

# Geldeston Parish Council

## **Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

### **COUNCILLORS PRESENT:**

R. Edmunds, B. Ashfield, E. Peters, A Norman, T Morton and J Tuttle

### **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:**

Mr M Peters, Mr T Tomkinson, Mr S Rolt, Mr J Oxley, Ms M Rose, Mr & Mrs Harrison, Mr Flowers, Rev and Mr Oddy - Bates

Minutes taken by Lucy Seary

## **WELCOME**

Council Chairlady welcomed all in attendance

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Mr T Morton

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Mrs B Ashfield: planning application at Dunburgh Farm and BESL C25a (land owner)

Mrs A Norman: BESL C25a (land owner)

### **3. CRIME**

The Council welcomed PC Kevin Nightingale to present and discuss crime in the village. PC Nightingale reported that over the last 5 months there had been 5 crimes reported and 32 incident calls logged for Geldeston. The calls related to incidents such as antisocial / nuisance behaviour, criminal damage and road related incidents. Statistically this is a low number of calls / incidents. PC Rose is allocated as the Officer covering Geldeston and he is responsible for overseeing the recent concerns regarding rowdy and antisocial behaviour.

### **4. MINUTES OF MEETING, OCT 2009:**

Approval of amended minutes proposed by BA. Seconded by JT.

Minutes were approved.

### **5. ACTION PLAN PROGRESS**

#### **Target 1: The Environment – wildlife & footpaths**

##### 5.1 Footpaths

The water main in Layden Lane is broken at the top and the lane is almost impassable. Warning bollards were in place there at some point so the authority clearly knows there is a problem there.

LS to follow up.

Locks Lane: Colin (pub landlord) has had some work done to the trees around the pub area and the end of the lane. He is concerned about the integrity of the track and the safety to passers by as some of the trees are getting particularly overgrown. The ownership of the track

is unclear. Council members suggested that the responsibility for undertaking the tree work lies with the land owners that the trees are on.

## **Target 2: Improving Parish Amenities**

### 5.2 Village Hall

The hall is hosting more films and the sound and picture quality is very good. 40 new chairs have been ordered.

### 5.3 Playground

The playground has been further vandalised with planks broken and graffiti. Mr Tuttle agreed to make the area safe but it was agreed that repairs and improvements would not go ahead until the vandalism stopped.

LS to email PC Rose about the vandalism.

## **Target 4: Planning Documents**

### 5.4 Flood Alleviation Project (C25a)

A meeting is being held on 27<sup>th</sup> November at 1pm (meeting outside the village hall) for parish councillors to meet with representatives from BESL. This meeting is an opportunity to walk around the affected area and discuss the proposed project.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Oct 2009 / Nov 2009**

The clerk read out correspondence.

## **7. NEW ISSUES**

EP has received a letter from Mr Oxley with ideas for the use of the sports field. Mr Norman has attended a course about setting up a parish woodland. MF has noticed there are new allotments in Harleston. Item to be included in the next agenda. Mr Cracknell passed on information about a village orchard he has visited.

## **8. PARISH 10**

### 8.1 Minutes

Mr Crowfoot asked if a copy of the minutes from the meetings could be held in the Wherry Inn. LS to arrange.

### 8.2 Bus stop

Snowy Rolt asked if we could fix the light in the bus stop. Also the 30 mph street signs need fixing. Historically the PC used to pay the Wherry Inn for the electricity used to the light the bus stop.

### 8.3 Church

AN received a call from a villager about the hedging around the church yard which needs cutting back and the slabs but the car park which appear unsafe. LS has contacted NCC about the slabs and Rev Oddy-Bates will arrange the hedge trimming.

#### 8.4 Woodland Heath Road

Mr Norman received a call about some rubbish which had been dumped in the woodland area near the end of Heath Road. The Council were called and it was taken away. Ms Rose had seen a sink and cardboard there also which has since been removed. AN was concerned that wood was being taken from the woodland which had been cut back and left for the wildlife.

Tony Game reported that SNC is 200% ahead of where it is supposed to be in relation to providing new affordable housing. He also reiterated the need to contact Police, SNC, Housing Trusts, and the Environment Agency etc if there are problems that need attention.

#### 8.5 Website

Mr Norman requires information for the website to keep it updated.

#### 8.6 Tree warden

Mr Crowfoot has volunteered to be the tree warden for Geldeston. LS to inform SNC.

### **9. FINANCE**

The clerk sought approval for new items of expenditure and provided Council with information about the current status of the bank accounts.

Proposed JT. Seconded EP.

### **10. PLANNING**

Dunburgh Farm planning application. (2009/1578)

The council discussed the planning application for an additional coffee shop at the farm and retrospective planning permission for the petting farm. The council discussed the access to and from the site, both for cars and for pedestrians. Mr & Mrs Harriss were in attendance at the meeting and were able to clarify / answer concerns raised. The Council agreed that they were happy with the plans as presented to them but would wish to be consulted further should additional parking be required.

### **11. AOB**

#### 11.1 Affordable Housing

The previous suggested sites for additional affordable housing in Geldeston have been considered unsuitable by SNC. They have proposed initial consideration of the site at the top of Geldeston Hill on the corner. The Council discussed this site and rejected it because:

- The danger of access either on the corner junction or on Geldeston Hill
- Houses would be above the sight line of the village
- The houses would be above the Taylor & Green houses which has always been considered unsuitable.
- They would spoil the views of the village and the conservation area if in such a visually prominent position.

## **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Next meeting Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 7.30pm

Meeting ended at 9.25pm.