

Minutes of Ashwellthorpe & Fundenhall Parish Council Meeting 17th July 2007.

Present: Mr B Duffin (Chairman), Mr H Smith, Mrs L Preston, Mrs C Bushell, Mr G Kelly, Mr J Brooks, Mr G Betts, Ms S Burton (Parish Clerk).

Apologies: None.

Minutes of previous meeting: These were approved and signed By Mr B Duffin.

Planning:

1. Taylor's Garden Industrial Estate, Ashwellthorpe; Demolition of existing building & erection of new building. **It has been confirmed by the applicants agent that the road is owned by the applicant, and with this in mind the Parish Council felt it appropriate to request that the road be brought up to a suitable standard and also maintained to that same standard in the future. The issue of noise and hours of business to be imposed so as not to interrupt or affect residents nearby. The enforcement of the Environmental Agencies Report to be referred to with this planning application. This was proposed by Mr G Betts and seconded by Mr G Kelly.**
2. 1&2 Whipp's Lane; Form new entrance, **approved**
3. Mr D Reeder, Timber Yard; Erection of two no. semi- detached cottages., **Mr B Duffin queried that the parking space provision was in adequate and perhaps could be revised. Mrs L Preston felt that the lack of amenity space should be mentioned. Mrs C Bushell stated she felt it matched the other two proposed semi detached properties on the other side of the proposed development. The planning application was approved all in favour.**
4. Mr Grady - Improving access opposite New Road for agricultural access Mr H Smith suggested a request be made for a sufficient sized drainage pipe under the new entrance due to previous flooding problems. **Approved with above comment.**

Correspondence:

1. SNC Parish Member standards committee has a vacancy ballot paper attached
2. Greater Norwich Development Partnership, (Information)
3. SLCC joining information & subscription details
4. NCC No smoking legislation information
5. SNC Planning consent for land to rear of 35 The Street Ashwellthorpe
6. Greater Norwich Housing Partnership information news sheet
7. Parish & Town Councils nomination of Officers for 2007/2008
8. Parish & Town Councils Members Handbooks now available @ £3.75 each
9. Norfolk Parish Training Partnership – dates of training sessions
10. Parish & Town Councils Norfolk Link News booklet
11. Greater Norwich Development Partnership Rural Issues booklets

Accounts:

Balance of Community Account £569.69

Balance of Business Premium Account £3344.44

Ms S Burton will look into changing the bank accounts to Norwich & Peterborough Building Society.

Village Hall invoice for £33.00 paid & handed to Mr G Betts.

Parish Clerk:

Mr B Duffin advised the Parish Council that Ms S Burton had agreed to stay on as Parish Clerk and requested that all Parish Councillors support the Clerk fully. The issue of training was mentioned and it was agreed by all that training would be very beneficial.

Sub Committee & Procedures:

Mr B Duffin wished for all Parish Councillors to become more involved in aspects of the Parish Council i.e. Admin, Planning, Footpaths & Highways problems. Mr G Betts brought up the issue of meetings being public and minuted correctly. Mrs L Preston suggested that perhaps the Parish Councillors were confused as to what was being suggested and that the groups of smaller committees would be more of a fact finding group or a liaison group that could provide the whole Parish Council with detailed information at the Parish Council meetings.

Mrs L Preston also requested more detailed Agendas. It was agreed that the issue of Liaison Groups / Sub Committees be brought up at a future meeting.

Parish Computer:

Mr G Kelly advised the Parish Council that there had been an agreement made in March 2002 with South Norfolk Council that Ashwellthorpe & Fundenhall Parish Council would pay the sum of £150.00 to SNC for computer equipment. This was minuted at the meeting 19.03.2002. This needed to be paid to SNC and Mr G Kelly proposed to pay £150.00, this was seconded by Mrs L Preston.

It had been previously requested by Mr S Weiner that the Parish Computer be re located to the Village Hall, but the issue of security was still a problem.

Mr G Kelly agreed to set up another email account for the use of the Parish Council emails and agendas etc. It was agreed on this basis that the computer equipment be left at Mr G Kelly's house for the purposes of Parish Council business.

Mr H Smith will enquire at South Norfolk Council offices if there is a spare printer for Ms S Burton to use for her role as Parish Clerk. At present Ms S Burton is using all her own equipment but the printer is currently broken and need replacing.

NRCC Survey:

Mr C Bushell will enquire the length of the presentation and if it will be a reasonably short meeting then it is agreed for this to take place at the next Parish Council meeting on 21.08.07

Highways & Footpaths:

A grant has been applied for by Mr H Smith for the new notice board., and has been successful Mr H Smith will order the new boards and arrange for the sitting with Highways at the bottom of New Road and adjacent to the old shop in the Village of Ashwellthorpe.

The problems of the school bus running frequently out of school hours through Fundenhall will cease to run from 19.07.07 as Semmence has lost the contract.

The problem street light in Greenwood Close has been fixed.

Mr Elliot complained that the pavement running along The Street to New Road was covered in brambles and in a 'poor state'; Mr P Muskett advised that he had been away and would arrange for the cutting of his hedges as soon as possible.

Norfolk County Council has advised that the cutting of footpaths is now solely the responsibility of the Landowner. Mr H Smith suggested that a list of footpaths in poor state and condition be sent to N.C.C. asking them to write to the landowners and request that next year they be 'sprayed off' hopefully to re-open the footpath.

Mr J Brooks reported that a footbridge on Ketts way needs urgent attention as it has rotted through in one place and presents a danger. Ms S Burton will write to NCC officially to request that this matter be looked into. Mr J Brooks will supply all relevant information to Ms S Burton, as Mr Brooks currently has all information for this issue.

District Councillor Report:

Mr H Smith has already arranged for the replacement of name signs in Fundenhall, which has been undertaken and the new signs are already in place.

The unitary bid results will be available early next week.

Mr H Smith has arranged for the grass verges to be cut by SNC and also maintained by SNC on a regular basis. SNC have placed no dog's signs at the play area in Knyvett Green, but Mr H Smith has spoken to the relevant people at SNC and has been advised that there are no immediate plans to enforce these notices at present.

There is currently a Police Community Support Officer in place and the programme as a whole will be rolled out from 24.09.07.

There is nothing new to report on the Gypsy & Travellers plans at present.

One final comment made by Mr H Smith was that the reserves at SNC are at their worst ever figures and finances will be very tight.

County Councillor Report:

Mr B Spratt was absent from the meeting.

AOB:

Mr H Smith has sent an email thank you to the footpaths officer and wished for this to be minuted.

The email requesting an allotment space should be replied to stating that there were no allotments in the Village.

Mr B Duffin & Mr G Kelly both apologised for the next meeting on 21.08.07.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.55pm.