Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 24th June 2019  
Venue: Methodist Hall, Bridewell Lane, Acle  
Time: 7.00 p.m.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

There were about 40 members of the public present.

Staff from Bidwells and Lovell were present to show draft plans for the proposed development off Norwich Road. The draft plans show a proposed plan for the site, with 138 homes. 45 homes would be “affordable”, either rented or shared ownership. The site will be for a mix of 1,2,3 and 4-bedroom homes, with some public open space. Landscaping along the boundary would be retained and enhanced. The principal vehicle access would be from Norwich Road, with a secondary, emergency access onto Mill Lane. The company hopes to start work on site in Spring 2020.  
  
The outline planning permission in 2018 included a condition that all dwellings with a shared boundary with residential properties on Norwich Road and St Edmunds Road shall be of single storey construction, with no dormer windows or other openings to the roof space. There will also have to be on-site parking for all construction workers during the build, and wheel-cleaning of construction vehicles.

Residents and councillors raised various issues with the developers who said they would consider all the comments.

**District Councillor Lana Hempsall**: she had had a meeting with the Economic Development Team at Broadland District Council to discuss whether there is any support available for Acle.

The clerk was asked to contact the landowner in Beighton Road to ask for the ditch to be cleared out in case of heavy rainfall. Norfolk County Council will be asked to cut back the weeds on the path between Fletcher Way and De Carle Smith Road. The clerk was asked to contact Network Rail and/or Greater Anglia to ask them to cut back the vegetation on the station footpaths. Nigel Robson confirmed that he had obtained a felling licence for the proposed works in Damgate Wood.

**PRESENT:**   
Chairman: Tony Hemmingway  
Councillors: Sally Aldridge, Angela Bishop, David Burnett, Jackie Clover, Brian Grint, Jamie Pizey and Anna Wade. Also Parish Clerk, Pauline James.

The clerk confirmed that she had received David Burnett’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Councillor and his acceptance of Acle Parish Council’s Code of Conduct. The councillors’ Register of Interests forms have been received back from Broadland District Council and will be published shortly on BDC’s website.

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| **1** | | **APOLOGIES** Parish Councillors Barry Coveley and Jayne Greenacre, County Councillor Brian Iles. | | |
| **2** | | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** David Burnett declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in any financial transactions with the Recreation Centre, as Trustee. | | |
| **3** | | **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting of 20th May 2019 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Tony Hemmingway as Chairman of the Parish Council. | | |
| **4** | | **MATTERS ARISING** | | |
| 4.1 | | The Recreation Centre decided not to permit the construction of a storage shed for Acle Lands Trust machinery in front of the building. | | |
| 4.2 | | The clerk has completed the NCC form to request footway lighting on the Leffins Lane development. It is acknowledged that the Parish Council will take on the future maintenance of these lights. | | |
| 4.3 | | The bench for Old Road by The Drive has been delivered and will be fixed on site shortly. | | |
| 4.4 | | BDC staff said that they are attempting to arrange a longer lease for the site for the public toilets in The Street, and will then proceed with the refurbishment. | | |
| 4.5 | | David Burnett resigned from the Roads Working Party. | | |
| 4.6 | | Acle Community Gym sent a letter of thanks for the recent donation. | | |
| **5** | | **CORRESPONDENCE** | | |
| 5.1 | | Angela Bishop set out plans for an event for VE Day, to be held on Sunday, 10th May. The Recreation Centre hall has been provisionally booked. It was agreed to allocate a budget of £800 for this event. | | |
| 5.2 | | The next Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP) meeting will take place on Tuesday, 27th August at 5.45pm in Acle Library. | | |
| 5.3 | | Acle Good Neighbours sent their thanks for Acle Parish Council paying for the room hire for the Tea & Talk events. | | |
| 5.4 | | Barclays replied to the Council’s complaint about the local branch closing. They stated that it is a business decision because of falling numbers of customers who use the branch exclusively. They do not run mobile banking but are trialling “surgeries” at a public library.  The clerk has already written to Barclays asking for the keys to the bank building, and was asked to chase this up. | | |
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| **6** | | **PLANNING** | | |
| 6.1 | | Planning applications considered at the Meeting:   1. **Marsh House, Rotten Marsh** – two storey side extension and erection of a cartshed (20190917). There were no objections to the plans. 2. **7 Hillcrest** – two storey side and rear extensions (20190891). There were no objections to the plans. | | |
| 6.2 | | Plans considered between meetings:   1. **4 Mill Lane** – two storey side extension with single storey garage to front (20190835). The councillors had no objections to the plans. 2. **13 Oaks Lea** – conservatory to rear (20190806). The councillors had no objections to the plans. | | |
| 6.3 | | Planning results from Broadland District Council:   1. **12 Priory Close** – single storey rear extension (20190182) – full approval 2. **Unit 3, Calthorpe Green** – replacement windows (20190479) – full and listed approval 3. **8 Hillcrest** – two storey side and front extensions (20190538) – full approval | | |
| **7** | | **HIGHWAYS** | | |
| 7.1 | | It was agreed not to spray the dandelions on the Damgate Lane play area. | | |
| 7.2 | | Some of the streetlights have been inspected; the report was handed to Tony Hemmingway and Jamie Pizey as members of the street lighting working party. It was agreed to carry out some repairs and to begin to change the old-style lanterns for LED lanterns. | | |
| 7.3 | | The councillors congratulated Jackie Clover and the team of people who helped with the hanging baskets. | | |
| **8** 8.1 | | **RECREATION CENTRE** Trustee Barry Brooks gave a report: two trustees have resigned. Various events are planned for the Centre, including a Norfolk County Cricket match in July. The special power point for the use of a generator in an emergency has been fitted. The refurbishment of the toilets will start in July. | | |
|  | | The work on the patio area has been done, with some snagging issues to be resolved. The clerk was told not to pay the invoice yet. Two new doors have been fitted, for £4,914. | | |
| 8.2 | | **Acle Tennis Club:** a grant of £7,500 was requested towards the cost of re-surfacing the tennis courts. The Club has already raised £31,586 and obtained grants of £21,000. The councillors agreed to make a donation of £7,500. | | |
| **9** | | **PROJECTS** | | |
| 9.1 | | **New Cemetery:** The planning application has been submitted to Broadland District Council, for change of use under number: 20190908. Residents are encouraged to write to support the application. | | |
| 9.2 | | **Herondale:** BDC confirmed that, under the Assets of Community Value scheme, the disposal process had been triggered by the lease of the site to Saffron Housing and Norse. The clerk sent confirmation that the Parish Council would not seek to make a bid on the site so long as the lease is for housing-with-care.  Saffron have stated that Homes England was happy with their funding application for affordable rented flats but wanted some changes with the plans for the shared-ownership flats. The outcome of their bid for funding is expected shortly. | | |
| 9.3 | | **Parking Restrictions in village centre:** Tony Hemmingway, Sally Aldridge and the clerk have a meeting with NCC shortly. | | |
| 9.4 | | **Plastic-free Community:** Anna Wade gave a report: The first meeting of the working party had set out various objectives, with each person asked to approach different organisations in the village. Reactions to the scheme to reduce single-use plastic had been mixed. Acle Social Club was the first group to sign up to the scheme – they have stopped using plastic straws and disposable containers in the kitchen and have also signed up the Water Refill scheme. | | |
| 9.5 | | **Acle Lands Trust:** It was agreed to pay for the tree felling and removal of Japanese Knotweed, up to £1,000. | | |
| 9.6 | | **Emergency Planning:** It was agreed that the working party needs to draw up a plan in the event of there being a power outage in the village, e.g. where the generator will be sourced. | | |
| 9.7 | | **Youth Club:** Nothing to report. | | |
| 10 | **FINANCE** | | |
| 10.1 | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Receipts:** |  | £ | | 42 The Street | Rent for one month | 795.00 | | 44 The Street | Rent for one month | 600.00 | | Upton PC | Reimbursement of costs | 33.25 | | Govt stocks | Interest | 115.32 | | Mills & Reeve | Overage payments | 82,335.07 | | BDC | Payment re management of toilets | 7,811.90 | | Barclays | Quarterly rent | 6,375.00 | | **Payments made:** |  |  | | SWALEC DD | Electricity for streetlights | 733.04 | | Joyce Groves | Plants for Good Neighbours | 20.95 | | Jackie Clover | Plants for A1064 borders and tubs | 353.97 | | Plumbright | Decoration of public toilets | 1,309.10 | | Siemens DD | Copier rental | 213.57 | | R Dugdale | Plants for baskets | 288.00 | | Total | Electricity for public toilets | 84.43 | | **Online payments:** |  |  | | Employment costs: |  | 4,217.67 | | Acle Rec Centre | Youth club room hire x 4 weeks | 72.00 | | Hugh Crane Ltd | Supplies | 109.21 | | Garden Guardian | Grasscutting | 1,490.57 | | T T Jones | Streetlight repairs and inspection | 601.63 | | Alan Irvine | Planning services re cemetery | 927.00 | | Smiths of Derby | 50% re new clock mechanism | 1,161.00 | | James Auton-Warby | Watering hanging baskets | 258.62 | | Isla Fisher | Watering hanging baskets | 123.15 | | Ovamill | Construction of patio area at Rec | 28,888.80 | | Suregroup | New doors at Rec | 5,896.66 | | Martin Pitchers | Work at cemetery | 150.00 | | **Cheques for payment:** |  |  | | Brenda Berry | Plants at war memorial | 18.00 | | Wilkersons | Supplies | 137.53 | | Methodist Church | Room hire – Meetings | 61.20 | | **Balance c/f 24.06.19** |  | 493,890.55 | | **Balances in Savings:** |  |  | | Government Stocks |  | 133,686.00 | | Cambridge B/Soc | Instant access 0.15% | 91,311.50 | | Lloyds Bank | 32-day notice 0.57 % | 101,464.98 | | Nationwide B/Soc | 45-day saver 0.85% | 90,448.77 | | Total monies |  | 910,801.80 | | | |
|  | These monies include a capital reserve of £346,623 and a reserve for repairs and renewals of £199,082.  Outstanding commitments: Parking amendments and patio area.  It was noted that Anna Wade had checked the clerk’s bank reconciliation as at 30th May 2019 and the online payments from the meeting of 20th May 2019. Anna had also checked the total balance of £881,913.00 to the cashbook and relevant bank statements. Actual v Budget figures for the 3 months to 24.6.2019 were reviewed.  The payments were authorised. | |
| 10.2 | It was noted that the total overage received on the Springfield land to date was £499,227.25, with 5 more houses to be sold. | |
| **11** | **MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING**   * Co-option * Election of two trustees for the Recreation Centre | |
| **12** | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**  **The Next Parish Council Meeting - Monday 29th July 2019 at 7.00pm** | |

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.10pm.

Signed:………………………………. 29th July 2019  
 Chairman