

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

Public Participation: Mrs. Bent asked if there was a notice board at the north end of the village. It was confirmed that there wasn't but there are four others in various locations. The matter will be considered further when Mrs. Warner has finished the new display boards. Mrs. Payne asked for an update on the Local Plan. Mr. Bambridge had recently advised that it had been delayed and the Chairman agreed to forward this e-mail to Mrs. Payne. She would also ask Mr. Bambridge for a timetable for releasing the Local Plan. On behalf of Mrs. Woodhouse, Mrs. Payne asked if the Parish Council had a representative on the school's governing body. It was confirmed that it didn't. Mr. Starling asked about the proposed mobile 'phone mast and whether residents would be involved in the consultation process. Also, were there any other suitable locations in the village where the mast could be sited? This matter would be discussed later in the meeting.

## North Elmham Parish Council

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**Minutes of the  
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
held at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion on  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

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**393 Those Councillors Present Were:**

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

**Also in Attendance:** Mr. K. Webb (Clerk), Mr. M. Wyatt (Elmham News + Dereham and Fakenham Times) and seven parishioners

**394 To Consider Apologies for Absence:**

Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mrs. D. Warner and Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor)

**395 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.

**396 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017:**

Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Mrs. Keeble and seconded by Dr. Wade-Martins. Agreed by all.

## **UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING**

### **397 Land Management Matters (item 363)**

- (a) Village Green Nothing to report
- (b) Cathedral Ruins Nothing to report
- (c) Cathedral Meadows A new instruction letter is to be signed authorising Brown and Co to act for the Parish Council in the Basic Payment Scheme.
- (d) Broom Green Nothing to report
- (e) Millennium Wood The Chairman has spoken to Julian Duffield who has offered to buy the timber at £10 per tonne. He has also said that he feels the best way of removing the brash is to burn it on site. He is prepared to do this at a cost of £200 per day over a period of three to four days. It was mentioned that it is still muddy at the gate entrance. Dr. Wade-Martins proposed that Mr. Duffield's offer to buy the wood (when the ground is suitable to facilitate entry) at £10 per tonne be accepted. Seconded by Mr. Phillips. All in favour. Dr. Wade-Martins also proposed that Mr. Duffield be paid to clear 50% of the brash. This was seconded by Mr. Phillips and also supported by Mr. Labouchere. All other members (five) voted against this course of action. The hedge has not yet been trimmed. As birds have started to nest, it is too late for this work to be done and it will be left for this year.
- (f) Bridleway on disused railway line Nothing to report
- (g) Prince William Wood Nothing to report

### **398 Street Lights (item 364)**

Mr. Fitzalan Howard had forwarded the following report:

There are 2 outstanding issues:

Light No 18 (opposite 111 Eastgate Street). Westcotec reported it was a failure of the lantern which was covered under the 10 year guarantee. TT Jones contacted and provided details of the supplier and order number. Westcotec ordered and fitted a new lantern on 27 March. Light now working.

New light outside 11 Larch Grove. Council agreed on the quotation of £2,262 on 1 March and Westcotec informed. Latest report from them as at 28 March stated: "Work to start on the install program, hopefully next week, then it will be UKPN connection". I will keep chasing them for updates.

### **399 Highway Matters (item 365)**

Parish Council had received a detailed three-stage proposal from County Highways for constructing two build-outs near the Old Vicarage and at the bottom of Church Hill in the main street.

- Stage 1: A 24-hour, minimum 1 week, Traffic Survey to record traffic speeds and volume to make a case for the build-outs; cost £750.
- Stage 2: A detailed feasibility study covering design and costings; cost £5,000. That would be the basis for a 50% Parish Partnership application to NCC. But there was no guarantee that the application would be successful because there were few recorded accidents on the bend.
- Stage 3: Construction costing £15,000/£20,000 funded by the Parish Council and NCC.

Councillors were concerned that Highways were requiring all payments up front, which should not be necessary for a transaction between local authorities, and that there was a risk involved in spending the £5,750 and then getting nothing in return. There was also concern that another traffic survey was necessary when the police had already completed one for us.

It was proposed by Paul Grainger, seconded by Peter Wade-Martins, that the parish council should try (again) to involve Mr Borrett as our County Councillor in discussions before matters were taken further and that additional expenditure for another survey could not be justified. All in favour.

Peter Wade-Martins reported that:

- (a) The Highways engineer has told him that the repairs to the Safe Route to School across the Green were "now with their Works Team"!
- (b) The hedge in Eastgate Street still needs cutting back. The clerk will chase (again).
- (c) He has had a meeting with the railway company about flooding at the railway crossing. The problem is that the water off the road is running onto the crossing rather than into the Highways side-drains because the surface camber is incorrect. The Highways engineer has said that there is no prospect of there being funds for resurfacing, so the problem rests with the railway company.
- (d) There have been complaints about excessive car parking at the entrance to Cathedral Drive caused by people collecting after school and going to the Surgery. There is no prospect of an improvement here until the car park is built at Brookside Farm.
- (e) Tom Fitzalan Howard has kindly sprayed the weeds along the park wall around the church bend, which should avoid vegetation causing a traffic obstruction again this year.
- (f) The Parish Council has been awarded 50% funding under the NCC Parish Partnership Scheme for the new footpath (or Trod) between the King's Head crossroads and the allotment steps. The chairman signed the Partnership Agreement, and it was resolved unanimously to proceed with the work.
- (g) The pavements have been swept and the street drains have been pumped out.
- (h) He will be carrying out a fresh pothole survey soon, and members are welcome to report any road surface problems to him.

**400 Eastgate Centre (item 366)**

Nothing to report

**401 Pavilion and Playing Field – Play Area (item 367)**

Mr. Brown reported that cutting of the grass had commenced. The bins have been properly used since the last meeting.

**402 Dog Fouling (item 368)**

Nothing to report

- 403 Allotments (item 369)**  
Mr. Phillips said that there are four allotments left to rent.
- 404 Community defibrillator (item 370)**  
Nothing to report
- 405 Play equipment and car park proposals (item 371)**  
Mr. Phillips is to arrange for rules to be put on the notice board
- 406 Community Farm (item 372)**  
Nothing to report
- 407 Detailed information map for village/Notice and Information Boards (item 373)**  
Nothing to report
- 408 Volunteers (item 374)**  
The work on the garden area in the car park near the church has almost been completed. This has produced a big improvement in the appearance of this area. Thanks were expressed to Mr. Brown and his group of volunteers.
- 409 Village Maintenance (item 375)**  
Nothing to report
- 410 Village Institute Hall (item 376)**  
Nothing to report
- 411 Village Resilience Plan (item 377)**  
Mrs. Warner is to place another advertisement in Elmham News as a flyer. The cost will be about £20.
- 412 Bus routes (item 378)**  
Nothing to report
- 413 Discussions with the Mid-Norfolk Railway Company (item 379)**  
Progress has continued as anticipated
- 414 Website (item 380)**  
Nothing to report
- 415 Neighbourhood Plan (item 381)**  
Nothing to report
- 416 Funding Opportunity – mobile network coverage (item 385)**  
Some members had held an exploratory meeting with Phil Wright, Regional Sales Manager of Shared Access Ltd on 16<sup>th</sup> March. Subsequently, correspondence was received stating that their preferred site option was in the area between the tennis courts and the skateboard ramp.

Dr. Wade-Martins felt that local support was needed before agreement was given and it was felt that consultation with all residents, particularly those living nearby, was essential. Mr. Labouchere proposed the following:-

- a) Confirmation to be given to Shared Access Ltd that the Parish Council would be prepared to give serious consideration to either option, i.e. the current preferred site as mentioned above or the original one at the tennis courts, for a figure of £45K over a term of 25 years.
- b) Request to be made for a picture to be forwarded of the proposed mast.
- c) Consultation with the local community to be arranged.

These proposals were seconded by Dr. Wade-Martins. All in favour.

**417 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income**

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

13/3/17	E-on (street lights – February)	£118.97
5/4/17	Camtrak (UK) Ltd – repairs to kickwall	£252.00
5/4/17	D. Tyson (pavilion cleaning – March & 2 April)	£108.00
5/4/17	K. Webb (Clerk’s pay for March)	£528.74
5/4/17	HMRC (tax on Clerk’s pay for March)	£63.80
5/4/17	Thinking Rural (payroll for March)	£12.00
5/4/17	E-on (pavilion electricity from 19/12/16 to 13/3/17)	£198.95
5/4/17	R.P. Environmental Services (rodent control – allotments)	£90.00
5/4/17	R.P. Environmental Services (mole control – football pitch)	£80.00
5/4/17	Norfolk County Council (six months re M/Wood extension)	£50.00
5/4/17	J. R. G. Fletcher (key keeping – February and March)	£62.50
5/4/17	J. Duffield (work in Cathedral Ruins and car park)	£200.00
5/4/17	Norfolk Parish Training & Support (annual subscription)	£188.00
5/4/17	Environment Agency (general drainage charges)	£100.52
5/4/17	K. Webb (Clerk’s expenses for January, February and March)	£45.45

**b) Schedule of Income:**

2/3/17	Pavilion takings	£110.00
20/3/17	North Elmham Football Club (February rent – two matches)	£50.00
29/3/17	Allotment rents	£175.00

(Expenditure approved by all members)

**418 To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:-**

**a) Applications**

- (i) Mr. M. Braybrook, Gorse House, Heath Road (3PL/2017/0230/F) – demolition of barn and erection of annex ancillary to Gorse House (no objections)
- (ii) Wensum Valley Hotel, Billingford Lakes, Billingford (3PL/2016/0533/H) – visitor centre, campsite, lodges, etc. (Application approved but subsequently called in by the Secretary of State)

Mr. and Mrs. Mark are chasing their solicitor in respect of the Brookside development.

**b) Determinations**

- (i) The Garrod Partnership Ltd, land to the north of Eastgate Street (3PL/2016/0848/F) – new vehicular access and erection of 11 dwellings (approved)

**419 CORRESPONDENCE –5/4/17**

- 1) CPRE Field Work magazine for Spring 2017
- 2) CPRE Countryside Voice for Spring 2017
- 3) Reminder to keep disclosable pecuniary interests and other registrable interests up to date
- 4) Norfolk County Council poster re 4<sup>th</sup> May local election
- 5) Police crime update newsletter for January 2017
- 6) Norfolk County Council – confirmation of successful trod bid
- 7) Norfolk Accident Rescue Service – request for donation (£50 agreed)
- 8) Norfolk Family Mediation – request for donation (to be considered in next year’s budget)
- 9) Highway Rangers next visit within 3 months – info by 6/4/17
- 10) E-on – increase in variable plan prices from 3/4/17
- 11) E-on – increase in deemed contract rates from 1/4/17
- 12) Anglian Water merging with NWG Business to create Wave

**420 Announcements**

Contact is to be made with the various charities in preparation for the Annual Parish Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> May. Mr. Labouchere reported that the Tea at 2 function had been very successful with the next one due to take place on 12<sup>th</sup> April. The organisers were congratulated on this excellent and very worthwhile initiative.

**421 Agenda items for next meeting:**

None

**422 Next Meetings:**

Wednesday, 3rd May 2017 at 7.30 p.m. (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council)

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date