

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Martham Methodist School Room on 15 February 2006 at 19:30 hrs.

Those Present:

Councillors:

J Beales T Gates K Jordan P Manifold S Warnes T Watson B Wright

Presiding: M Huke

Others: B Cllr J Hudson B Cllr B Coleman

Clerk in attendance: Lisa Harold Together with 5 members of the public.

Apologies:

B Carberry B Huxtable M Horrocks

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Brian Horrocks of Deepdale Avenue voiced his objection to a planning application on Cess Road which backed Deepdale. He said that many of the residents in the area were concerned as the planning application did not state what new buildings would be erected. The Chairman explained that this would be discussed under planning and his objections noted then.

Mrs Linda Sheridan reported flooding to Black Street at number 63, the Chairman explained that the whole of Black Street was due for a major review possibly in 2006/07.

Mr Paul Able Scout Leader explained that the lease between the Parish Council and Scouts had been handed to the scouts Solicitor to draw up and it would be an added expense to the Scouts, it was explained that it been previously agreed by the Parish Council to cover the costs of drawing up the sub lease and that the Parish Council would reimburse the scouts for this. Cllr Jordan explained to Mr Able that he would like a meeting with him to discuss plans for the development of the site.

Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Jordan explained to Cllr Hudson that it was hoped that a meeting could be held on Saturday to discuss the wildflower meadow on the green (Cllr Hudson had some suggestions for the positioning of this at the previous meeting).

The Chairman asked Borough Councillor Coleman if any financial help could be given from the Borough Council with the removal of the ducks on the green. Cllr Coleman replied that the Borough Council would not be able to help with this but accepted that the Bell Meadow Pond was the borough's responsibility and would look into the population problem there. The Chairman explained to the public that a licence would have to be obtained from DEFRA and the removal done by a certified pest control company.

COUNCIL MEETING

Declarations of Interest

T Watson, B Wright – Allotment holders.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

These having been circulated previously were proposed by T Gates, seconded by J Beales, unanimous, and were duly signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Use of First School Site- The Clerk had spoken with Mr Masterson at County Hall who explained that there had been no designated use for the site as yet. When the school was eventually closed there would be a procedure to decide what to do with the site, he accepted that there was interest from the church for use of some of the site as a burial ground. Cllr Manifold reported that there had been minutes of a Children's Services meeting which stated that the land would be sold and the money used to refund the PFI money, these minutes had been given to Cllr Watson. Cllr Beales asked for a copy of these minutes, Cllr Watson agreed to provide a copy to her.

Wildflower Meadow on Green – As mentioned in the public forum a meeting was pending.

Archive Storage- The Clerk had been to the church to look at the cabinet offered by them but the Vicar was on holiday. The Clerk asked for this to be carried to the next meeting.

Management Agreement for Smea Land – The Chairman reported that Cllr Huxtable had agreed to visit the Borough Solicitor on Thursday 16th February to chase and progress this matter.

Playing Field Registration- Cllr Huxtable had also agreed to chase this with the Borough Solicitor and to give a 3 month time frame for the work to be completed. Cllr Huke proposed that Mr Gunther Young be appointed as the Parish Councils' solicitor to deal with all legal work in the future, Cllr Jordan added that this should be subject to a regular review by the Finance committee, seconded Cllr Warnes, all in favour.

Bottle Banks and Shoe Recycling – Cllr Beales had been told by the Borough Council that the bottle banks in the co op car park, Grove Close and Victoria Public House car park were all included in the scheme currently run by the Borough Council. Cllr Beales was happy to continue to progress the scheme and would fill out the necessary forms. A firm decision had not been made by the Village Hall Committee as to whether they wished for the shoe bank to be sited on their car park. It was proposed Cllr Beales, seconded Cllr Wright to place this on the co op car park, all in favour. Cllr Beales reported that the can bank at the village hall car park had been removed for health and safety reasons, she agreed to look into having a can bank in the village centre.

Back Lane Traffic Calming Scheme- A letter had been received from Norfolk County Council highways stating that the developer had already lodged monies with the County Council for the scheme, the County Council were investigating this.

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Staithe Road leases – This had been discussed in the public forum. Cllr Jordan suggested the possibility of having a recycling centre at the site. He was asked to progress this idea. The Clerk confirmed that a final letter to the allotment holders had been sent to inform them that they would no longer be able to use the allotments from 30th March 2006.

Littleworth Dedication Bench- A letter had been received from the Coastal Villages practice confirming that this would be moved to the new medical centre site.

Tenders and Contracts for 2006 – An advert had been placed in the Parish Magazine and put on notice boards and in Library and Clip. Cllr Jordan asked if £5 million Public Liability insurance was necessary. The Clerk agreed to investigate this and to forward a copy of the advertisement to the webmaster for the website.

Clerk Maternity Leave- All Parish Councillors had been issued with a draft Contract of Employment and Job Description for the temporary Clerk and it was proposed by Cllr Beales that this be accepted by the Council with an overlap between the Permanent Clerk beginning maternity leave and the temporary Clerk commencing employment to allow for training, the start date of the temporary Clerk to be agreed by the Personnel Working Party and the temporary Clerk, seconded Cllr Gates, all in favour.

Removal of Ducks- Discussed in Public Forum

Freedom of Information Act- A model code of conduct had already been adopted by the Council. Cllr Jordan asked that this be dropped from the agenda as the Parish Council were covered by this code, however further information would be needed in the future.

May Fair- There had been no meeting held due to Cllr Horrocks being on holiday. Cllr Warnes asked that this be put on the April agenda.

Planning

Planning Applications Received for Parish Council Comments

Address	Application Type	Comments
Coronation Recreation Ground	Car park access	No objection
Repps Mill House, Repps Rd	Conversion of 3 barn dwellings	Close to junction poor visibility
7 Deepdale Avenue	Side extension	No objection
Back Lane	Conv barn to garage	No objection
Charmurly, Damgate Lane	Conv garage to bedroom	No objection
Alberta House, Cess Road	Demolish building, build new dwellings	Poor access and visibility, not in keeping, over development of area, poor drainage *
Adj Elmside, White Street	42 dwellings	Reduce to 37 dwellings, introduce traffic calming to the area, move dwelling no 2 back from boundary, schools inadequate, medical provision already under strain **
Adj 5 Station Gardens	New bungalow	Out of keeping, forward of building line

* It was proposed Cllr Manifold, seconded Cllr Jordan to object to this planning application on these grounds.

**It was proposed Cllr Jordan, seconded Cllr Manifold to object to this application on these grounds. 7 voted for, 1 against, carried.

Planning permissions granted by GYBC

Address	Application Type	Comments
8 Sycamore Ave	Conservatory	
58 Repps Road	Change of use res home to residential	
24 Sycamore Avenue	Conservatory	

Planning permissions refused by GYBC

Address	Application Type	Comments
Riverside, Cess Road	New workshop	

A letter had been received from GYBC stating that the medical centre was to be named “The Joseph Kittle Medical Centre” and the road to the development of houses would be named “Daisy Close”.

Finance

Item	Net	VAT	Total
Clerk net pay	339.55		339.55
Clerk pension	98.25		98.25
Clerk electricity	4.80		4.80
Stamps and envelopes	43.59	2.27	45.86
Printer Cartridge	12.49		12.49
Internet	16.68		16.68
SSAF signs	82.60	14.46	97.06
NRCC subs	25.00		25.00

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Item	Net	VAT	Total
M Print copying	82.95	14.52	97.47
P Blake trim trees at pond	40.00		40.00
Planning application for playing field car park	132.50		132.50
Entrust application fee	100.00		100.00
Total for February	978.41	31.25	1009.66

Cllr Beales asked about the amount of money spent on postage and printing cartridges. The Clerk agreed that, on average, one cartridge was being used per month but that this did include copying small amounts as well as general printing. She also explained that this cost had been halved by using a refilling system. She also explained that the cost of stamps included that recharged to Ormesby Parish Council.

Finances to be agreed, proposed by T Gates, Seconded by T Watson, unanimous .

Cllr Gates requested that a finance committee meeting be arranged for the end of March.

Correspondence

Nothing to report.

Ponds

Cllr Wright had inspected the pond near the fish and chip shop and reported that it was filling and that the sluice gate was working correctly.

Footpaths

Cllr Gates reported that the post was broken at the Common Road footpath Cess Road end. The Clerk was asked to contact the footpath officer regarding the Rose Farm footpath to see if the access problems had been rectified.

Footways/Highways

The Clerk was asked to chase the information regarding the ownership of the Rowan Road to the co op path. The Clerk reported that an Environmental Ranger had been along Black Street and renewed the dig fouling stickers, he had also begun a dog watch scheme in conjunction with the Primary School, he was also going to put an article in the Parish Magazine. Cllr Beales reported that dog fouling was a problem in some other areas of the village and agreed to put more stickers up.

It was reported that an Argos Direct lorry had become stuck in the grass verge area on Rowan Road and had to be dug out, however the damage had not been repaired. The Clerk was asked to write to Highways to inform them that it was a hazard to pedestrians. She was also asked to report that at the first house on Cromwell Close where an old conifer hedge had been removed a large area of footpath was now un -tarmaced.

Village Green/Car Parks

A quote had been obtained to install 9 posts measuring 6 x 6 inches along the edge of the tarmaced and banked area at the co op green to prevent cars driving into the bank at a cost of £392.68. Proposed Cllr Huke, seconded Cllr Manifold to accept this and give the go ahead for work to be undertaken. All in favour. It was agreed that a quote be obtained for a further 15 posts to be placed along the side of the green to prevent cars from driving onto the green, all in favour. It was also agreed that a quote should be obtained to place temporary posts on the corner of the main green at the village sign to prevent vehicles from mounting the kerb when taking the corner from White Street to Hemsby Road whilst traffic diversions were in place.

The Methodist Church had requested the use of the green for a fete on Saturday 15th July 2006, proposed Cllr Manifold, seconded Cllr Gates to give permission, all in favour.

The gardening club had withdrawn the offer to plant a shrub bed on the green.

The Clerk was asked to chase the Co op manager regarding funding towards the costs of repairing the car park.

Representative Reports

Boat Dyke Trust

Minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2006 had been circulated to all Councillors.

Village Signs

Cllr Beales had given an update circulated to all Councillors. Signs of the Times were in the process of drawing up Draft designs.

Planning and Transport

A letter had been received from the County Council stating that a bus stop at the new medical centre was possible. Cllr Beales agreed to ask to see the design prior to it being installed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 22:01 hrs.

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

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