

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Martham Methodist School Room on 18 April 2007 at 19:30 hrs.

Those Present:

Councillors:

J Beales T Brookman B Carberry T Gates M Horrocks K Jordan P Manifold T Watson B Wright

Presiding: M Huke

Others: B Cllr B Coleman PC D Cook

Clerk in attendance: Pat Devlin

Together with 3 members of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Dawson said how he liked the new village signs.

Mr Coleman asked the council about the increase in the parish rate this year. The chairman explained the reason in depth and that statements had been posted on the notice boards around the village. Mr Coleman said that he rarely read the notice boards.

Borough Councillors Report

Borough Cllr Coleman said that he had received an email from the clerk asking if he could assist in finding out about S106 monies that were outstanding. These were to be used to fund a traffic calming scheme in Back Lane, which residents were now asking about. It was explained that various attempts had been made to obtain the information and the clerk had decided to enlist his help. Cllr Coleman said that he would speak to Mike Rayner and pass on any information he could to the Parish Council.

Police Report

PC Cook was informed that there was a great deal of vandalism at the Social Club and Playing Field. Youths had cut the wire fence and were bullying younger children using the play area. PC Cook would report the incident. Cllr Jordan said that there had been a major fire at the Boat Dyke with one boat being sunk and two damaged.

COUNCIL MEETING

The chairman opened the meeting and asked that a letter of thanks be sent to the outgoing Borough Councillor, John Hudson, for all his hard work over the years.

Resolved.

Declarations of Interest

T Watson, B Wright – Allotment holders.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

Matters Arising

Playing Field Meeting: It was brought to the attention of the council that the letter agreeing to front the new building project on the recreation ground had not been received in time for the meeting the previous evening. The clerk said that the letter had been sent by post to the Social Club as she had no address for the secretary but an email had been sent the evening before with the original letter attached as she was unsure about post going to the club. Cllr Watson was asked to ensure that full postal details for officers of the management committee were given to the clerk for future reference.

Old Doctors Surgery: The Chairman apologised to the council for not having arranged the meeting on the Village Green as promised. Boundary markers were now in place and tenders for the remaining work will be discussed in camera at the end of the meeting.

A letter of apology had been received from Aldreds.

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It was suggested that the Coastal Villages Practice should be asked to pay for the reinstatement of the Village Green.

Resolved: To complete reinstatement works and then send the invoice to Coastal Village Practice for reimbursement.

Village Signs: The new signs were now up. The one on Repps Road was not entirely visible due to the location.

Resolved: To review the situation in six months time, but pass any complaints about the locations to Highways

Scouts Underlease: This had not been progressed due to workload.

Planning

Planning Applications Received for Parish Council Comments

Address	Application Type	Comments
126 Marlborough Green Cresc	Timber car port and garage	No objections
Alberta House	3 bungalows – revised drawings	Strong objections to the repositioning of the garages forward of the building line. Out of keeping with street scene. Garage should be kept in original position behind the building line. If the original survey and plan was proven to accommodate 3 dwellings it should not be necessary to move the garage.
Kooky Burrow	Bungalow and garage	Chair read out objections which were mainly surface water drainage

Planning permissions granted by GYBC

Address	Application Type	Comments
Ealing House	Extension	PASSED

Finance

Item	Net	VAT	Total
Clerk net pay	383.51		383.51
NCAPTC Subscription	402.34		402.34
Keith Debbage Cutting Allotment Hedge	55.00	9.63	64.63
Secret Gardens – Preseason cut Village Green	125.00		125.00
Waste Recycling	119.00		119.00
Internet	44.29		44.29
Secret Gardens – Boundary Markers	35.00		35.00
Miracle Cleaning Litter	76.00	13.32	89.32
Total for April	856.63	22.95	879.58

Finances to be agreed, Proposed by K Jordan, Seconded by T Gates, Unanimous .

A cheque had been sent to GYBC for £50,000.00 being the second instalment on the loan for the new play area.

Draft minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting had been distributed. It had been agreed to put Insurance on the May Agenda to enable the contents of the cover to be scrutinised.

Correspondence

Lighting Medical Centre: A letter had been received from Peter Graves at the Planning Office following a discussion with the Clerk. It proposed that if the developer would pay to install footpath lighting that the Parish Council would then assume responsibility for their upkeep and running costs. It was agreed that bollard type low energy lighting would be the most suitable and that the running costs would be negligible. It was asked whether Coastal Villages Practice should be asked to contribute toward the

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running costs as the lights were specifically for the people using the medical centre. Enquiries would be made about running costs.

Resolved: To accept the proposal in principle.

Audit Commission: Letter confirming appointment of external auditor for coming financial year.

Funfair: The permit for use had been received from Grays.

GYBC Planning: Permission to remove one Willow Tree at rear of 54 The Green.

St Marys Parish Church: Request to use Village Green fortnightly from May to September. Permit for use completed. No objections.

Liaison Meetings: Letter received from Bradwell Parish Council asking about interest in continuing the pre-liaison and liaison meetings. It was agreed that Martham give this their full support and that the clerk should attend on behalf of the council. New delegates would be appointed in May.

Footways/Highways

The matter of the trees overhanging Black Street was once again mentioned. These should have been removed or cut back in January. The clerk was instructed to inform Highways.

It was reported that the four crossways junction was increasingly dangerous. The clerk would liaise with highways about possible safety measures.

Borough Cllr Coleman offered to find out what he could and pass the information back.

Footpaths

In view of the changes in planning procedures it was asked whether the Broads Authority would be taking over various footpaths. It was agreed that further clarification was necessary. Cllr Horrocks agreed to contact Eilish Rothney, Broads Authority, and request confirmation in writing that NCC are now responsible for putting all footpaths. After the meeting that the Broads Authority held in Martham, we had been promised extracts of boundary maps and explanations. To date none of this had been received.

Personnel

A memo from the Personnel Working Party regarding the new arrangements for Peter Dawson's official start date had been distributed to all Councillors.

Resolved: That these arrangements had been noted and agreed

The Council were reminded that the Training Evening would be the following Wednesday in the Methodist Room starting at 19.00hrs.

Communications

It was reported that some of the Parish Council Open Morning Surgeries were in need of cover.

A Newsletter had been put together and given to the Parish Magazine for inclusion in the May edition.

Allotments

It was reported that almost all the rents had been collected.

Recycling

It was reported that the recycling programme has resulted in a profit of £1051.62 from the glass banks and about £16 from the shoes.

Nominations

The Chairman then reminded the Council that next month would be election of Officers. All nominations for Chairman and Vice-chairman should preferably be given to the Clerk prior to the May meeting. The Chairman also reminded the Council that no-one should be nominated without their consent.

There being no further business for the open meeting the chairman asked that a resolution be passed to exclude press and public.

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Resolve: Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that due to the confidential nature of the financial matters that needed discussing that the public and press be asked to leave the meeting during consideration of these items.

Resolved: Unanimous

There being no further business, the main meeting closed at 21:10hrs.

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

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