

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 8th JANUARY 2014 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr A Cowles (Chair)
Cllr S Fuller
Cllr S Howes
Cllr L Rogers
Cllr A Southgate
Cllr H Pointer
K Medler (Clerk)

In attendance: District Cllr P Carrick
County Cllr D Roper

Parishioners: 5

The Chairman opened the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr R Crisp and the Police.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS

The Chairman requested a Dispensation under item 5biii relating to the Norfolk Woodland Burial Park. The Clerk explained under which circumstances a Dispensation can be granted and all agreed this should be granted as it would be in the interests of persons living in the Councils area. There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20th November 2013 were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman.

4. REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES, NOT ON THE AGENDA

a. SNAP representative

No-one has come forward for this. The Clerk received an email from the Head teacher saying speeding was discussed at the last Governors meeting and she believed the Chair had already been in touch with the local Councillor. No one had received any contact so the Clerk will check with the School again.

b. RAF Coltishall

The Chairman attended a meeting concerning new housing on the site and the routing hierarchy will be as mentioned by County Cllr Roper previously. The Chairman suggests the Council continue to monitor the situation.

c. Lafarge

The Clerk sent a letter to Lafarge and also contacted NCC. NCC passed to BDC but nothing further has been heard. The Clerk will chase a response.

d. Boards at the Chequers

The Clerk advised Cllr Crisp went into the Chequers following the October meeting but did not receive a particularly helpful response. It was agreed that should the boards continue to be a problem, the Clerk will inform Highways.

*Item 6c was moved up the agenda with the agreement of the Chairman as
County Cllr Roper needed to leave the meeting early.*

6. MATTERS TO REPORT

c. Report from County Councillor

To answer the query raised regarding Broadband: the St Faiths exchange is due to be upgraded in the next 6 weeks. Cllr Roper will contact the resident direct who raised this query to confirm their address so he can provide them with more specific information on how the upgrade will affect the speed received. Highways have advised a 'Roundel' can only be painted on the road adjacent to a 30 sign and in the case of Newton Road, it is felt this would not be of any benefit. However Highways have agreed to paint 'SLOW' in both directions on Newton Road near the School in Spring, at no cost to the Parish or School. Keith Simpson MP has been made aware of the speed issues and has in fact witnessed a speeding motorist along the road and is happy for residents to write to him directly with their concerns. The Budget and Kings Lynn incinerator are the Councils main concerns at the moment. Eric Pickles the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government is due to give his decision on the incinerator on Tuesday 14th January and this will have a big effect on the Budget. If Mr. Pickles says 'YES' £5/6 million could be reigned back and used for the Elderly and Childrens Services. If Mr. Pickles says 'NO' NCC will have a £26 million bill to pay by December 2014 and so may have to increase Council Tax to help pay this. The Public consultation on the Budget is now over and surprisingly 2 in 1 people said they were in agreement to increasing Council tax this year.

5. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

a. Finance

i) The following accounts were presented for payment and were approved:

Mrs. K Medler (Expenses)	£39.57
Norfolk County Council (Play Area licence)	£150.00
HMRC (PAYE x3)	£141.00

The Clerks standing order was paid on the 5th December 2013 and 5th January 2014.

The following receipt was noted:

Bank interest £1.72

ii) Financial statement for January 2014

The balance carried forward is £20,417.50.

Cllr S Howes proposed the Council accept the statement and this was seconded by Cllr H Pointer.

iii) Budget / Precept 2014/15

The Clerk had previously circulated the Budget which included all costs requested from the Parish Council from various areas of the community. If the Budget was agreed as circulated it would mean an approximate increase for a Band D property of 116%.

County Cllr Roper left the meeting at 20:10

Following discussions the Chairman proposed the Precept be maintained at £11,000. In a vote (including the Chairman) 4 were in favour with 2 against. The Clerk will amend the Budget to reflect this and the various requests made will have to be adjusted to suit the availability of funds. The Village Hall have requested £2000.00 from the Precept for 2014/15 and it was agreed the Council will retain this sum which the Village Hall will be able to use for capital projects only, when needed.

b. Planning applications

i) 20131659 – Wood Farm, Newton Road

No objections.

ii) 20131709 – Pinewood farm, Grange Road

The Council heard comments from a nearby resident and then in a vote to object to the application on the basis that the change in appearance of the dwelling does not represent an improvement and will have an adverse effect on the surrounding area, 3 were in favour with 2 against and 1 abstention. District Cllr Carrick will call the application into the Planning Committee.

iii) 20131692 – Norfolk Woodland burial Park

Following discussions all agreed to object to the application as it contains significant material changes to the original application. It was noted that the recent Beech Hill application was refused partly due to the increase in traffic and therefore the same should apply to this application. District Cllr Carrick will call into the Planning Committee and confirmed he will support the Parish Councils decision.

1 member of the public left at 20:44

c. Proposed development on the 'Chequers Field'

Saffron have confirmed plans are progressing and they hope to submit an application in January 2014. The Clerk will reiterate the Councils previous response and ask how Saffron intend to address the concerns etc raised as the Council were only prepared to support an application if the concerns raised and requests made were answered and nothing more has been said regarding these.

d. Speed Watch / Traffic Calming.

The Chairman stated that now NCC are going to paint 'SLOW' on Newton Road and the Speed Watch team is progressing, the Council should wait to see what effect these have before deciding on implementing any other measures and all agreed.

The Clerk has received a note from PC G Shepherd which states:

*Whilst I am disappointed with the news of the traffic calming (20mph limits) I am heartened by the news that your Speed Watch Team is progressing. Once that is up and running and when speeding vehicles / drivers are identified, I look forward to assisting the Parish in visiting these motorists and advising them accordingly. (Speed Watch has a protocol when persistent motorists are identified.) I attended Newton Road on the 3rd November 2013 with our mobile Traffic Speed Monitoring equipment (Smiley Sid), which has been supplied by Broadland District Council. From 8am to 10am this device recorded 44 vehicles travelling from the Newton St Faiths direction towards the Primary School and recorded the following speeds: **10mph- 1 vehicle,***

20mph- 6 vehicles, 30mph- 25 vehicles, 40 mph- 11 vehicles and 50mph- 1 vehicle. Access to this device is done on a rotational basis as we have to share with other policing areas in Broadland, I therefore plan to utilise this device in Hainford next month.

A resident confirmed that Speed Watch training has now been put in place so the team should be up and running soon.

e. Play Equipment in the Village

i) Cllr S Howes has completed his inspection and also cleared 'litter' from the car park. There are 1 or 2 minor things to deal with which Cllr Howes will take care of.

ii) Both the Diocese and NCC have said they are prepared to enter into a new lease agreement providing all their costs are met by the Parish Council. Based on information received and previous experience, the total costs bill, including those of the Parish Council, are estimated to be £6450.00 including VAT. This figure exceeds the monies already set aside for the play area. Whilst the Hainford Community Group were initially happy for all costs to be paid from the money set aside they are now concerned at the extent of the fees and have asked County Cllr Roper to look into the costs requested by NCC.

It was agreed the Clerk should also contact NCC and express concern at the extent of the fees. It will also be pointed out that in altering the lease now, NCC will save their fees in 2016 and in later years as the lease will be for 25 years instead of 10. The Clerk will ask if they can look to decrease their costs and also supply a copy of their current lease with the Diocese.

The HCG have been informed by the School that they may have some funds they could possibly donate to a 'sustainable' project as a temporary fix, if the lease has to be left until 2016.

The Clerk will contact the Diocese as the Council do not feel able to agree the Draft Heads of Terms as they stand, specifically items 10, 12, 14 and 16 and will also ask if there can be any movement on their fees.

A resident asked if a locked gate could be put on the car park to stop the 'littering' etc. The Chairman advised this was raised with the previous Head Teacher but was turned down. Ideally the prime users i.e. the Church and School would need to be prepared to lock and unlock the gate as necessary. It was suggested the resident speak to the School for their view now.

f. Parish Partnership Scheme

In light of the Budget decision and action by NCC on painting the road it was agreed this should not be pursued at this time.

g. Community Infrastructure Levy

The Clerk had previously circulated a note regarding this and it was agreed the Council would not wish to enter into an agreement with BDC regarding Income and Expenditure of this levy.

3 members of the public left the meeting at 21:19

h. Village Pond

Cllr S Howes passed 3 sealed quotations to the Chairman. Following review all agreed to appoint G B Digger Hire. The Clerk will contact the contractor and the tree warden to ensure all the necessary debris reported is removed. It was also agreed that the pond should be cleared as and when required and not necessarily bi-annually.

i. Dog Bin on Waterloo Road

Following consideration of correspondence from BDC regarding relocation of the bin, it was agreed the bin should remain in its current location and Highways should be asked to reinstate the lay-by as not only does it serve as a pull in for those emptying the bin, but it also serves as an access route to the old Church (this was in fact mentioned in the original burial ground application)

j. Overview and Scrutiny Committee Review

This will be carried forward to the February meeting to allow Councillors sufficient time to read and comment.

1 member of the public left the meeting at 21:30

6. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Correspondence sent to Clerk

3 letters have been received requesting donations. It was agreed not to send a donation to Norfolk Age UK or Norfolk and Suffolk 4X4 Response. In a vote to give a donation to Citizens Advice, 3 were in favour with 2 against and 1 abstention. It was agreed £50.00 should be sent.

Councillors are invited to an 'Approaches to Scrutiny Workshop' – no one wished to attend.

The Clerk has received further correspondence regarding the trees on the corner of Lady Lane. The Clerk has checked and some trimming has been completed. All agreed the complainant should be advised to contact the landowners themselves if they are not satisfied with what work has been carried out.

A survey has been received from the NALC – the Clerk will complete with Councillors comments.

A letter received from an 'anonymous' resident concerning the recent fire at Hainford Hall was noted and will be forwarded to the owner of Hainford Hall in case the owner wishes to respond to the Parish Council.

b. Police report

There were no crimes in the Village during December.

The Police are holding a free internet safety awareness session on Saturday the 11th January from 11:00am at the Jubilee Family Centre in Aylsham – all are welcome and there is no need to book a place.

7. MATTERS RAISED FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Play Area lease, Proposed Development on 'the Chequers field' and Overview and Scrutiny Committee Review.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th February 2014 at 7:30 pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 21:45