

**Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held in the Martham Methodist School Room on 21 February 2007 at 19:30 hrs.**

**Those Present:**

*Councillors:*

T Brookman B Carberry T Gates M Horrocks M Huke K Jordan T Watson B Wright

*Presiding:* M Huke

*Others:* PC D Cook

Clerk in attendance: Pat Devlin

Together with 4 members of the public.

**Apologies:**

B Huxtable P Manifold J Beales B Coleman J Hudson

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Christine Kirby reported that the arm on the signpost at the bottom of footpath 17, Sandy Lane/Cess Road junction, was missing. Also the footpath sign on the bank, opposite Rose Farm had been removed again. It was further reported that the footpath between Black Street and White Street was becoming increasingly overgrown, especially the trees/bushes at the rear of the property occupied by Mr George. Raz Woollacott would be asked for his advice.

It was asked whether anything could be done to increase the awareness of the pedestrian crossing in the village centre. Its position quite close to the junction of Rollesby Road and Repps Road one side and the entrance/exit to the car park the other side made it somewhat precarious at times. Highways would be asked for their advice.

***Police Report***

PC Cook responded on a matter reported to him during the month about parking on grass verges around Marlborough Green Crescent. There is nothing that the police are empowered to do if the vehicle is not obstructing the footway for pedestrians with wheelchairs or prams/pushchairs.

It was suggested that due to the great increase in the number of vehicles needing parking spaces in and around Marlborough Green Crescent that the Borough Council would be asked if it was possible to convert the grass verges to proper parking areas. This would be added to the next agenda.

PC Cook reported that there had been a large drop in reported crime.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

***Declarations of Interest***

T Watson, B Wright – Allotment holders.

K Jordan

***Minutes of Previous Meeting***

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

***Matters Arising***

*Old Doctors Surgery:*

At this point the Chairman re-opened the public forum to allow a parishioner to ask about access now part of the Green had been returned to normal use.

The Chairman explained that nothing would change for the surrounding properties, only the boundary of the old surgery would be marked out prior to auction.

The Chairman then closed the public forum.

## **Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting Cont...**

As the property was now going up for auction it was necessary to clearly mark the boundary of the house where it met the Village Green. It was agreed that no high fences would be necessary just posts clearly indicating the boundary. The footpath to the left of the property would be reinstated as Village Green. The property would have a right of access across the Green. It was agreed that this matter be left to the working party made up of K Jordan M Huke B Wright.

### **Planning**

#### **Planning Applications Received for Parish Council Comments**

<b>Address</b>	<b>Application Type</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Rear of 66 Repps Road	New bungalow & gge	Access is matter for residents of Coronation Ave

#### **Planning permissions granted by GYBC**

<b>Address</b>	<b>Application Type</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Rectory House, Repps Road	Single Storey ext	GRANTED

### **Finance**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
Clerk net pay	467.55		<b>467.55</b>
M Print	141.68	24.79	<b>166.47</b>
David Cossey Footpaths	90.00		<b>90.00</b>
Norfolk Link Subscription	36.00		<b>36.00</b>
Cozens Lighting (VAT only)		232.86	<b>232.86</b>
Vantech Media	125.00		<b>125.00</b>
Miracle Cleaning Ltd	95.00	16.65	<b>111.65</b>
Paperclip	29.95	5.24	<b>35.19</b>
T Brookman expenses Telephone – 1.57 Parking 1.80			<b>3.37</b>
A Moore Xmas Tree Lights	124.96		<b>124.96</b>
Inland Revenue Nov/Dec/Jan PAYE NI	465.13 179.36		<b>644.49</b>
Waste Recycling	181.55		<b>181.55</b>
Secret Gardens & Prestige Properties	120.00		<b>120.00</b>
<b>Total for February</b>	<b>2056.18</b>	<b>279.54</b>	<b>2336.00</b>

*Finances to be agreed, Proposed by K Jordan, Seconded by B Wright, Unanimous .*

The Clerk then explained that the alterations had been made to the audit submission for 2005/2006 and that they needed to be re-accepted by the Council.

Proposed Cllr Watson, seconded Cllr Jordan – unanimous.

The Clerk also explained that a letter from the Audit Commission had been received regarding our External Auditor. The arrangements would remain the same for 2006/2007 whilst the contract went out to tender. This would not affect our internal audit.

Draft minutes of the last Finance Committee meeting had been circulated to all Councillors. Cllr Jordan explained to the meeting that these were just draft minutes and they would be accepted at the next Finance Committee Meeting.

### **Correspondence**

Tabled Items:

Council Minutes 23.11.06

Review of Draft Tourism Strategy

County Farms Quarterly Newsletter

## ***Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting Cont...***

Norfolk Link, various leaflets  
Development Control Agenda 6.2.06  
NCC Area Committee Agenda  
NCC Norfolk Matters  
NPFA Playing Field Newsletter  
East Urban Regeneration Draft Options  
VSP Newsletter

### **Meeting Items**

NCC Local Government Review  
GY Local Strategic Partners Dates for 2007  
NCAPTC invitation to Seminar on Quality Status: Agreed that the Clerk would book four places.  
Postwatch : agreed that the clerk would submit her contact details  
Wheelie Bins: Letter from Cllr Coleman saying that the matter had been passed to Rob Cole.  
Caister on Sea Parish Council: Flooding.

### ***Playing Field***

Cllr Watson asked the meeting who was supposed to be getting the extra bin for the play area. The Chairman said that the area had been handed over to the Playing Field Management Committee and was therefore now their responsibility.

The Wheelie Bin from Biffa will now be done through the Social Club and not the Parish Council.  
Keith Roofe will be contacting the young person about the graffiti at the skate park.

The Clerk was asked to send a request for a copy of the latest accounts.

### ***May Fair – 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> May 2007***

A letter would be sent to Grays asking for confirmation of arrival and detailing the charge for this year. It was agreed that no increase in the charge should be made but that a permit for use should be sent for completion as it was explained to them last year that they would be asked to reinstate any damage. The grass cutter would be asked not to cut the green prior to the arrival of the fair to minimise any damage.

### ***Footways/Highways***

Copies of emails from Mrs Harding and Highways had been given to all councillors present. It explained that contractors had dug up a perfectly good footway by mistake. Mrs Harding had noticed this and her efforts had ensured that the path was reinstated at no cost to the rate payer.

It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Mrs Harding.

Cllr Wright reported that the kerb jutting out from the verge at the top end of Hemsby Road was dangerous. The Chairman thought that it might be a drain protection cover. Highways would be asked to investigate. (Clerk)

Another letter would be sent about the missing posts on the green area at the top of Cess Road. (Clerk)  
Cllr Watson said that a manhole cover at the entrance to the allotments was very high in relation to the road surface. This would be reported to Highways (Clerk)

The issue of speed restrictions in Back Lane was once again raised. The Clerk would pursue the issue of missing 106 monies. A letter would be sent to Michael Cartiss.

### ***Footpaths***

A letter had been received from Gordon London explaining that Sandy Lane was an adopted footpath and was on the definitive map and complained about the dreadful state of the footpath during the wet weather. It was reported that the footpath by Polehouse Nurseries flooded whenever it rained.

Cllr Horrocks would contact Raz Woollacott for his advice on these matters.

**Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting Cont...**

**Representative Report**

*Personnel – Health and Safety Policy*

It was reported that this was still in draft form and required further work. It would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

*Communications*

It was reported that the fly posters around the village had now been removed.

*Small works- Tenders for grass cutting and services*

As there was some confusion about the length of the contract given last April, the clerk was asked to find the original contracts for grass cutting for it to be approved at the next meeting.

There was general concern that no contract had actually been issued at the time. The additional part of the Village Green would be added to the contract and those wanting to submit tenders would be given a list of paths for cutting and strimming.

*Allotments*

Cllr Wright told the meeting that there was a general increase in the number of parishioners now wanting allotments.

He had arranged for additional hardcore to be put on the central access road.

*Village Signs*

It was reported that the oak posts would be ready the following week and Adam Fairhurst would be asked when he had scheduled the work for.

A response to all entrants of the competition would be formulated.

A resolution was then put forward: ‘Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that due to the confidential nature of personnel business the public and press be asked to leave the meeting during consideration of these items.’

Resolved: Cllr Huke, Cllr Jordan unanimous

***There being no further business, the main meeting closed at 20.55hrs.***

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

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