

## Minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting

Held in the Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Drayton High Road, Drayton

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 at 7.00pm

**Present:** Parish Councillors Graham Everett (Chairman), Jeff Anderson, Beverley Gibson, Keith Morgan, Carl Brown, Victor Ray-Mortlock (also a District Councillor), Peter Stanger (Vice-Chairman), William Morgan, Des Mack and Lionel Wilkinson.

**In Attendance:** Locum Parish Clerk: Diana Dring

**Members of the public:** 7 and County Councillor Tony Adams, District Councillor Roger Foulger and PC Andy Hudson

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr C Binns

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS

No declarations received other than those already known

### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS:

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2015 and 20<sup>th</sup> August 2015 were approved as a correct record on the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Keith Morgan.

### 4. INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING

There were no reports on matters arising

### 5. REPORTS:

Standing Orders Suspended

#### 5.1. County Councillor Tony Adams responded to questions

- Mr Wilkinson asked about the County Council allocation of £10 million from their budget towards the construction of the Norwich Distributor Route (NDR) and how this would affect spending on the maintenance budget.

Mr Adams responded that while the NDR was important and would provide better access to north Norfolk, he agreed that the maintenance budget could do with more rather than less. He felt the County Council was in a difficult situation in the next three to four years with further cuts expected to services such as the fire service but that Adult/Social Services would not be cut. The importance of the NDR was shown by the Government and LEPs contributions of £10 million each towards the cost

- Mr Wilkinson commented that if the budget had been correct in the first place the situation wouldn't have happened; the waste incinerator site in Kings Lynn was a similar example.

Mr Adams responded that the Government had withdrawn their funding which let the County Council down, and revenue was lost revenue from the waste plant. The County also had to shell out for the cancelled contract, a loss of over £200 million over this.

- Mr Keith Morgan asked if the County Council could help with the trimming of the grass on the bank outside 8 Taverham Rd. The milestone area also needed attention. Following Mr Stanger's suggestion that the Highways Rangers could

Signed

G. Everett 1/10/15

assist, Mr Adams said he would look into the matter and see if the Rangers could help.

**5.2. District Councillor Roger Foulger gave the following report**

- Planning Application 20150947 for the erection of 4 dwellings and garages at Drayton Wood was scheduled to be discussed by Broadland Council Planning Committee on 23 September 2015 and was recommended for approval subject to conditions concerning the trees
- Planning Application 20151343 for a single storey extension at 69 Hall Lane has no planning issues and will be agreed under delegated powers
- The next meeting of the Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel will be held on 30 September 2015 at 7pm at Round Wood
- Following a meeting with Abellio Greater Anglia he is hopeful that arrangements for discounted rail travel for 16 to 19 year old students living in the Broadland district will be introduced, which would be of benefit to Drayton residents attending Gt Yarmouth or Lowestoft College or Paston College.
- Planning Enforcement at The Crescent confirmed as no breach, 237 Drayton High Road was resolved by a planning appeal, 42 George Drive is being monitored and 34 School Road resulted in a planning application.
- Mr Foulger said he would check out the position regarding planning permission for a temporary marquee at Drayton Lodge which runs out in September, raised by Mr Stanger

**5.3. Police Report**

The August crime figures were circulated to members. PC Hudson said that he did not have any further information to add to the report which listed 46 calls logged on the police crime system during August. He responded to a query regarding the sudden death reports explaining that they had related to residential homes.

- Mr Stanger queried the whereabouts of the keys for the gates at Thorpe Marriott and that there was a parking issue and no signage. PC Hudson said he would monitor the situation.
- Mr Wilkinson raised an issue concerning the violation of road traffic signs on Carter Road such as the 'access only sign' and that there was an increase in commercial vehicles violating the signs. PC Hudson responded that this was difficult to police but that he may try to increase patrols which should act as a deterrent
- Mr William Morgan commented on a speeding incident he had witnessed in George Drive. Unfortunately he was unable to get the cars registration but he understood from a resident that vehicles driving at excessive speed was a frequent problem and in an area where there were children and elderly it was likely to lead to a fatality. PC Hudson responded that PCSO Chris Rolph was trying to get Speed Watch up and running in the area and that this would help with this.
- Mr Wilkinson asked if the issuing of leaflets in the past had been of any benefit and PC Hudson said that, although he didn't know if they had any effect, he could try this again.

**6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman clarified the Council's Standing Orders relating to public participation.

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G. Ewenell 1/10/15

No member of the public wished to speak

*Standing Orders were Re-instated*

## **7. PLANNING ISSUES**

- 7.1. Mrs Gibson advised that there were no new planning applications to consider
- 7.2. Planning decision; it was noted that application 20151110 was given planning permission for a single storey extension at 4 Suter Drive.

## **8. FINANCE**

- 8.1. A report from the former Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) was considered.
- The Chairman highlighted that the RFO had been unable to reconcile the accounts as online banking had been taken down following the removal of the previous Clerk as an authorised bank signatory status and the cancellation of the debit card.
  - There was also an issue with the excessive number of keys that had been cut.
  - The Chairman said that various issues had been revealed regarding payments and that the Finance Committee would be investigating all payments including the use of the debit card by members of staff and queried who had authorised this during the period when the Clerk was off work sick and even after he had finished working for DPC. The Finance Committee would report back to the Parish Council meeting (Agenda item required)
  - Mr Anderson said that there was good reason for the Clerk to be issued with the debit card at the time and it was given with restricted use
  - Mr William Morgan said he would like to add his thanks to the Clerk, Jackie Orford for all her hard work and dedication, particularly as she had worked non-stop in her last week on transitions.
- 8.2 Approval of payment of Accounts
- Receipts and Payments list were circulated to members.
- Mr Brown pointed out that the payment 130 and 131 relating to the repair of the play equipment apportionment between the 2 play areas was incorrect and needed to be amended although the total payment. Other than that amendment he supported payment of the accounts and they were duly approved for payment.
  - Mr Stanger said that the bins had not been emptied because the contractor had not been paid, which the new RFO would need to arrange

## **8.3 DRAYTON DREWRAY LEASE**

- Mrs Gibson read out an email from Dr Brendan Chester-Kadwell asking the Parish Council to consider holding a public consultation to gauge the wishes of the whole community regarding the Drayton Drewray lease. He cited the importance of preserving green spaces and public access to them and the identification of the Drewray as a significant community asset in the Neighbourhood Plan as reasons for holding a public consultation or parish meeting prior to the Parish Council considering withdrawing from the lease.
- Mrs Gibson read out an email from the Revd. David Wells on behalf of the Drewray Charity, which stated the charity's preference for the Parish Council to continue with the lease, which would allow more time to develop a long term plan
- Having carried out a review of the Drewray land and lease Mrs Gibson read out a statement. Although appreciative of the volunteers keen to support and encourage the natural habitat of the land, there were uses relating to the remote position, the

inappropriate use of the land and poor condition which presented health and safety risks that would be very problematic and expensive for the Parish Council to rectify to make it safe. She advocated that funds must be spent wisely for the benefit of all out community in the parish of Drayton.

- The Chairman commented that the issue had been brought to this full Parish Council meeting and members of the public were invited to speak but did not wish to do so. He endorsed Mrs Gibson's point that the Drewray was common land so the public could access it whether the council was involved or not. There was limited use for the land i.e. it was unsuitable for allotments.
- The Chairman also advised that the Council was facing an overspend on the Neighbourhood Plan and should have regard to the budget and needed to be prudent and spend wisely in the future. There had been no commitment in the Neighbourhood Plan for financial support for the Drewray.
- With regard to Mrs Gibson's comment that the Norwich Distributor Route would be built near the entrance, Mr Stanger said that the Council had negotiated that the NDR developers would improve the access to the Drewray as part of the construction project. Giving the example of Catton Park, where ongoing maintenance costs meant the Council was continually having to raise funds to meet the costs. He would be concerned about future costs if the Parish Council were to take on long term responsibility for the Drewray.
- In response to a query about donating money to the Drewray Trust, the Chairman responded that the Charity already had difficulties spending their funds and the Council would need to consider the budget before making donations or any long term commitment.
- During a discussion about the previous agricultural use and current recreational uses of the land, Mr Mack advised that the ragwort had been cut down a few weeks before.
- Mrs Gibson proposed not to renew the lease and that volunteers work directly with the Trustees to manage the land together and that the Parish Council, as a gesture of goodwill donate a sum of money to be agreed to the trustees on a yearly basis. Seconded by the Chairman and approved on a majority vote with 2 abstentions.
- A letter informing Revd. Wells of the decision would be sent by the new Clerk.

#### **9. LONGDALE CAR PARK**

Mr Brown reported that he had looked at maximising the car park spaces at the Longdale car park and suggested moving the posts to increase the spaces by an extra 12 to 15, marking it out and then monitoring the parking. He would get 2 quotes for the cost of moving the posts.

- It was agreed that the extra spaces would make a difference and reduce the parking on the road and verges on Longdale. Mr Brown agreed to make the information available to the Playing Field Committee

#### **10. TEXTILE BANK AT KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD**

The Chairman advised that the Clerk had spoken to Broadland Council about the recycling banks and that only one, possibly two of the existing glass recycling banks was still needed. Clerk to arrange removal Mr William Morgan commented that when the bottle bank was installed at Tesco, it was agreed that they would give some of the recycling credit back to the Council. Clerk to follow up

- The Chairman proposed changing at least one of the glass recycling banks to a textile recycling bank, seconded by Mr Keith Morgan and agreed.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**12. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

- 12.1** Mr Keith Morgan said that the overspend on the Neighbourhood Plan should be investigated, the Chairman responded that this was the Parish Council's responsibility and will be looked into.
- 12.2** Mr Stanger mentioned getting a lockable waste bin for the playing field
- 12.3** Mr Stanger advised that the supermarket on Fir Covert Lane was going to be Waitrose and work will start in January- Chairman to follow-up
- 12.4** Mr Ray-Mortlock commented on the fence at 34 School Road
- 12.5** Mr William Morgan suggested a letter of thanks should be sent to the previous Clerk and thanked the Locum Clerk for her assistance at the meeting
- 12.6** Mr Anderson said that he would prefer a report of correspondence received and anything of relevance to be attached so it could be noted

**13. NEXT MEETING**

- 13.1** The date of the next meeting was noted as Thursday 1st October 2015 at 7.00pm.

**The meeting closed at 8.13pm**

Signed  
G. Everett 1/10/15.