

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Martham Methodist School Room on 19 October 2005 at 19:30 hrs.

Those Present:

Councillors:

J Beales (entered at 20:25hrs) B Carberry T Gates M Horrocks M Huke B Huxtable K Jordan P Manifold S Warnes T Watson B Wright

Presiding: M Huke

Others: PC D Cook

Clerk in attendance: Lisa Harold

Together with 17 members of the public.

Apologies:

B Cllr J Hudson B Cllr B Coleman

Recent events in the village meant that an item which had been previously discussed in camera would probably now be the main part of the public forum. It was agreed that the order of the agenda be changed and it was proposed Cllr Huke, seconded Cllr Watson to discuss Village Green matters in public, all were in favour.

A minutes silence was held in memory of Mr Cecil Pearson who passed away on Tuesday 4th October 2005 and had been an important member of the Village Hall committee for many years. The Parish Council had passed their condolences to his family.

PUBLIC FORUM

Christine Kirby reported that the flag on the Village Hall end of the footpath between White Street and Black Street was missing.

Bob Warnes asked why the pond at the chip shop was always low. The Chairman explained that the sluice had recently been repaired and it was hoped that this would remedy the problem. He also explained that this would be on the yearly maintenance list to ensure it remained in working order.

Mr Hudson asked about the work going on at Back lane by BT. He was told this was not a Parish Council matter and to contact BT with his concerns.

Mrs Watson explained that due to the bollards on the area of green opposite the turning for the DIY the splay was not big enough to allow large delivery vehicles access and this had resulted in the wall of Ealing House being knocked down many times. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to planning informing them of this issue.

An accident at the zebra crossing had occurred resulting in damage to the railings and the dome from the light almost injuring a pedestrian. It was caused by a Co op delivery vehicle and the police had been informed.

Russell Watson asked about the roadway between the old Mace shop and the village green having been shut by a parishioner on October 8th 2005. Cllr Huke explained that this matter had been discussed in camera by the Parish Council for many months due to the delicate nature of business and was being dealt with by solicitors. He explained that some residents of property adjoining the green were laying claim to this roadway and part of the green up to the boundary of the pond and around the jubilee bench. He was told that this was now a Police matter due to the persons actions in shutting off the road. PC Cook confirmed that a file of evidence was being compiled for the Crown Prosecution Service. Members of the Public Forum were asked to put their phone numbers on a sheet of paper so that they could be contacted in future should any help be needed. They were also told to read future minutes and attend meetings to keep abreast of the situation.

Cllr Huke then asked permission from the Council to read a letter received the previous day by registered post to the Clerks address, this was given. The letter was from Mr and Mrs Nicholas Jago of 17 The green informing the Parish Council that a letter had been sent dated 26th September 2005 which they had been informed had not been read to the Council. The Clerk confirmed that this had not been received at all. This letter informed the Parish Council that they had 30 days to remove the car parking bay lines and notice board or Mr and Mrs Nicholas Jago would do so themselves. They also stated in the attached letter that if this was not done within the time frame they would register an offence of Criminal Damage with the police. It went on to complain about the aggressive manner of a Parish Councillor who attended the scene on the 8th October and the footpath not being within conservation area guidelines. It was proposed Cllr Manifold, seconded Cllr Wright to forward this to the Solicitor to ask him to respond to this letter, all were in favour.

Cllr Beales then entered the meeting at 8.25pm.

COUNCIL MEETING

Declarations of Interest

T Watson, B Wright – Allotment holders.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

These having been circulated previously were ***Proposed*** by K Jordan, ***Seconded*** by T Gates, Unanimous, and were duly signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Village Hall Archive Storage – Permission had been given for a filing cabinet to be placed in the corner of an upstairs room. The Clerk explained that this would be enough for “normal” dead filing, however Cllr Jordan explained that it would be insufficient for the Parish Plan archives. Cllrs Manifold and Wright agreed to ask again at the next Village Hall Committee meeting.

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Civil Contingencies Act- Cllr Manifold had completed the form, the Clerk agreed to forward a copy of this to all for discussion and agreement at the next meeting.

May Fair – Cllrs Warnes and Horrocks had held a meeting and had listed various ideas for the fair. They had also found that the first school had a new Maypole, they did voice their concerns about the May fair not being the best date and it possibly being at harvest time (September) when local produce could be shown. At this time of year it would also not coincide with the music for all festival. It was agreed that this should be discussed further.

Youth and Community Centre rent – The clerk had not had a reply regarding this and would chase.

Boat Dyke Trustee position – Mr Williams had expressed an interest in continuing as a Trustee, Cllr Jordan reported that he had been an exemplary Trustee. Proposed Cllr Manifold, seconded Cllr Wright that he should be appointed for a second term, all in favour.

Management Agreement for Sme Land- The Clerk was asked to chase this issue.

Budget

A copy of the proposed budget had been forwarded to all with the suggestion that the finance committee should meet every quarter to ensure proper spending and allocation of funds. It was proposed Cllr Watson seconded Cllr Beales to accept the budget at £17300 concurrent and £17450 non concurrent expenditure for the year 2006/07, all in favour.

Registered Common Land Map

This had been received and it was noted that this contained no areas of common land for Martham.

Asset register

It was proposed Cllr Huke, seconded Cllr Jordan that an asset register be compiled, all were in favour. Cllrs Jordan, Wright and Horrocks agreed to form the working party for this.

Cess Road/Hyrn Road Parking

In the past Norfolk County Council had been asked to provide car parking on allotment land for this area. Cllr Huxtable did state that many of the properties on these roads had provision for off road parking. It was agreed to write to PC Cook to ask him to monitor this area as it was now causing obstructions.

Planning

Planning Applications Received for Parish Council Comments

Address	Application Type	Comments
8 Holly Close	Conservatory to rear	No objections

Planning permissions granted by GYBC

Address	Application Type	Comments
4 Sydney Close	Conservatory	
46 Black Street	Ext fitness room	Must not be used for other purpose
Back Lane	5 det houses and garages	Has conditions attached
2 Wellbeck Ave	Conservatory	
3 Acacia Ave	Side extension	

It was agreed to obtain a planning history for 17a The green as it was being used for holiday lets and the Parish Council did not remember planning permission being granted for this. It was also agreed to ask Planning about the masonry business being run at the Barn at Hall Road

Finance

Item	Net	VAT	Total
Clerk net pay	432.74		432.74
Clerk pension	98.25		98.25
Clerk electricity	4.80		4.80
Clerk telephone	47.85	7.50	55.35
Skippers stationery	77.80	7.42	85.22
Internet	15.99		15.99
SSAF notice boards	32.40	5.67	38.07
Info board	60.13	10.53	70.66
Postage for grant bids	5.72		5.72
P Starling Grass cutting	270.00	47.25	317.25
SOLO florists C Pearson	25.00		25.00
Live Plant sers bulbs	340.00		340.00
Ink Express ink cartridge refill	12.49		12.49
K Jordan Internet	133.55	23.37	156.92
Total for October	1556.72	101.74	1658.46

It was agreed to pay Mr Hudson for planting of the green as soon as the invoice was received.

Finances to be agreed, Proposed by P Manifold, Seconded by K Jordan, Unanimous .

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Correspondence

Nothing significant to report.

Ponds

Nothing significant to report.

Footpaths

Cllr Gates had visited Mr Pike who reported that he was employed to cut Mystrd Hyrn farm to Thunder hill, Sandy Lane to Black Street and Cess Road to Sandy Lane on the first week of every month. Mr Chapman cut across Thunder hill. It was agreed that a detailed work schedule should be devised and tenders requested at the early part of next year. It was also noted that the Broads Authority should be cutting some paths.

Cllr Watson asked how the Martham Guide map was coming along, copyright was causing problems and help was being sought from the Borough Council.

Cllr Huxtable suggested that the bottom of Damgate Lane should be made into a footpath, he proposed that this should be requested from the Borough Council, seconded Cllr Watson, 10 in favour 1 abstention.

Footways/Highways

Damage had been caused to Hall Road by the large sewerage tankers, it was agreed to write to highways. It was also agreed to write to the Environment Agency to raise concern over some sewerage being pumped into the broads

Village Green/Car Parks

It was noted that the contract cleaners were doing a good job of cleaning the greens and village centre.

Representative Reports

Boat Dyke Trust

Minutes had been received of the meeting 12th October and would be circulated to all. The annual open meeting had been held with only 1 couple attending.

First School

Nothing to report.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Playing Field

Minutes of the meeting 20th September had been received and circulated.

Youth

Cllr Beales had attended the Clip meeting on Youth and had provided a report which had been circulated. It was agreed to invite a member of the Youth Community Service to the December meeting.

Village Hall

Nothing to report.

Luncheon Club

£5000 was at present held in the accounts. Contracts had been issued to the cooks and assistants. A free meal would be given at Halloween and Christmas, Hemsby club was full and there were 3 vacancies at Martham. There would be an annual dinner for the organisers.

Transport

The Hemsby Bridge work had been postponed until January.

Village Signs

A report had been circulated to all. At present there were issues with Highways regarding Health and Safety and siting.

Staithe Road Area

The hedge remained a problem and the Clerk was asked to write to the Borough Council regarding this. Cllr Jordan was asked to progress the leases.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 22:00 hrs.

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

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