

Pre-Meeting Business: The Chairman stated that Mrs. White was present as a representative of the local press and was not a member of the Parish Council.

Public Participation: Mrs. Payne expressed thanks to the Parish Council for the excellent submission made to Breckland Council in respect of the new Local Plan.

North Elmham Parish Council

**Minutes of the
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion on
Wednesday 2nd November 2016**

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218 Those Councillors Present Were:

Mrs. J. Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips (Vice Chairman), Mr. J. Brown, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. P. Grainger, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. J. Labouchere, Mr. C. MacEwan, Mr. C. Smith, Dr. P. Wade-Martins and Mrs. D. Warner.

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk), Mrs. M. White (Elmham News + Dereham and Fakenham Times) and three parishioners.

219 To Consider Apologies for Absence:

Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor)

220 To Receive Declarations of Interest:

The Chairman reminded the meeting that, should the occasion arise, interests should be declared by Councillors as soon as this was realised, and the interest should be minuted.

221 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 5th October 2016:

Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Mr. MacEwan and seconded by Mr. Phillips. Agreed by all.

UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

222 Land Management Matters (item 188)

- (a) Village Green Throughout the summer, Mr. Brown said that he had cleared five deer carcasses from the village green. He will write a piece for the Elmham News on this matter.

- (b) Cathedral Ruins Mrs. Keeble reported that two people from Medieval Masonry of Cromer had been looking at the high wall. They have done some work (possibly one day). Dr. Wade-Martins has contacted English Heritage for information but no reply has yet been received.
- (c) Cathedral Meadows Mr. Fish has signed the annual grazing and mowing licence for the land to the north of Church Lane.
- (d) Broom Green Mr. Goldstein is arranging for the remaining weeds to be sprayed, in accordance with current legislation.
- (e) Millennium Wood The Chairman and Mr. Labouchere met Nick Saunders. Mrs. Marion Brown was also present. Work is to be started before Christmas and will be completed before the nesting season. 20% of the trees are to be removed.
- (f) Bridleway on disused railway line Nothing to report.
- (g) Prince William Wood See item 241.

223 Street Lights (item 189)

The demolished street light number 96 has been replaced but has not yet been connected.

224 Highway Matters (item 190) Dr. Wade-Martins reported that:

- (a) *Potholes*. These all now seem to have been filled following his July pothole survey, and the roads in the parish are generally in good condition.
- (b) *Muddy areas on the Safe Route to School*. No progress!
- (c) *Overhanging hedge in Eastgate Street*. The invoice for the cost of the work has been sent to Simon Thompson, but there has been no response. The clerk will ring him to press for payment. Meanwhile somebody else cut the inside and top of the hedge spreading further debris and thorns on the pavement making it unusable again. The Adcock brothers kindly cleared that up at no charge for us.
- (d) *New signs to numbered houses off Eastgate Street*. The signs have been collected and Mr Brown has kindly agreed to fix them to the garden walls near the front pavement.
- (e) *White van (KNO2 HKT)*. This has been parked beside the park wall opposite the Institute with a flat tyre and broken wing mirror for some weeks, causing an obstruction whenever parents park their cars to collect children from school. The police have been informed.
- (f) *Traffic accident at Post Office corner*. Mr Grainger was thanked for arranging for a police report on this dangerous bend. Dr Wade-Martins will set up a site meeting between the police, Highways, Mr Grainger and himself to discuss the three proposals in the report:

- Paint SLOW signs on the road at the approach to the bend from the south.
- Add yellow background boards to "20" speed restrictions signs.
- Build one, and preferably two, pinch points to slow down traffic at points to be determined.

225 Eastgate Centre (item 191)

Nothing to report

- 226 Pavilion and Playing Field – Play Area (item 192)**
Work has been done to repair the mole hills and, as a result, the football team was able to play a match on 29th October.
- 227 Dog Fouling (item 193)**
Nothing to report
- 228 Allotments (item 194)**
Mr. Phillips said that there is a problem with rats. Following a change in legislation, a licence, which costs £50 and can be bought on-line, is required to purchase rat bait.
- 229 Community defibrillator (item 195)**
Mrs. Warner reported that training, for up to 50 people, is to take place at the Memorial Hall on 17th November at 7.00 p.m.
- 230 Play equipment and car park proposals (item 196)**
A bar has come loose from the top of the slide and will be fixed. Mrs. Warner will do a piece for the Elmham News regarding the Tesco Bags of Help scheme. It is hoped to obtain a grant for adult keep fit facilities.
- 231 Community Farm (item 197)**
Mr. Smith said that the limited company has been wound up and the farm is operating as a community project run by a group of friends.
- 232 Detailed information map for village/Notice and Information Boards (item 198)**
Nothing to report
- 233 Volunteers (item 199)**
Nothing to report
- 234 Village Maintenance (item 200)**
Nothing to report
- 235 Village Institute Hall (item 201)**
Nothing to report
- 236 Village Resilience Plan (item 202)**
Nothing to report
- 237 Bus routes (item 203)**
Nothing to report
- 238 Speeding/traffic management (item 205)**
See items 244 and 224(f).

239 Discussions with the Mid-Norfolk Railway Company (item 206)

Dr Wade-Martins reported that the railway company has now found a replacement for the disintegrating gate at the station crossing; in fact they have found two and will endeavour to install a matching pair.

240 Report from District Councillor

The Local Plan Consultation concludes on 31st October. It will now be assessed and submitted to the inspector early in the New Year.

Devolution will be voted on by County Council very soon and I have written to our MP with concerns about us all being dis-enfranchised in any vote on the matter. I attended recent meeting in County Hall and raised my concerns with County Council, the LEP and others for the people of Upper Wensum Ward and Breckland.

As a District member I continue to press County Council on matters regarding the NDR and its affecting villages like Brisley.

Week Commencing 25th October saw the latest edition of the Breckland magazine being delivered by SERCO. I welcome any comments or feedback on this.

I will respond promptly to any questions you may have.

241 Prince William Wood (including gate)

Mr. Brown asked if there were plans for the wood. He was also concerned that the gate was too heavy to open. It will be necessary to decide whether it is preferable to keep the area open or install fences and a hedge. It was agreed to seek the views of the residents via Elmham News. Proposed by Dr. Wade-Martins and seconded by Mr. Smith. All in favour. Mr. Labouchere is to inspect the gate and will attempt to rectify the problem with it. The paths in the wood are being kept open and maintained by volunteers. Mr. Phillips proposed that the situation regarding the paths be reviewed in the New Year and this was seconded by Dr. Wade-Martins. All in favour except Mr. Fitzalan Howard who voted against. Mr. Brown felt that the trees near the road needed lopping.

242 The garden near the wall in the car park near the church

It was agreed to remove the garden near the wall from the ruins gate to the road. Proposed by Mr. Grainger and seconded by Dr. Wade-Martins. All in favour.

243 Police presence in the village

Mr. Brown said that there was no police presence in the village at any time. Although there had been some vandalism in recent times, it was felt that it reflected the relatively low level of criminal activity. If there were any areas of particular concern, it was important that they are drawn to the attention of the police.

244 Traffic management

Mr. Grainger presented a report from David Law, Police Traffic Management Officer, which had previously been circulated to members. The report was as follows:-

We have received complaints/concerns from Local residents regarding speed of traffic through the 20mph section of the B1110 Holt Road. This road is a major route from the Fakenham Road through to Dereham and the A47 with over 20,000 vehicle movements a week. As a result of concerns raised by Local residents the Constabulary deployed Speed Monitoring equipment during two weeks in September, the result showed compliance levels were 61% towards Guist and 55% towards Dereham with almost 2,000 vehicles travelling over 31mph. The main offenders were early morning, but excessive speed occurred throughout the day. 20mph Limits and zones are normally brought in for safety reasons and should therefore be engineered to gain compliance whilst guidance on 20mph Limits should be considered when average traffic speeds are about 24mph, this clearly is not the case. There is a pinch point to the East of the limit but nothing else.

Whilst the Constabulary can enforce 20's it should not form part of any planned enforcement, since these limits should be engineered to gain compliance.

I suggest a possible remedy would be:

1. To improve signage and Gateway treatment on both approaches.
2. To consider placing at least one but preferably two additional pinch points to encourage greater compliance.
3. To Place Roundels and 'SLOW' Markings to raise driver awareness and improve compliance levels.

Mr. Grainger supports these recommendations and items 1) and 3) above received, in the main, generally positive reactions. It was agreed that Dr. Wade-Martins would arrange a meeting to be attended by himself, Mr. Grainger, Mr. Law and a representative from Highways Department. Mr. Grainger was thanked for his work on this important matter.

245 Website

Dr. Wade-Martins said that he has been approached by two people who are prepared to set up a website at no cost. This proposal is to be circulated to all members. The Clerk has established that it is possible to have a "free" website through Norfolk ALC with some initial set-up and training costs. It will ultimately be necessary to decide if the website is to be for Parish Council matters only or the village as a whole. It was also asked whether it would be possible for data on the current website to be passed to the Parish Council. This will be investigated.

246 Safer Neighbourhood meetings

It was agreed by all that no discussions would be held on this matter at the present time.

247 Budget and Precept for 2017/2018

Mr. Phillips presented the draft budget for the coming financial year and this showed proposed expenditure of £53,098 and anticipated income of £51,655. It is the intention to retain the parishioner contribution to the precept at the same level, i.e. £70.24 for a band D household. The increase in tax base (from 455.3 to 462.3) means that this will produce additional income of £492. However, as previously advised, the Central Grant has been reduced by £475 which means that the net increase will be just £17. Members are asked to carefully consider the draft budget and advise Mr. Phillips of any required adjustments.

248 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income

a) Resolved to approve the following Accounts for payment:-

11/10/16	E-on (September street lighting)	£127.46
2/11/16	Norse (grounds maintenance)	£822.66
2/11/16	Norfolk County Council (six months rent re M/Wood ext)	£50.00
2/11/16	CPRE (annual subscription)	£36.00
2/11/16	Thinking Rural (payroll services for October)	£12.00
2/11/16	A. C. Crisp (hedge cutting)	£300.00
2/11/16	J. Borgnis (Chairman's half yearly expenses)	£50.00
2/11/16	M. Phillips (Vice Chairman's half yearly expenses)	£50.00
2/11/16	K. Webb (Clerk's pay for October)	£528.54
2/11/16	HMRC (tax on Clerk's pay for October)	£64.00
2/11/16	Norse (grounds maintenance)	£822.67
2/11/16	D. Tyson (pavilion cleaning – October)	£86.40
2/11/16	J. Duffield (work in Cathedral ruins)	£260.00

b) Schedule of Income:

7/10/16	Rural Payments Agency (higher entry level stewardship)	£1,349.40
7/10/16	Pavilion hire	£50.00
18/10/16	Allotment rents	£156.00
28/10/16	North Elmham Cricket Club (rent for 2016 season)	£412.00
5/9/16	Bank interest (from 6/6/16 to 4/9/16)	£2.42

(Expenditure approved by all members)

249 To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:-

a) Applications

None

b) Determinations

None

Brookside Farm Dr Wade-Martins reported that there has been no progress on the drafted Section 106 Agreement since the last meeting. We are waiting to hear further from the solicitor acting for Breckland Council.

250 CORRESPONDENCE –2/11/16

- 1) Clerks and Councils Direct magazine for November 2016
- 2) Letter from N. Clarke re the standard of hedge cutting
- 3) Voluntary code – smoke-free areas around public play areas
- 4) 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement Consultation
- 5) Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm community consultation
- 6) E-mail from Shared Access offering to install telecoms apparatus at the tennis courts (to be invited to the next meeting)

251 Announcements

None

252 Agenda items for next meeting:

- a) Prince William Wood
- b) Website
- c) 'Phone mast

253 Next Meetings:

Wednesday, 7th December 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.36 p.m.

Chairman

Date

