

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Martham Methodist School Room on 19 July 2006 at 19:30 hrs.

Those Present:

Councillors:

J Beales T Brookman B Carberry M Horrocks K Jordan B Wright

Presiding: M Huke

Others: B Cllr J Hudson PC D Cook

Clerk in attendance: Liz Toll Together with 4 members of the public.

Apologies:

T Gates B Huxtable T Watson P Manifold

PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs Bradford a resident of Willow Court remarked on the unfinished state of the footpath and footway at Pine Close and Willow Court. Mrs Bradford quoted that she had a long series of correspondence with Planning & Transportation dating back to 2004. The chairman explained that he was unaware as to how the surfacing programme was organised but would ensure that her concerns would again be passed to the relevant officer at the Highways Dept. Mrs Bradford congratulated all on the splendid work done at the play area but felt very concerned for safety in that area of Rollesby Road. The chairman confirmed that action is being taken by Highways with the promise of an additional SLOW sign marked on the road. Mrs Brown mentioned the motor cycles using the footpath to the Play Area, again action is being taken to resolve this. It is intended to eventually have bollards put in place but provision has to be made for wheelchair access therefore, it will still be difficult to stop the motor cycles.

From the public forum Cllr Hudson endorsed all that had been said regarding the hard work by all councillors for their work and efforts on the provision of the play area facility which is a credit to the village of Martham.

Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Hudson expressed concern regarding danger on the east side of White Street caused by the hedge growth. Cllr Huke stated that this area was eventually due for development. Cllr Hudson would make enquiries as to the progress of the planning application.

Police Report

Cllr Wright reported that he had been approached concerning thefts and break-ins from garages around Marlborough Green and Hamilton Walk. PC Cook confirmed that thefts had been reported and police were continuing patrolling the area. Cllr Huke suggested a simple Neighbourhood Watch scheme could help.

The subject of community police was discussed PC Cook gave reassuring information as to how areas would be divided.

COUNCIL MEETING

Declarations of Interest

B Wright – Allotment holder.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

These having been circulated previously were ***Proposed*** by B Carberry, ***Seconded*** by B Wright, Unanimous, and were duly signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Rent Review Youth & Community Centre

Following the request from NPS Property Consultants for information on repairs. Cllr Jordan together with Trustees had inspected the building. The clerk will formulate a letter to NPS with the information to enable NPS to progress.

Recycling

Cllr Beales had inspected the area for the can bank as it was initially felt there would not be sufficient space. If a problem should arise the disabled parking bays could be reduced. Cllr Jordan was concerned for the lorry driver working on his own. Cllrs Huke, Wright and Beales would observe the situation when the collection lorry visited. Cllr Beales reported that parishioners should be made aware that the financial gain was not as good as the bottle bank but all the revenue goes back into village amenities. Cllr Jordan recommended that signs be erected explaining the usage.

Contract of Employment

Proposed Cllr Huke all in favour subject to the three amendments discussed. Cllr Huke questioned as to whether there is provision to review expenses for the clerk working from home. The long term plan is to have a suitable room as an office.

Clerk Job Description

Proposed by Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Beales all in favour to adopt the full time clerk Job Description subject to amendments that had been agreed including various time scales.

Review of Working Parties

All agreed the new schedule, Cllr Beales would prepare and circulate to all councillors. Cllr Huke agreed to assist as Borough Liaison.

Rollesby Road – Highway

Cllr Jordan and Cllr Brookman had a site meeting with Mr Carl Dawdry N.C.C Highway to discuss the road safety at Rollesby Road. N.C.C. would arrange for a footway assessment to be carried out. This would involve the parish council advising NCC of a two-hour period of the day and time of year for an assessment of pedestrians using the road. The priority of the footway would be reduced by the fact that there is already an existing safe pedestrian route along Playing Field Lane. Mr Dawdry agreed to have “SLOW” markings placed on the road approaching the playing field.

Ducks

The clerk will endeavour to obtain quotations from companies for the next meeting regarding the reduction of the duck population around the ponds.

Planning

Planning Applications Received for Parish Council Comments

Address	Application Type	Comments
25 White St	3 Detached dwellings	Out of keep with surrounding area
Former Manor Farm (Back Lane)	6 Carports	No objections
16 Hall Road	Single storey frnt ext & garage	Out of keeping with other properties
41 B River Thurne Cottages	New boathouse	No objections
Plot 1a Riverside	Raise boathse renew cladding & roof	No objections
33 Staithe Road	Construction of bungalow	No objections Subject to appeal Dev Control Panel

Planning permissions granted by GYBC

Address	Application Type	Comments
74 Repps Road	Extension	

Planning permissions refused by GYBC

Address	Application Type	Comments
9 Somerton Road		

Finance

Item	Net	VAT	Total
Clerk net pay L. Harold	£416.91		£416.91
Clerk net pay E Toll	£426.96		£426.96
M Huke (Floral bouquet Mayor & postage)	£23.52		£23.52
BT Phone 740863	£104.41	£18.27	£122.68
BT Phone 384390	£25.53	£4.47	£30.00
Environment Agency	£8.02		£8.02
M Print (6 months copying etc)	£220.89	£38.65	£259.54
Skippers	£46.18	£2.30	£48.48
Secret Gardens	£468.00		£468.00
Miracle Cleaning	£76.00	£13.32	£89.32
J Beales (Purchases Play Area opening)	£93.49		£93.49
Waste Recycling	£134.63		£134.63
Fast 24	£113.94		£113.94
Total for July	£2158.48	£77.01	£2235.49
INCOME FROM RECYCLING (APRIL)	£182.92		£182.92
MAY	£229.22		£229.22
JUNE	£267.10		£267.10

Finances to be agreed, Proposed by J Beales, Seconded by B Wright, Unanimous .

A cheque for £200 had been received from Shell as a donation towards the refreshments supplied at the official open day for the Play Area. The clerk will write to thank Shell for their kind contribution.

Correspondence

The Traffic Commissioners had requested registration numbers of commercial vehicles operating from the haulage depot at Cess Road, these are required by the commissioners for consideration after receiving complaints from some residents and pedestrians. The chairman suggested that Cllr Manifold be asked to monitor this task.

Go East (Government Office for the East of England)

Draft East of England Plan - Cllr Jordan proposed all in favour not to purchase publications of the reports.

Cycle Route

A letter had been received from Flegg High School incorporating a Business & Enterprise project for a proposed off-road cycle route from Winterton to Somerton and on to the Martham schools. The initiative is to establish an off-road cycle route for pupils attending the schools, one which would have a long term benefit to pupils plus the adult community. Cllr Huke agreed to be involved with this project, all in favour.

Rollesby WI

The President of Rollesby WI had reported in a letter to the Parish Council on her recent representation at the AGM of the National Federation of Womens Institutes two resolutions that were passed, one of these included "Sport for All" in particular walking exercise for women. With this in mind a suggestion was made to the Parish Council on behalf of the WI members for a diversion of footpath 13/16 Rollesby to Martham. Cllr Horrocks will investigate the possibility, and reply accordingly.

Ponds

Mrs Christine Kirby volunteered to do some cleaning of the village pond, all in agreement that it was not advisable for Mrs Kirby to do this as a lone worker. Cllrs Huke and Wright would assist if Mrs Kirby wished to go ahead.

Footpaths

Cllr Horrocks reported that hedgerows and overhanging branches from an oak tree along footpath 10, from Black Street (formerly Oddfellows Hall) leading to Village Hall has become very overgrown. Owners of properties who had land adjacent to the path and who are responsible for their part of the

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maintenance had been contacted by letter. The clerk will send a reminder if no response the NCC footpath officer will be notified. In the meantime Secret Gardens & Properties will trim the grass.

The Parish Council had been notified that the footpath from Rose Farm off Cess Road leading to the former Rectory Farm Nurseries had recently been blocked off. Cllr Huke will arrange a meeting to discuss the situation with Mr Wensak director of Polehouse Nurseries. NCC Footpath Officer had been made aware and has been requested to visit as soon as possible and discuss the possibility of re-routing the path around Mr Wensak's land.

Cllr Horrocks had been notified by the Broads Authority that NCC is responsible for footpath grass cutting Raz Woollacott footpath officer had been requested to include Martham in their rotas for next year.

Footways/Highways

Clerk to contact the owner of bungalow at School Road/Staithe Road regarding the overgrown hedge causing inconvenience to pedestrians using the footpath to the schools.

Village Green/Car Parks

Mr Cadge of solicitors Cadge & Gilbert had a very productive and satisfactory meeting with Cllr Huke & Cllr Jordan on 11th July, with updating issues relating to registration of the greens.

Cllr Beales referred to an article that had appeared in the local press advertising sport facilities to take place on the village green during school holidays. Cllr Beales was concerned as to whether the organisers had obtained permission from the Parish Council for this type of activity taking place especially where children would be exposed to the dangers of the main roads. Cllr Huke recommended that a "Conditions of Use" document be given to future hirers. Clerk would produce a draft copy at the September meeting.

Village Signs

Cllr Huke & Cllr Beales to meet with proposals for the erection of the signs.

Staithe Road

The chairman reported that NCC Highways had refused the proposed new Scout building on the grounds of access. This would be presented to County & Borough Council, Mr Abel the scouts' representative would also be involved. The chairman emphasised that all will be resolved by the September meeting.

Representative Reports

Transport

Cllr Beales to complete the questionnaire relating to student travel subsidies.

CLIP

Trish Aydin Chief Executive of Community Connections has organised a meeting on 9th August at the CLIP office to meet representatives of organisations working with the partnership. Cllr Huke had agreed to attend, all in favour.

Medical Centre

Development is progressing and that the opening of the centre for all patients will be during mid August. The appointment system will be changed to allow more flexibility.

Boat Dyke Trust

Staithe Boat Dyke Trust: Cllr Jordan reported that a gate would be purchased Mr Alstony the farmer with an additional gate provided by the Boat Dyke Trust to help alleviate and limit entrance and exit to the Staithe, Mr Alston is also prepared to give assistance when required. The Broads Authority had proposed a "chicane" type footpath along the riverbank this would restrict access for motor cycles. There is still ongoing damage and thefts at the Staithe but some arrests had been made.

First School

Nothing to report

Allotments

Nothing to report

Playing Field

Cllr Jordan reported that the Playing Field Trustees had met with representatives of the Football Association with the possibility of a replacement pavilion building.

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An email had been forwarded to John Hemsworth head of Borough Environmental Services with a view to implementing the possibility of two “dog orders” as contained in the DEFRA guide book.

- 1). Enable signage to be put in place stating fines for offenders.
- 2). Confirmation as to whether dogs can be banned from the Recreation Ground.

Youth

Cllr Carberry was doing routine checking of the Play Area. The borough council would now be provided with the Inventory.

Village Hall

Meeting on 21st July

Luncheon Club

Nothing to report

Parish Plan

Nothing to report

Items for next agenda

Ducks

Staithe Road (Scout Plans)

Freedom of Information Act

Quality Parish Council Status

Purchase of additional bins

Room Hire monthly Drop In surgery meetings (Communication Working Party)

Parish Council Newsletter

Repps Road Bus Shelter

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).