

**Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting
held in the School Room, Methodist Church, Repps Road, Martham
on 17th December 2008 at 19:30 hrs.**

PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairman opened the public forum by welcoming four members of the public, Borough Councillors Barry & Mary Coleman, County Councillor M Carttiss and PC Cook.

Terry Boddy of Church Farm Homes, Stalham spoke to explain the details of his firm's proposals to demolish the bungalow at 49 Somerton Road and build six low cost flats on the site.

Two residents asked what the Council was doing to get the blocked Nursery Close passageway opened and what the Council was doing to recover the £1,000 donated to Mr Fields of Rose Lawn, Black Street to brick weave his drive that he has since gated. The Chairman repeated that the Council had attempted to mediate over the matter of the blocked Nursery Close passage but it was essentially a neighbour boundary dispute. No comment could be made at this time concerning the gated drive to Rose Lawn.

Ann Meakin asked if the Council could do something about getting repairs done to hollows in the footway near No35 White Street and if something could be done about a clearer demarcation line between the road and pavement area in front of the Village Hall where cars park. She also asked if 'pimple' paving could be provided at the existing drop kerb points near the Village Hall and Baptist Church. The Clerk was asked to take up these matters with NCC Highways.

PC Cook said that the speed measurement strips would be deployed in Black Street for two weeks commencing on 8th January 2009.

The public forum ended at 19.49 hours.

COUNCIL MEETING

Those Present:

Councillors: J Beales; T Brookman; B Carberry; T Gates; M Horrocks; M Huke and K Jordan.

Presiding: M Huke.

Clerk in attendance: Peter Dawson.

1. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Councillors Huxtable, Manifold, Watson and Wright.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the previous Council Meeting held on 19th November 2008.

These having been circulated with the agenda it was resolved to AGREE the minutes. ***Proposed*** by T Gates, ***seconded*** by B Carberry and ***unanimously agreed.***

4. Actions arising from the minutes

4.1 Councillor Brookman reported in respect of the Safer Neighbourhood Team Network meeting he had attended on the same evening as the last meeting. The previous monitoring exercise carried out by the PCSO's in Black Street revealed no instances of excessive speed but as mentioned by PC Cook the speed strips would be provided in January. The three issues selected for major attention over the next three months are vigilance to combat instances of oil/diesel theft; advice to motorists on safety checks; and parking issues in and around the centre of Martham.

PCSO Meri Blunsden had been appointed to a job with the regular force but this meant that

the post would not be re-filled. Councillor K Jordan **proposed** that the Clerk be asked to write to find out the reason why the post was not being filled, **seconded** T Brookman, **unanimously agreed**.

4.2 Path at the play area. A specification for a tarmac path to service the play area had been agreed with Martham Coronation Recreation Ground and tenders had been invited which it was anticipated should be available for consideration at the January meeting of the Council.

5. Planning

The proposal to provide low cost flats on the site of 49 Somerton Road was welcomed. The schedule of comments on planning applications received for consultation was approved.

Proposed M Huke, **seconded** by B Carberry and **unanimously agreed**.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Letter No 179 – display the Citizens Advice Bureau notice on the Council’s notice boards but there was no action on the request for a grant.

6.2 Letter No 184 – The Clerk was asked to send a letter to Norfolk County Council supporting the proposal for a ‘No Cold Calling Zone’ to be introduced at Grove Road.

6.3 Letter No 188 – NCC lighting replacements. The Clerk was asked to obtain any examples for Martham.

7. Finance

The schedule of invoices circulated with the agenda for payment was approved subject to an additional invoice for £194.25 plus VAT of £29.14 being paid to A.A. Joinery for replacement cables and a transformer to ensure the Christmas lights on The Greens worked. **Proposed** by K Jordan, **seconded** by B Carberry and **unanimously agreed**.

8. Footways/highways

Nothing to report.

9. Footpaths

Nothing to report.

10. Communications

Nothing to report.

11. Small Works

Nothing to report.

12. Allotments

It was reported that plans are being made to extend the new water supply to the centre of the site in the spring.

13. Christmas Fayre

The Chairman congratulated Councillors Beales and Horrocks and the volunteers who had worked hard to make the fayre a success. Councillor Beales said there had been an overwhelming demand for stalls and many repeat requests already for next year. Income from stall rents, the raffle and donations had raised £664 which Councillor Beales **proposed** should be donated to the Radio Broadland Kids Appeal. **Seconded** by M Horrocks and **unanimously agreed**. Councillor Beales was asked to find out if there would be an official handing over ceremony.

14. Luncheon Club

Councillor Gates reported that a new cooker had been provided at Hemsby and that the cook had been given a wage increase. Meal prices would increase to £3.50 each from 1st January 2009. The Martham club has a waiting list but there are a small number of vacancies at Hemsby.

15. Youth Club

The poor state of repair of the building and surrounding grounds was noted. Rumours continued to be circulated that NCC was going to give up the building but still nothing official had been received. The Clerk was asked to write to NCC to ask them to maintain the building and grounds in accordance with the lease and to send a copy to Councillor Carttiss.

16. Staithe Road Scouts HQ Land

The Chairman informed Members that the Scouts had applied for grant funding from various bodies to help provide a new HQ at the Staithe Road site and were expecting decisions in February 2009. An open letter of support had been sent in the hope that it would help with their funding applications.

Quotes had been requested to provide and plant hedging along the southern, roadside, boundary of the site and Simons Landscaping had been reminded that they were due to finish off grass seeding and tree planting at the site.

17. Items for the Next Agenda:

New bus shelter at Repps Road.

18. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday, 21st January 2009. It was agreed that there will be no public surgery on 27th December because of the Christmas holidays.

19. At this point the public and press were asked to leave as the Council was going to hold an in camera meeting.

The meeting closed at 20.30 hours.

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