

**Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting  
held in the School Room, Methodist Church, Repps Road, Martham  
on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2008 at 19:30 hrs.**

**PUBLIC FORUM**

The Vice Chairman presided over the meeting in the absence of the Chairman and opened the public forum by welcoming one member of the public and Borough Councillor Barry Coleman. Apologies were received from County Councillor Michael Carttiss, Borough Councillor Mary Coleman and PC Cook.

The Vice Chairman announced that there would be no election of parish councillors on 1<sup>st</sup> May as only the existing eleven members had put their names forward and were therefore all elected unopposed.

Councillor Watson had attended a meeting the previous evening at Potter Heigham concerning proposals contained in the Natural England paper that considered the option of doing nothing to prevent potential flooding of approximately 25 square miles of north Norfolk coastline. A petition was circulated with a request that members sign it so that it could be sent on behalf of the Parish Council.

A parishioner and Councillor Coleman opened a debate on parking problems at Marlborough Green Crescent and Hamilton Walk that particularly involve anti-social parking on grass verges. It was noted that NCC had recently made a good job of repairing some of the verges that were immediately damaged by indiscriminate parking of vans. Various potential solutions were discussed including police involvement, bollards, trees, by-laws, notices on offending vans and/or to operating companies. It was noted that this matter was also included for discussion on the full agenda.

Councillor Coleman handed in details, for circulation, of current telephone response times at the Borough Council.

The public forum session ended at 19:43 hours.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**Those Present:**

*Councillors:* J Beales; T Brookman; B Carberry; T Gates; M Horrocks; K Jordan; P Manifold; T Watson; B Wright.

***Presiding:*** K Jordan, Vice Chairman

Clerk in attendance: Peter Dawson.

**1. Apologies**

It was agreed to accept apologies for absence from Councillors Huke and Huxtable.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor B Wright declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in item 12 as an allotment holder.

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

These having been circulated with the agenda it was resolved to AGREE the minutes. ***Proposed by M Horrocks, seconded by B Carberry. Unanimously agreed.*** The Vice Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

#### 4. **Actions arising from the minutes**

It was reported that damage continues to be done to the small green outside Broadland Fuels by a vehicle and trailer despite the owner being asked not to park there. PC Cook is to be asked to take action if possible.

#### 5. **Planning**

The schedule of comments on planning applications received for consultation was approved.

#### 6. **Correspondence**

- 6.1 Letter No 36 – The Boat Dyke Trust had sent notification that Peter Crighton's term of office as a trustee expires on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008. The Personnel WP was asked to advertise the vacancy and select a candidate.
- 6.2 Letter No 37 – Flegg High School had written requesting non-financial support for their application for grants to provide a new biomass boiler. It was AGREED to defer consideration of the request until the next meeting whilst further information concerning sustainability is gathered. **Proposed by P Manifold, seconded by B Carberry. Agreed.**
- 6.3 Letter No 44 – Mr M Smith had written giving notice to terminate his tenancy of Smea No2 (off Common Road). Following discussions Councillor Jordan and Manifold agreed to investigate the possibility of converting this land into a nature reserve or wildlife habitat.
- 6.4 Letter No 45 – A resident of Marlborough Green Crescent had written complaining about vehicles parking on verges and destroying the grass. She had asked if anything could be done about it having already contacted Norfolk County Highways. It was AGREED to bring this matter to the notice of PC Cook and to ask Norfolk County Council to install bollards.
- 6.5 Letter No 50 – questions were asked about the speed safety camera findings in this letter and it was pointed out that further information was available from Janet Overton on 01603 276433.
- 6.6 Letter No 51 – An invitation to attend the Norfolk AGM of the Society of Local Council Clerks had been received. It was decided not to send a representative.
- 6.7 An application from Mr Daubney to access the village green for re-thatching 47 The Green was AGREED subject to him paying for any resulting damage to the Green.
- 6.8 The balance of the schedule of correspondence provided with the agenda for information was received.

#### 7. **Finance**

The schedule of invoices circulated with the agenda was approved for payment. **Proposed by T Brookman, seconded by B Carberry. Unanimously agreed.**

#### 8. **Footways/highways**

- 8.1 It was AGREED that NCC be asked to provide road safety markings including chevrons at the entrance to the village on Hemsby Road, Repps Road, Rollesby Road and Somerton Road. **Proposed by T Brookman, seconded by T Watson. Unanimously agreed.**
- 8.2 Information concerning the private ownership of the footway between Black Street and Nursery Close had been obtained and was noted. The Clerk was asked to inform the residents of Nursery Close about the findings.

#### 9. **Footpaths**

- 9.1 Mrs Fields of Black Street had requested that the council take action to get a formal right of way dedication for the track that runs from between 23 Black Street and 1 Grove Farm Cottages across the fields towards Sandy Lane which she says she has walked for 30 years. Members of the Footpaths WP were asked to contact Mrs Fields and make a site visit with her.
- 9.2 Concern was expressed that a gate had been erected that blocked access to footpath No2 at the junction of Ferrygate Lane and The Staithe. Councillor Jordan agreed to investigate this matter and report back.

**10. May Fair/Communications**

- 10.1 It was noted that a submission had been made to the EDP Pride in Norfolk awards.
- 10.2 Councillors Beales and Horrocks reported that plans for the May Fair were well in hand but that volunteer helpers would be appreciated.
- 10.3 A suggestion had been received that the Christmas lights to the three trees on the main green be turned on during the Saturday evening events of the Carnival and May Fair.  
*Proposed by T Brookman, seconded by T Watson. Agreed by a majority of 5 votes to 4.*

**11. Small Works**

Nothing to report but the Working Party was asked to ensure that the welcome village sign on Hemsby Road was properly in place.

**12. Allotments**

Rents are currently being collected.

**13. Recycling**

- 13.1 A request from the Sports and Social Club to have glass recycling banks at the Playing Field with the benefit of recycling credits going to the Parish Council was AGREED.  
*Proposed by B Wright, seconded by T Watson. Unanimously agreed.*
- 13.2 It was reported the Borough Council had organised clothes banks at a number of venues across the Borough and offered one to the Parish Council. It was AGREED that this offer be accepted and a clothes bank be placed on the car park near the Co-op subject to a detailed agreement yet to be received from the Borough Council.

**14. Planting of Open Spaces**

Plans were submitted of six areas for proposed planting of spring and wild flowers for the general improvement of the village to be paid for out of recycling income. It was AGREED to adopt the proposals and the Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements with NCC Highways Department. *Proposed by T Watson, seconded by T Gates. Unanimously agreed.*

**15. Staithe Road Open Space Improvements**

The working party had recommended that the contract for improvements be awarded to Simmons Landscaping in the sum of £21,120 plus VAT. The Clerk was asked to submit a section 106 funding grant application to Great Yarmouth Borough Council to pay for these works.

**16. Items for Next Agenda**

- Clothes recycling
- Boat Dyke Trust vacancy for a trustee

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008 and the next Public Surgery is on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2008 when the representatives are Councillors Beales and Jordan. The Annual Parish Meeting is being held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008 in the School Room at 19:30 hrs.

The meeting closed at 21.05 hours.

Signed..... Dated.....  
Chairman