

**Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting  
held in the Martham Methodist School Room on 17 October 2007  
at 19:30 hrs.**

**Those Present:**

*Councillors:*

J Beales; T Brookman; B Carberry; T Gates; M Horrocks; M Huke; B Huxtable. K Jordan; P Manifold; and B Wright.

**Presiding:** M Huke

*Others:* PC Cook.

Clerk in attendance: Peter Dawson. Together with 2 members of the public.

**Apologies**

County Councillor M Carttiss; Borough Councillors B Coleman & M Coleman

**PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no substantive items raised during the public forum.

**Police Report:** PC Cook said there was deemed to be insufficient evidence to take action following arrests in respect of incidents at the Staithe reported at last month's meeting. The speeding equipment had not been available for use in Black Street as requested but would receive attention soon. The positioning of the parked van near the DIY in Cess Road had been addressed.

The serious thefts and vandalism at the boatyard over the previous weekend were raised with the Officer by members.

PC Cook also reported that he had spoken to Mr Quirk as a result of an issue raised by a resident at the Parish Surgery held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**1. Apologies**

Councillor T Watson had tendered his apology for being a little late as a result of attendance at a Luncheon Club meeting as representative of the Parish Council.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor B Wright – Allotment holder.

Councillor J Beales for item 6.2 in respect of the Children's Centre.

Councillor K Jordan for item 7.2 as Chair of the Boat Dyke Trust and item 7.6 in respect of the Playing Field Grant.

**3. Minutes of Meeting held on 19 September 2007**

These having been circulated previously it was *proposed by* K Jordan, *seconded by* M Horrocks and unanimously agreed that the minutes be duly signed as a true record.

**4. Matters Arising - None.**

**5. Planning**

The Chairman read through the schedule of planning applications provided for information. Concerns were raised about the high price of so called 'affordable housing' at two development sites and the Chairman said that he would be investigating these and asking the Planning Department if there were any guidelines for what constituted 'affordable' and how quotas were monitored by the Borough Council.

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

Councillor T Watson joined the meeting at this point being 19.54 hours.

### **6. Correspondence**

- 6.1 The list of correspondence as previously circulated was noted for information.
- 6.2 Under letter reference 207/2007 Councillor J Beales was appointed as Parish Council liaison representative for the Trinity Children's Centre.
- 6.3 It was noted that Councillors Huke, Jordan and Wright would be attending a meeting with Cadge & Gilbert on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2007 and that Councillor Brookman would be representing the Council at a meeting with the Norfolk Criminal Justice Board on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

### **7. Finance**

- 7.1 The revised list of invoices for payment shown at appendix 'A' were AGREED. *Proposed by B Carberry seconded by K Jordan. Unanimous.*
- 7.2 The Finance Committee had met on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2007 and recommended that as Custodial Trustees the Council pays bills on behalf of the Boat Dyke Trust under which the Council could reclaim the VAT element. *Proposed by P Manifold, seconded by J Beales. Unanimous.*
- 7.3 The Finance Committee had met on 10<sup>th</sup> October and recommended that the public be consulted on ways to distribute the surplus income from successful recycling and that a future meeting of the full Council consider environmental and community projects for investment. *Proposed by T Brookman, seconded by B Carberry. Unanimous.*
- 7.4 The Finance Committee had met on 10<sup>th</sup> October and recommended that the Clerk's hours be increased from 15 to 16.5 per week with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008. *Proposed by K Jordan, seconded by T Watson. Unanimous.*
- 7.5 The Finance Committee had met on 10<sup>th</sup> October and recommended that rent for the Smees be reviewed in 2008-09. It was AGREED that the Finance Committee should review the rents annually at its budget fixing meeting. *Proposed by M Huke, seconded by T Watson. Unanimous.*
- 7.6 **2008-09 Budget.** The Finance Committee had met on 10<sup>th</sup> October and recommended the budget shown at appendix 'B' and Council AGREED the budget as submitted. *Proposed by M Huke, seconded by P Manifold. Unanimous.*  
It was AGREED during the course of discussion that representatives of St Mary's Church be invited to meet with members of the Finance Committee to discuss issues around the annual grant given by the Council.  
It was also AGREED to seek a meeting with the Playing Field Trustees in respect of their grant application for 2008-9.  
The Clerk was asked to request meetings with both parties.

### **8. Footways/Highways**

**Cess Road and Quirks.** It was AGREED to defer this item to the next meeting when further information would be available.

9. **Footpaths**

Councillor Horrocks informed members that a site meeting was being arranged with the NCC to consider footpath maintenance issues.

10 **Personnel**

Councillor Brookman reported that the new Clerk's three month probationary period had been completed and wholeheartedly recommended that he be appointed permanently. *Proposed by T Brookman, seconded by M Horrocks. Unanimous.* Councillor Horrocks provided written confirmation.

11. **Communication**

11.1 Councillor Jordan briefed members on progress made to seek tenders to replace three notice boards and cease using the one at the Post Office. The results of tenders are expected before the next meeting of the Council.

11.2 The Clerk presented the draft of a new Council information leaflet suggested for general use. It was AGREED to use the leaflet and the Communications Working Party was asked to consider ways of having it delivered to all households in the village.

12. **Small Works** – nothing to report.

13. **Allotments** – nothing to report.

14. **Young Persons**

Councillor Carberry reported that new volunteers had come forward which meant there was every possibility of the Youth Club opening again in January 2008.

15. **Recycling**

Councillor Beales reported that the written agreement for a new recycling site at the Kings Arms PH was expected shortly.

16. **Standing Orders**

Councillor P Manifold proposed the following amendment to Standing Orders following existing paragraph 21:-

“21a Alteration of Resolution

A member may, with the consent of his seconder, move amendments to his own resolution.

21b. Rescission of Previous Resolution

i) A decision (whether affirmative or negative) of the Council shall not be reversed within six months except either by a special resolution, the written notice whereof bears the names of at least four members of the Council, or by a resolution moved in pursuance of the report or recommendation of a committee.

ii) When a special resolution or any other resolution moved under the provisions of paragraph (i) of this Order has been disposed of, no similar resolution may be moved within a further six months.”

*Proposed by P Manifold, seconded by B Huxtable. Unanimous.*

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

**17. Green and Open Spaces**

- 17.1 The Clerk was asked to contact Highways and ask for a replacement tree where the one had been removed from outside 21 Black Street and two walnut trees to replace those removed from Rowan Road.
- 17.2 Councillor Huxtable gave an update about the procurement of Damgate Staithe. He was authorised to spend up to an estimated £80 in costs.
- 17.3 Councillor Watson reported on problems with vehicles mounting the green in Marlborough Green Crescent because of the loss of posts there. The Clerk was asked to contact Highways to see if these could be replaced.
- 17.4 The Chairman provided details of the cost of work that was needed to the trees around the village green and repairs to the green itself. It was AGREED that the work be put in hand other than that for pruning a tree near telephone lines. The Clerk was asked to write to BT asking for the telephone lines to be put underground. *Proposed by K Jordan, seconded by B Wright. Unanimous.*
- 17.5 The Green and Open Spaces Working Party had proposed improvements to grass cutting in the areas of the new welcome village signs. The proposals were AGREED and the Clerk was asked to seek quotations for the work. *Proposed by K Jordan, seconded by P Manifold. Unanimous.*

**18. Bus Shelters**

- 18.1 Councillors Beales and Watson reported on recent damage by vandals to the Repps Road bus shelter and the potential substantial cost of repairs. It was AGREED that no repairs take place but that a working party of Councillors Beales, Watson and Jordan investigate the possibility of replacing the Repps Road shelter with a more robust structure and also look into the possibility of having a bus shelter at Hemsby Road.
- 18.2 It was noted that the transfer of ownership of the Somerton Road bus shelter from Great Yarmouth Borough Council had been completed and the chairman was authorised to sign the formal agreement. The Clerk was asked to prepare a specification of repairs to the shelter to be considered by the Small Works Working Party.

**19. Items for Next Meeting**

Cess Road and Quirks.  
The future of Martham First School site.

The next meeting was confirmed as being at 19.30 hrs. on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2007.

***There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:41 hours.***

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