

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Martham Methodist School Room on 15 December 2004 at 19:30 hrs.

Those Present:

Councillors:

Chairman: T Woodward

J Beales T Watson B Carberry V Nicholas-Jago P Manifold M Huke K Jordan T Gates

Others: PC D Cook C Cllr J Shrimplin

Clerk in attendance: Lisa Harold

Together with 4 members of the public.

Apologies:

B Huxtable B Wright B Cllr B Coleman B Cllr J Hudson

PUBLIC FORUM

County Councillors Report

Cllr Shrimplin had spoken to Matt Worden of Highways and gave the Parish Council an update as to when works and investigations would be carried out on outstanding highways issues around the village. He asked that a copy of the fax sent to highways each month be sent to him. Mrs Horrocks reported that the footway at Deepdale Ave was uneven. Cllr Shrimplin reported on the sewerage being discharged into the broads following the works at the pumping station. He stated that he did not agree with this and was campaigning for better measures to deal with the sewerage when heavy rainfall occurred. Cllr Watson reported that the pit at the duck farm on Pratts Loke was not covered, Cllr Shrimplin directed him to Environmental Health at GYBC, Cllr Nicholas Jago offered to help Cllr Watson to investigate and report this problem. Cllr Shrimplin handed the Clerk some information regarding the failed PFI Schools project. Clerk to distribute to all .

Police Report

Following the incident reported at the previous meeting concerning an attack on Polehouse Nursery workers on Cess Road PC Cook reported that 2 people had been charged with offences relating to this attack and were awaiting court appearances. Cllr Watson reported a white van parked on the corner of Cess Road making it impossible for larger vehicles to get around this bend. The Clerk reported parking on the blind corner of Somerton Road opposite 4A when the school children are dropped off and picked up, PC Cook explained that after Christmas traffic wardens had been allocated to deal with this problem and other parking in the village.

COUNCIL MEETING

Apologies for Absence

Cllr Bob Huxtable due to a Charity Brass Band function and Cllr Brian Wright due to illness. These were accepted by the Council.

Declarations of Interest

T Watson, B Wright – Allotment holders.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

These having been circulated previously were **Proposed** by M Huke, **Seconded** by V Nicholas-Jago, Unanimous, and were duly signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Staithe Road Leases – A letter had been received from Gunther Young Solicitors who had kindly given their time to look at the draft leases for Martham Parish Council. They had advised the Council to clarify the clause contained in the leases which stated that after 10 years the higher of market rent or whatever was previously payable could be charged as rent. Cllr Jordan had been in touch with Ms Black of GYBC to clarify and further to this amendments were being made to the leases to state that the land would be compared to other play areas and not commercial sites. Cllr Jordan mentioned that once these leases were signed the Council would then have to employ solicitors to draw up a sub lease with the Scouts and it was suggested that Gunther Young might be used for this. It was decided to discuss this at a future Council meeting when the final drafts had been received. Cllr Jordan to investigate what the current value of the site is.

Disclosure of membership to freemasons and other associations- Cllr Woodward was still awaiting information regarding this and would report at the next meeting.

Tree Inspections on Rowan Road – These had been done and Honeydew Fungus was present. Cllr Huke to investigate the cost of forming a suitable barrier between the infected trees and others to stop the spread.

Bollard near Doctors Surgery – The Chairman reported that at the previous meeting he had been told by a previous resident of the cottages near the doctors surgery that the road outside these was owned by the home owners themselves, he had since found out that this was not the case and that it was the Parish Councils responsibility as part of the green. Cllr Huke reported that a parishioner had purchased a replacement bollard and it was agreed that the Parish Council would pay for it's installation.

Quality Council Status

Information regarding this had been circulated and it was decided that a separate public meeting should be held to discuss this further.

Medical Provision in the Village

Cllr Manifold reported that some parishioners had voiced their concerns over the poor service encountered at the medical centre. Cllr Manifold said that their concerns and experiences echoed what he and his wife had experienced, Cllr Carberry also

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting Cont...

commented that the medical provision was not adequate. It seemed that it had become worse in the last 6 months. Cllr Woodward to meet with the practice manager to forward these concerns and if not happy with practice managers response to write to John Reed. The public were urged to forward any concerns to the Clerk.

Fly Posting in The Village

The Chairman stated that complaints had been made to himself and that Fly posting was a Parish Council matter. He realised that the Parish Council would probably not go as far as to go to court over the matter but asked that posters be removed after the event as a matter of housekeeping.

Wheelie Bins

The changeover would be in January and all Parish Councillors had received a lengthy "instruction manual" on how the two colour bi weekly collection would happen. Cllr Nicholas Jago stated that a mail drop to all houses would be taking place on 27th December and the Clerk had been told that a "road show" would be coming to the village hall around the 6th January (date to be advertised when confirmed). Cllr Huke acknowledged that at first the new regime would be difficult but that something had to be done to reduce the amount of rubbish being disposed of in landfill sites.

Planning

Planning Applications Received for Parish Council Comments

Address	Application Type	Comments
Old Blacksmiths, Back Lane	2 storey workshop, offices etc	No objection
Martham Boat building	Replace quay heading, elctro points etc	No objection
17 Hall Road	Conservatory	No objection
Moregrove Farm	New dwelling	No objection
Former Coal yard	3 detached houses	No objection,
4 Damgate Back Lane	Garage	No objection
Kooky Burrow, Black Street	New dwelling adj	Increase in traffic on unadopted road

Planning permissions granted by GYBC

Address	Application Type	Comments
12 White Street	Change use from shop to garage	Domestic use only
26 Black Street	Double garage	Precise location required

The new medical centre has not been started yet, contrary to what was said at the previous meeting. The Flying Club had been given an extension of 12 months but must keep a log the 12 months will begin from the first flight.

Finance

Item	Net	VAT	Total
Clerk net pay	£542.41		£542.41
Clerk pension	£86.89		£86.89
Clerk electricity	£4.00		£4.00
Inland Revenue 3 month payment	£436.77		£436.77
J Hudson general repairs	£325.74		£325.74
Internet	£22.12		£22.12
NCAPTC link magazine sub	£36.00		£36.00
P Pike War memorial	£160.00		£160.00
D Cossey spraying and cutting footpaths	£30.00		£30.00
P Starling Grass cutting	£270.00	£47.25	£317.25
Total for December	£1913.93	£47.25	£1961.18

Finances to be agreed, Proposed by V Nicholas-Jago, Seconded by P Manifold, Unanimous.

Correspondence

Mr Dickinson of Martham Bowls Club Steering Committee had written to clarify some points which he felt had not been discussed properly at the finance meeting due to time constraints and to also complain regarding the way in which the meeting was conducted, he also asked for an apology from Cllr Manifold. The Chairman then read out a reply which he had written and sent to Mr Dickinson stating that no apology would be given as he believed that the meeting was conducted correctly.

Cllr Jordan asked that a point of order be made due to the Chairman having replied to a letter which had not been brought to the Council and discussed and debated prior to a reply being sent. This contravened the Local Government act of 1972 which states that no one Councillor may act on his/her own without prior approval of the Council.

A letter had been received from England and Co solicitors stating that Marie Jane Watts was the new landlord of the Victoria Inn.

Ponds

Tree trimming around the ponds had commenced.

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting Cont...

Footpaths

A letter was read out from Rev Pyke regarding the state of Sandy Lane footpath number 17. This stated that it was virtually impassable during the wettest months of the year and he suggested laying brick rubble to aid access. The Chairman had replied stating that it would be brought to the attention of the Council at the next meeting. All present agreed that the situation was due to wet weather and the lane being used by farm machinery also and that it would improve with the weather.

Cllr Watson reported that the footpath at Moregrove Lane was impassable due to a small ditch being dug across it, Cllr Woodward and Huke to investigate.

Footways/Highways

Pratts Loke was in need of repair at the duck farm, Clerk to investigate who is responsible for this since it has been changed to access for all vehicles.

Village Green/Car Parks

Repairs to the fish shop seat did not seem to have been done satisfactorily. Clerk explained that the whole seat would be stained when the weather improved.

Cllr Nicholas Jago proposed that the tree which had been chopped down due to it being rotten be replaced with the same, seconded Cllr Huke all in favour. Cllr Nicholas Jago to investigate the cost of this.

Mrs Mary Coleman had requested the use of the green for Christmas Carols on Christmas eve, there were no objections to this.

Representative Reports

Boat Dyke Trust

Cllr Jordan reported that a contractor was cutting the west side of the road and when this was completed the possibility of providing car parking spaces here would be discussed.

First School

Cllr Watson reported that a joint governing body meeting had been held on Monday and that it was hoped that answers regarding the reorganisation would be available in February.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Playing Field

Cllr Huxtable had organised a meeting with A Ransome and K Roope of the Playing Field committee, Adrian had explained that he was no longer able to continue with the regeneration of the play area due to work commitments. He happily handed over this responsibility to the Parish Council Play Area Committee. The Playing Field committee had no objections to the Parish Council starting afresh and removing the hedge to improve viability and access from Rollesby Road.

Cllr Carberry stated that there was to be a Play Area Committee meeting on Monday at which the skateboard park would be discussed. He was concerned about the cost of insurance for such a project. Clerk to ask insurers for quote.

Section 106 monies available had been confirmed by the Borough Council as Playgrounds £27448.68, Open Spaces £2222.03 and Capital Maintenance £6113.80. Clerk to make enquiries into how the Parish Council obtains this money.

The Clerk had received minutes of past meetings of the Playing Field Committee and would continue to do so in the future.

Youth

Cllr Carberry had attended the Youth Rock Café AGM all seemed to be going well despite a grant having to be repaid due to time constraints, they hope to reapply in the near future.

Village Hall

The AGM had been held. Clerk to ask P Pearson for a copy of the Charity Commission deed.

Luncheon Club

The club was losing money each month so the price of meals was due to be reviewed in January or February.

Parish Plan

Nothing to report.

Transport

Cllr Beales was due to attend a meeting to liaise with the Clip.

Village Signs

The response to the competition had been enormous with approx 1000 entries having been received. These were being judged and it was hoped that work would have been completed by the carnival.

Items for next agenda

Quotes for grass cutting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 22.02 hrs.

Signed..... Dated.....

(Previous minutes are also available on the Council Website: www.martham.gov.uk).