

DITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

1. The 2011 July meeting was held in the village hall on Monday 18th at 7.30p.m. with Cllr. Green in the Chair and the following present - Cllrs.M.C.& M.P.Ankrett,Bent, Chadd, Cossey, James, Kirkpatrick, Mulley, Pegg & Weston together with clerk John Smith. Also present were district councillor Allen and six members of the public,who for the first time were provided with agendas.

2.Prior to Minutes attention was drawn to the approx. times expected to be devoted to various agenda items. The minutes were agreed and signed.

3.Business arising

Footpath light had originally been agreed and, until such time(six months hence) if the council felt it necessary, could be discussed further.

Section 137 together with council statutory powers were in councillors' possession.

Council insurance covered every foreseeable eventuality & the clerk listed these.

Norfolk sign Highways now had this and it was expected to be in place within days.

4.Report Updates

With no police present the clerk was instructed to ascertain the date of last visit.

Dis.Cllr. Allen was happy to report an £1800 grant to our village hall and spoke of the costly failed exploratory talks with other district councils considered by SNC for co-operative working.

5.The signed 1st qtr. Internal Audit confirmed the balances held, and the 1st qtr. budget position brought little comment with the clerk reporting that it was much as expected.

Cheques had all been agreed & signed since the last meeting, and were –

D.Fairhead-Honorarium £100/Norse-2nd cuts & 6 monthly £1455.24/Zurich-insce.

£407.06/Clerk-petty cash £125.64(inc.£104 litter picking)/Atlantic-P.Area £45.12/

Beales-'phone £49.99/Clerk-salary £661.89/Ladywell-annual tax handling £25/HM

Rev&Customs tax £330.80/Norse 3rd cuts £978.34/Talk Talk-£44.87.

6. Community involvement

Broome presentation from NRCC on Community Planning & the Good Neighbour Scheme was reported on by Cllrs.M.C.Ankrett and Pegg who stated that lively debate from the well attended meeting followed the speakers' session. On closing a show of hands indicated that attendees from both Broome and Ditchingham were keen to explore joint opportunities for both schemes, whilst attendees from both Hedenham and Thwaite were less committal. Following this report the two topics were debated at some length with councillors generally recognising the benefits of both initiatives, and of joint working with Broome, albeit that they remained sceptical as to the practicalities of getting the schemes " off the ground". The Chair agreed to consult further with Broome on establishing a joint steering group prior to our next meeting, and Cllr.Allen offered to approach both Hedenham and Thwaite for their further considered views.



5th Sept 11

Waveney Valley Identity Project is a 3 year project to increase tourism and Chairman Green had attended the meeting on 12th July and reported that £3.3million would be put into the scheme.

Information on the forthcoming Eastern Rivers Neighbourhood Board meeting was reported with it being held at Brooke on the 19th July.

8.30p.m. County Councillor Tomkinson arrived having been at a previous meeting .

7. Modernising this council opened with the paper presented by vice chairman Weston being elaborated upon and debate followed with explanation as to why change was necessary. More work between meetings by councillors who could take responsibility for certain council activities and liaising with the clerk so enabling the two monthly meetings to be more focused. Communications left much to be desired with a more modern approach necessary. Times of meetings could be changed. Lively debate followed and whilst more participation by councillors was deemed to be a good thing conclusions were not reached.

At this point the Chair's proposals for Agenda format/Rules and Etiquette were distributed. Standing Orders too would need updating. Chairman Green requested that councillors all write some 100 words for use with a photograph so as to let residents be aware of who is representing them. Again debate in depth followed with the chair explaining his desire and need for this council to move forward. His proposal for a prior meeting to September was not taken up but it was agreed that he with the vice chair and clerk would meet to categorise the salient points for discussion in September.

9.20p.m. Councillor James (who had earlier informed the chair of early departure) left.

8. Planning information, as detailed on the agenda, was given, with one for 9 The Loke ext. on show and approved. SNC approvals were 573 Ext.1 Lewis Close/589 Cons. 43 Hollow Hill Rd/1885 Detached bungalow & garage Black Horse Lane.

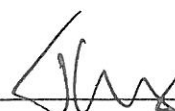
Local Dev. Framework one site added in Ditchingham. It was unanimously agreed that it was still not felt necessary for sites additional to Ditchingham Maltings & our existing position would be restated.

Min. & Waste Dev. Framework Consultation would end late August and it was agreed that we affirm our original comments.

9.40pm At this point Cllrs. Ankretts' and Chadd apologised for having to leave.

9. Copies of the Play Area annual inspection were distributed and Cllr. Weston reported that he and the clerk had done several of the small items. It was unanimously agreed that the K. Last's tender for painting all equipment be put in hand and any other work deemed necessary was authorised using balances held for the purpose.

10. It was reported that allotment holders' did not intend to have a Pumpkin Comp. A member of the public was allowed to raise concerns on the mis-use of the Clark/Longrigg Road amenity area and the chairman agreed to represent this to the appropriate people at Brooke meeting of 19/07/11 (see above).


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11. Correspondence

Training Session invitation especially for new councillors, at Long Stratton on the 14th September 6-8p.m. was accepted by most new councillors and the chair.

Lighting in the Affordable Housing area was deemed to be desired and NCC offer to take responsibility for it was accepted.

Kings Lynn Incinerator-Cllr.Kirkpatrick's proposal that the scheme be supported was 2nd by Cllr.Pegg and carried after an amendment not to do so was defeated.

An invitation to support the Norfolk Safety Camera Partnership Proposal had been immediately accepted and developments were awaited.

An invitation to Twin wirth a French village of 2,000 inhabitants would be considered at the September meeting.

Maltings-possible development by the P.J.Livesey Group (developers of the old Read's project in Norwich) was reported by the clerk and they were wishing to set up an exhibition so as to gain local opinion. Authorisation was given for him to put this in motion.

U O B

County councillor Tomkinson expressed the wish that he would have liked to have commented on the Kings Lynn incinerator.

Cllr. Mulley reported that new kerbstones near the bus shelter had resulted in large puddles forming after rain and county councillor Tomkinson would investigate.

Public Participation

David Fairhead queried his position if doing work on the Play Area with regard to current legislation but Cllr.Weston was able to allay his fears.

Sharon Cheer commented on a possible council web-site and with any proposed committee able to co-opt the project could be feasible and would be an agenda item.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.


5th Sept. 11