

Geldeston Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Wednesday 14th October 2009 At 7.30pm in the Village Hall

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: E Peters, B Ashcroft, R Edmunds, M Fenwick, J Tuttle and A Norman

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT: Mr and Mrs Streams, Mr M Peters, Mr S Rolt, Mr T Game, Mr P Cracknell, Mr J Oxley, Ms M Rose, Mr N Ford.

Minutes taken by L Seary

1. Apologies for absence: Mr T Morton

2. Declarations of Interest: AN and BA declared interest regarding BESL flood defence plans.

3. Presentation from HALT regarding the proposed windturbine development from Mr J Reece and Mr P Johnson.

The Council was presented with the concerns from HALT regarding the proposed windturbine development in Ringsfield and Barsham. Members of the Council and public present raised questions regarding the information provided.

The Clerk handed out the 'Community Brief' document from Stamford Renewables Ltd (developer)

4. Minutes: Minutes of the meeting of 9th September 2009

Proposed by: RE, Seconded by: AN. All agreed.

5. Crime Report:

Continuing antisocial behaviour reported at Kells Acre.

The Council were informed that garden equipment had been stolen from a property in The Street.

6.Action Plan Progress

Target 1: The Environment; wildlife & footpaths

6.1 Footpaths MF informed the PC that the current proposed changes to Layden Lane will make it a restricted byway and therefore not for car use. Also the brambles / hedging needs cutting back in Layden Lane. LS to arrange.

6.2 A bonfire was reported to have been held on Farthing Green burning the Leylandi which had been cut back. The fire service had been called on a number of occasions. Mr N Ford apologised to the Council for the fire. It was not his intention to cause alarm or disturbance to his neighbours. The fire brigade was happy with the security measures he had in place during the fire however it was

ACTION

LS

put out due to the number of calls made to the fire brigade.

6.3 Composting MF reported that the amount of waste composted was 9.5 tonnes last year compared to 6.4 this year. The reduction is due to the dry weather meaning people have not needed to cut their grass so often. The leaf pit has been extended and the composting group is ready to collect.

6.4 Footpaths (Saffron Housing) RE reported that in the most recent copy of the Saffron Housing newsletter it reported that the footpaths have been repaired however there is little evidence that this is the case. Additionally the concrete bollards have been replaced with wooden ones rather than on a like for like basis. LS to follow up with B Broomfield.

LS

Target 2: Improving Parish Amenities

6.5 Memorial Hall

Mr Cracknell reported that the sound equipment is now in place and a projector is on order. The committee has decided to repair the roof of the kitchen only at this stage.

6.6. Playground. JT reported that some fence slats and panels in the recently lowered tower have been broken.

6.7 Sports field MF confirmed that various grants are available should it be decided to use some of the sports field as allotments. Mr Oxley has emailed the council with some ideas for the area. EP requested it be discussed further at a later meeting.

Plan documents

6.8 Flood Management. BESL is hoping to submit planning documents in for the flood alleviation project in the next 3 to 4 weeks. Clerk read a letter from BESL responding to our last consultation response. EP suggested that our concerns regarding the new footpath and the time scales of the project have not been answered satisfactorily. It is important that we do not lose the current path around the river.

AN asked if LS could ask for the names of those in BESL responsible for choosing the placement of the pathways and arrange an onsite visit. LS to follow up.

LS

7. Correspondence

1. BESL - response to PC letter following the consultation period
2. BT – Adopt a box scheme letter and email from BT confirming the phone would not be disconnected at this stage if the box was not adopted.
3. Broads Authority – Planning Parish Forum
4. BESL – copy of letter to Gary Overland at NCC regarding the maintenance of the flood valves along Station Road.
5. M Falcon Property Solutions – copies of the plans for the Flood Alleviation Project
6. Norfolk Lowland Search & Rescue – request for a contribution
7. SNC – planning application for Hall Farm Cottage has been approved
8. Barclays – bankers mandate has been approved.

8. New Issues

BT telephone box. BT have launched an 'adopt a box' scheme for telephone boxes which are rarely used, and a 'sponsor a box' scheme (as per letter read out in correspondence). The PC agreed not to adopt the box at this stage and wait for further consultation. This will mean the phone is not disconnected at this stage.

9. Parish 10

9.1 Anti social behaviour. JT wishes to confirm his address with had been referred to incorrectly in Clerks correspondence.

JT is concerned with antisocial behaviour in Kells Acre And the playground area. The police have been in attendance on a number of occasions. Children (including very young children) are seen running around outside unsupervised. Tony Game suggested this is a child protection issue and should be reported.

9.2 Screening for bottle bank. EP Thanked Mr Rolt for completing the screening around the bottle bank. Everyone agreed it was a great improvement.

9.3 Station Road. Mr Cracknell reported that posts on the bend of Station Road by the Locks were put there to protect pedestrians and pushchairs from traffic around the bend. The posts are now barely markers and need replacing. LS to follow up.

9.4 Affordable Housing. Tony Game read an email from SNC regarding the proposed affordable housing. The suggested sites are not suitable for development. There is one site which may be suitable at the top of Geldeston Hill. Further information will be given in time for the next meeting.

10. Finance

The clerk provided the council with information on the current status of the bank accounts.

All items of expenditure had been previously agreed. Nothing new to gain approval for.

11. Planning

None

12. Any other business -

Tony Game advised the Council:

If anyone has concerns with criminal damage, housing, environmental issues or child protection issues, it is important to report each incident to the relevant authority. By logging the issue it is highlighted as something that requires attention – the more logs of incidence the more likely it will be tackled effectively.

13. Meetings:

Next meeting: 11th November 2009 @ 7.30 pm. The meeting ended at 9.35 pm

LS