Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 29th October 2018  
Venue: Methodist Church, Bridewell Lane, Acle  
Time: 7.00 p.m.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

There were eleven members of the public present. Matters raised included: repairs needed to the noticeboard at the Recreation Centre and planting at Springfield. There was also an issue with a boat parked at a property in Springfield despite this being prohibited under the conveyance.

**County Councillor Brian Iles** gave a report: budget discussions continue at Norwich County Council. The Government had announced extra funding for repairs of potholes. As county councillor, Brian has an allowance of £6,000 to share between the parishes in his area. He suggested that the clerk and the chairman meet with Simon Hughes, Head of Property at NCC to find out more about the proposed use of the Herondale site.

**District Councillor Lana Hempsall** gave a report: Broadland District Council had discussed NCC’s proposals to close Children’s Centres. BDC’s staff have been trained ready to support residents changing to Universal Credit. Any residents with problems claiming Universal Credit should get in touch with Lana or with BDC.

**PRESENT:**   
Chairman: Tony Hemmingway  
Councillors: Sally Aldridge, Angela Bishop, Jackie Clover, Barry Coveley, Roger Jay and Jamie Pizey. Also Parish Clerk, Pauline James.

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| **1** | | **APOLOGIES** Councillors: Annie Bassham, David Burnett, Chris Linehan, Ellen Thompson and Anna Wade. | | |
| **2** | | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** Barry Coveley declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in any financial transactions with the Recreation Centre, as a Trustee. Jackie Clover had an interest in a payment and Jamie Pizey is on the committee of Acle Society. Roger Jay is on Acle Social Club. | | |
| **3** | | **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting of 24th September 2018 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Tony Hemmingway as Chairman of the Parish Council. | | |
| **4** | | **MATTERS ARISING** | | |
| 4.1 | | Norfolk County Council have said there is no funding for a bypass to the west of Acle. | | |
| 4.2 | | NCC said that Herondale was part of their scheme, “Living Well, Homes for Norfolk”, which aims to encourage and accelerate the delivery of extra care housing and would not be for sale to the Parish Council. | | |
| 4.3 | | The clerk submitted the Parish Council’s comments on the proposed dualling of the A47 at North Burlingham. | | |
| 4.4 | | Following a review of the Agreement under S.104 of the Water Industry Act 1991 at the Springfield land by Mills & Reeve, the document was signed. | | |
| 4.5 | | Highways England have said that sponsorship of the A47 roundabout is not possible because of the higher risk to contractors at this location, so only essential work can be permitted. | | |
| 4.6 | | A County Court Judgement was issued on 5th October against Big Print Media t/a Post Distribution via the County Court Business Centre Online Court. | | |
| 4.7 | | Anna Wade asked colleagues at NCC to investigate issues with the footpath to the south of the boat dyke. They have identified signage that is missing and the Public Rights of Way team will check the route further. | | |
| **5** | | **CORRESPONDENCE** | | |
| 5.1 | | Details of NCC’s proposal to close Children’s Centres in October 2019, including Acle’s, were discussed. The Drayton Children’s Centre would be the centre for the district. The councillors appreciated that these changes were in response to necessary reductions in costs, but felt that there was not enough information on the proposed provision to judge whether it would be adequate to meet the needs of Acle residents and those from other villages who currently attend the Children’s Centre in Acle. | | |
| 5.2 | | It was agreed to give a donation of £100 to the Royal British Legion. | | |
| 5.3 | | The Police.uk website listed 21 crimes recorded in Acle in August. | | |
| 5.4 | | It was noted that a report in the EDP stated that changes to funding of police pensions could cost the jobs of 100 officers. The clerk was asked to contact MP Keith Simpson to raise their concerns about this, given the recent redundancy of PCSOs in the county. | | |
| 5.5 | | The Audit of the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018 was completed and has been published on the Council’s website. | | |
| 5.6 | | BDC asked if the Council would be willing to receive all planning applications electronically. The clerk replied that this would not work for Acle as there is no projector or wifi at the hall. | | |
| 5.7 | | The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has issued a review (the Glover Review) of National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, asking people what might be done better, what changes could assist them and whether definitions and systems are still sufficient. It was agreed to send comments that the existing boundaries for the Broads Authority should stay the same and to complain about the lack of litter bins and public toilets in the Broads area. | | |
| 5.8 | | The BA is considering adding signage at the entrance to some villages to show “Broads National Park”. It was agreed that this would be appropriate for the village. | | |
| 5.9 | | The Greater Norwich Local Plan has published its consultation of sites put forward for development – this will be on the agenda for the next meeting. | | |
| 5.10 | | The East Norfolk Transport Users Association (ENTUA) has asked for the Council’s support for a campaign to improve rail services between Norwich and Gt Yarmouth. This was agreed. | | |
| **6** | | **PLANNING** | | |
| 6.1 | | **Planning Applications:**   1. Nicholas Hancox Solicitors, Old Road – conversion of office to one-bedroom apartment (20181689). The councillors regretted this loss of office space in the village and did not feel that it was appropriate to have a ground floor bedroom fronting on to the pavement. | | |
| 6.2 | | **Decisions made by Broadland District Council:**   1. **Crocus, Land adj. Hillside Farm, Reedham** **Road** – erection of 30 dwellings and associated works (20180941) – reserved matters approval 2. **Mr Gidney, 18 Hermitage Close** – double bay cart lodge including workshop (retrospective) (20181161) – full approval 3. **Mr & Mrs Eagle, 5 Peter Avenue** – single storey front extension and roof alterations (20181438) – full approval | | |
| **7** | | **HIGHWAYS** | | |
| 7.1 | | **A1064 Borders** Jackie Clover reported that she has planted up one of the borders. | | |
| 7.2 | | **Mill Lane Bench** Clarion Housing broke up and removed the new bench that Acle Parish Council had installed on land in Mill Lane. The clerk will contact Clarion to complain that the bench was removed without anyone contacting the Parish Council and also that the bench was destroyed, when it could have been used elsewhere. | | |
| 7.3 | | **Middlesex Lane** There has been a complaint that a resident has erected bollards at the entrance to Middlesex Lane. This is a private road. The clerk will try to find out more. | | |
| 7.4 | | Some potholes were reported for repair. | | |
| 7.5 | | It was noted that the road flooded by St Edmunds Church again. | | |
| **8** 8.1 | | **RECREATION CENTRE** Diane Fisher gave a report: a leaflet with regular bookings at the Centre and forthcoming events will be circulated in the village.  The buildings have been revalued which has resulted in a large increase in insurance premium for the Centre. The Trustees asked the Parish Council to assist with the payment of the premium. (Barry Coveley and Roger Jay took no part in the discussion or voting). The Parish Council usually pays for the insurance premium for the skatepark and zipwire, last year just over £1,000, whereas these items would be included in the total premium this year. It was noted that £1,850 is available from the budget heading for the Recreation Centre as After some discussion it was agreed to pay up to £3,800 towards the insurance premium, being the usual £1,000 + £2,800 towards the increased premium. It was agreed to use the Community Infrastructure Levy monies for this payment. | | |
| **9** | | **PROJECTS** | | |
| 9.1 | | **Land for a cemetery:** Cemetery Development Services completed trial digs on two possible sites. This item was discussed in closed session because of the commercial sensitivity of land values. | | |
| 9.2 | | **WW1 Commemorative event:** The Parish Council has paid £350 for a singer for the evening and £175 for a choir for the morning. Angela Bishop gave a report of the planned event and asked for additional funding to cover extra costs. It was agreed to pay for all extra costs. | | |
| 9.3 | | **Storage for Archive materials and display:** There was some discussion about hiring storage space. It was then agreed to ask the Recreation Centre if there was space for storage of the archive materials. | | |
| 9.4 | | **Public toilets refurbishment:** There has been no further correspondence from Broadland District Council. | | |
| 9.5 | | **Parking Restrictions in village centre:** Norfolk County Council felt that the existing plans to limit parking to 2 hours between 9 – 4 on weekdaysare more appropriate than restricting all parking for 2 hours every morning, as was suggested at the last meeting. The estimated cost to re-start consultation on new proposal would also cost over £1,000. The councillors therefore agreed to continue with the existing plans. Public consultation should take place shortly. | | |
| 9.6 | | **Christmas Lights:**   1. T T Jones will install new strings of coloured lights along the front of High House by extending the existing supply from adjacent properties. 2. The Post Office building is more complicated. Work would have be done outside normal working hours and the lights would only be on lower level. It was agreed to leave this for now. 3. Tony Hemmingway had purchased 3 strings of lights for the Christmas tree, totalling £78.27, including VAT. | | |
| 9.7 | | **Hanging Baskets and Bowser:** Tony Hemmingway has checked over the bowser and cart. Barry Coveley will investigate options to repair the base of the cart. The councillors thanked Jackie Clover for her hard work planting up the baskets, which had been very successful. | | |
| 9.8 | | **Defibrillators** It was reported that First Responder Claire Sayer is checking the defibrillator at Acle Bridge monthly. The Parish Council agreed to budget for replacement pads and batteries as required. It was suggested that Claire should send a text when she has checked the defibrillator and reported the check to the authorities so that the Parish Council is kept up-to-date with checks and any maintenance requirements. | | |
| 9.9 | | **Youth workers** YMCA proposed a mobile Peacemakers service for two youth workers using a van for 1 ¾ hours per week, for £7,300. The clerk has contacted Brundall Parish Council to ask if they would consider sharing the van. It was agreed to leave this until the Summer. | | |
| 9.10 | | **Graffiti board** There was some discussion about whether a graffiti wall would be a good idea. There were concerns about the need to paint over any offensive graffiti. It was agreed to leave this to the Recreation Centre committee to consider. | | |
| **10** | **FINANCE** | | |
|  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Receipts:** |  | £ | | Lloyds Bank | Interest on savings accounts – 1 month | 7.30 | | 42 The Street | Rent for one month | 795.00 | | 42 The Street | Rent from new tenant | 795.00 | | 44 The Street | Rent for one month | 600.00 | | Barclays | Rent for ¼ | 6,375.00 | | Broadland DC | 2nd half precept | 51,105.00 | | Broadland DC | 40% of fee re public toilets | 5,101.60 | | Gilts | Interest on investments | 22.26 | | **Payments between meetings:** |  |  | | SWALEC | Electricity for street lights (DD) x 2 | 1,450.23 | | PKF Littlejohn | External audit fee | 1,560.00 | | Invidia Voices | WW1 event | 175.00 | | Anglian Water | Toilets | 251.58 | | Anglian Water | Cemetery | 15.76 | | Anglian Water | Allotments | 98.27 | | **Online payments:** |  |  | | Employment costs: |  | 3,504.46 | | Acle Rec Centre | Youth club room hire x 4 weeks | 96.00 | | Hugh Crane Ltd | Supplies | 46.75 | | Garden Guardian | Grasscutting | 1,435.37 | | T T Jones | Streetlight repairs | 1,107.99 | | Property Shop | Letting fee | 954.00 | | George Taylor | Maintenance | 127.00 | | Hayes Computing | Website | 36.00 | | Copy IT | Copying | 170.77 | | Jackie Clover | Plants for A1064 | 89.33 | | Ovamill | New car parking at Recreation Centre | 42,986.40 | | Plumbright | Repairs | 90.00 | | Tony Hemmingway | New Christmas lights | 78.27 | | **Cheques for payment:** |  |  | | Christine Drury | WW1 event – singer | 300.00 | | Wilkersons | Supplies | 31.39 | | Acle Society | Delivery of newsletter | 40.00 | | Methodist Church | Room hire | 50.00 | | **Balance c/f 29.10.18** |  | 168,799.63 | | **Balances in Savings:** |  |  | | Government Stocks |  | 132,188.00 | | Cambridge B/Soc | Instant access 0.15% | 1,309.09 | | Lloyds Bank | 32-day notice 0.57 % | 101,019.83 | | Nationwide B/Soc |  | 438.24 | | Total monies |  | 403,754.79 | | | |
|  | Expected capital income: £311,770 is expected as overage monies from properties sold on Springfield land.   Outstanding commitments:  Parking amendments £20,000 + VAT The monies include reserves for repairs and renewals totalling £186,832. It was noted that Jackie Clover had checked the September online payments to the bank statements and the clerk’s latest bank reconciliation.  Actual v Budget figures for the 7 months to 29th October were noted. The payments were authorised. | |
| **11** | **MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING**   * **Greater Norwich Local Plan – additional sites** * **Archive storage** * **Report on WW1 event** * **Update on Recreation Centre insurance** * **GoGo Hares** * **Councillors are invited to bring items for the Yarmouth foodbank** | |
| **12** | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING –The next meeting is Monday 26th November 2018 at 7.00pm.** | |