | Government Stocks |  | 134,683.00 | | Cambridge B/Soc | Instant access 0.15% | 75,245.18 | | Lloyds Bank | 32 day notice 0.45 % | 175,174.96 | | Nationwide B/Soc | 12m to Feb 2017 1.2% | 75,000.00 | | Total monies |  | 669,131.07 | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | £93,791.32 is held by Mills & Reeve to be used to pay for the crossing on A1064.  These payments were authorised. |
| 13 | **MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING - Co-option of new councillor - Youth club funding** |
| 14 | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 26th June 2017** |

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

Signed:………………………………. Dated: 26th June 2017  
 Chairman