**Acle Parish Council**

**Clerk’s report for Parish Council meeting on 29th November 2021**

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| **1.** | **Agenda items:** |
| 1.1 | **Acle Foodbank (agenda item 4)**  Brundall & Blofield Good Neighbours continue to collect the parcels for residents in their parishes, fortnightly, prepared by Sally Aldridge. A Reedham resident has offered to collect the parcel for that village. Blofield Relief In Need Charity is giving a donation towards the Christmas parcels. I attended an assembly at Freethorpe Primary School and collected 4 large boxes of food that the children had donated. I have applied for some food shopping vouchers from a charity via the Norfolk Community Foundation, which can be handed out to each family. |
| 1.2 | **Acle’s Beeline (agenda item 4)** Richard Powell will give a report on Monday. |
| 1.3 | **Rent for land at Primary School for Fletcher Room (agenda item 4)** Norfolk Property Services, as agents for Norfolk County Council, have proposed an increase in the rent for the site, from £350pa to £2,640pa. |
| 2 | **Matters Arising from the Meeting of 25th October:** |
| 2.1 | I have applied for BDC to consider the followingas **Assets of Community Value:** the former Lloyds bank building (known as the Hair Sanctuary), the Sale Yard and the Old Station Road. |
| 2.2 | The **defibrillator** has arrived, but not the cabinet yet. |
| 2.3 | **Network Rail** trees on ALT land  Network Rail appears to accept that we can’t access the track to deal with the trees that need felling, and they are not allowed to work on trees outside their boundaries. |
| 2.4 | The Parish Council has paid for the cricket covers, and has already received the **S106 money** from BDC, and has paid for the roller/mower and the team shelters, and applied for the S106 money. |
| 3 | **Planning: (Agenda item 5)** |
| 3.1 | **Wyncot, Pyebush Lane** – replacement dwelling (20212004). |
| 3.2 | **Land North of Damgate** **Lane** – 4 self-build dwellings (outline) (20212094). |
| 3.3 | A couple of applications to satisfy conditions on previous applications at **Acle Garden Machinery** have been approved. The application (20211179) re the raising of the land higher than approved, and use of the land for business use, is still being considered. |
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| 4 | **Recreation Centre: (agenda item 7)** The Rec Centrehave been successful in being awarded a grant for 30% towards the installation of solar panels on the roof. The total cost is currently £63,200. The grant is for £22,752. They had asked in the past if the PC might give a contribution and we have £20,000 in the current year’s budget for this purpose, following a decision to support this scheme, in principle, back in November 2020. |
| 5 | Gareth Potter has resigned as **PC-appointed trustee**, so the PC will consider appointing someone else. (agenda item 8). |
| 6 | **Chocolate Box and Barclays: (agenda items 9 and 10)**  Angela Bishop, Barry Coveley, Jackie Clover, Wendy Kenny, Jamie Pizey and I attended a zoom meeting this week with Fraser Hall, our architect, and Stephen Cummins, from Real Consulting – a project and cost management company.  They are using industry standards to work out an estimated cost for the refurbishments; £750- £1500/m2, which gives an estimated cost for the main Barclays building of £262,500 - £525,000, plus £50,000 - £100,000 for the rear extension.  Professional fees are estimated at 10 – 12% of the build cost.  Plus a contingency.  They talked about £75,000 - £100,000 for the Chocolate Box works. |
| 7 | **New Cemetery: (agenda item 11)**  The Transfer is being discussed and should be ready for signing soon. |
| 8 | **Men’s Shed: (agenda item 12)**  Just after the last meeting, Barry Coveley came up with the proposal to site the two modular buildings for the Men’s Shed on the piece of grass in front of the indoor bowls centre. The trees on that piece of grass are due to be removed as they shade the roof where the solar panels will be. This site has several advantages over the site between the outdoor bowls and Swallowtail Place; it is much more level, it would be possible to construct a ramp for disabled access to the sheds, there is good parking provision, it is nearer to the main centre for toilets, it is more visible so less risk of vandalism etc.  This proposal was put to the trustees at their last meeting. I understand that several trustees were not in favour of this site being used but that, since that meeting, Barry Brooks has been talking to individual trustees and that a majority are now in favour. This has not been formally agreed at a trustees’ meeting, however.  Barry Coveley and another trustee from the Men’s Shed are going to Fakenham today to inspect two possible modular buildings. They are more expensive than the other buildings they were looking at last month, which are no longer available, but the costs to install the buildings are likely to be considerably lower on this site. |
| 9 | **Highways: (agenda item 13)** |
| 9.1 | **Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign:** Jamie Pizey will give a report. |
| 9.2 | I emailed Norfolk CC for an(other) update on the parking scheme. The reply has just arrived: *The report was signed off internally and sent to committee.  Harrison and I are now waiting to hear the outcome.*    *We will let you know as soon as we receive the decision.* |
| 9.3 | The Royal British Legion asked if we might cut back or remove the shrubs beside the **war memorial** in the churchyard so that members of the public can see what is going on during the Remembrance events. Photos are in the agenda folder. |
| 10 | **Events: (agenda item 15)**  Angela Bishop will report on the Christmas event and the Jubilee events. |
| 11 | **Appointment of Deputy Clerk and Assets Manager (agenda item 16)** |
|  | Angela Bishop, Barry Coveley and I were unanimous in choosing Becky Furr to be the new Deputy Clerk. She was thrilled to be appointed. |
| 12 | **Any Other Business:** |
| 12.1 | The YMCA got in touch to say that very few older children are attending the **youth club** at present so they have decided to extend the time slot for younger children, until 8.30pm and then walk around the Rec Centre grounds after that to engage with older children, encouraging them to go into the warmth of the meeting room, if possible. |
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|  | Pauline – 26th November 2021 |