

**Ashwellthorpe & Fundenhall Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

**Present:-** Mr B Duffin, Mrs C Bushell, Mr H Smith, Mrs L Preston, Mr J Brooks, Mr G Betts, Mr G Kelly

**Apologies: -** No apologies

**Minutes of February Meeting: -** These had been circulated previously and were duly signed by the Chairman. Mr Duffin also advised that Ms S Burton had returned all outstanding PC property but that it still required sorting out.

**Correspondence: -**

1. From SNDC re Local Government Review
2. From SNDC re role of Parish Councils under the 2005 Licensing Act. Requested that this be sent to Parish Councillors
3. From SNDC re Sustainable Settlements Database – Questionnaire not returned. No knowledge of outstanding questionnaire
4. From SNDC re approval of planning application for Bellars Barn revisions to design and extension to floor area.
5. From SNDC re Rural Post Office closure programme plus posters ‘ Support your Local Post Office’
6. From SNDC re Car Park Review
7. From SNDC re Ballot for additional member of Standards Committee
8. From SNDC re approval of planning application 126 The Street – insertion of 2 windows and french doors.
9. From The Standards Board for England – March Town & Parish Standard –newsletter
10. From South Norfolk Alliance – Nominations for those who wish to be elected onto the Executive Board by 30<sup>th</sup> April.
11. Circulated correspondence
12. From Ecotricity re Re-application for planning permission for wind turbines at Hethel following the withdrawal of the M.o.D’s objections.
13. From P. Muskett requesting that we support him in getting Saffron Housing involved with possible local needs housing on his potential plot. South Norfolk enabling officer Abigail Dennington – Price has deemed that this area should be developed by Flagship Housing. Mr Muskett claimed that Saffron Housing built better quality housing. It was agreed that we should write to the enabling officer in support of Mr Muskett.

**Planning Applications: -**

- 1) H.R.C. Homes ltd - residential development 91 The Street, Ashwellthorpe – against as over development of the site, also loss of open space / views and would prefer to see semi detached bungalows rather than ‘chalet style’ semi detached hoses
- 2) R. Cutts, 122 The Street, Ashwellthorpe – insertion of roof windows – all in favour.
- 3) P. Muskett, Wood Farm, The Street, Ashwellthorpe – Change of use of Cart Barn to domestic storage with alterations etc. – all in favour.

**Accounts: -**

Balance Current Account £364.98

Balance Deposit Account £2681.58

No cheques were issued

**Affordable Housing: -**

Four potential sites had been identified which were: -

1. Field between Lark Rise and Loke Farm on New Road
2. Field next to The Firs on New Road
3. The Wood Yard, The Street, Ashwellthorpe
4. South Side, Common Road, Fundenhall

Mr Smith agreed to propose these sites to the South Norfolk Council enabling officer  
Mr Duffin advised that a further proposal should be available at the next meeting.

**Footpaths & Highways**

A number of parishioners from Fundenhall presented a petition requesting that action be taken to improve the road surfaces of The Street and Brick Kiln Lane. There was also concern about large vehicles and farm machinery using these lanes often at high speed and requesting that a weight restriction be imposed.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should write to NCC Highways Dept requesting action be taken re the poor road surfaces. Mr Smith advised that he had been trying to get a 7.5 ton weight restriction imposed for some time but that he needed evidence to support his actions. It was also agreed that we should write to Mr & Mrs Burrige at Manor Farm Fundenhall requesting that drivers of their farm machinery take extra care whilst driving through these narrow lanes.

Mr Brooks presented a letter from Mr Weatherstone in which he complained about the lack of treatment to the road through Fundenhall during icy conditions- particularly adjacent to Swifts Barn, Church Lane which is prone to black ice. It was agreed that we should include this complaint in our letter to NCC Highways Dept and suggest that the necessary materials be supplied in a suitable container for local residents to apply themselves if the Highways Dept could not carry out the treatment.

Mr Brooks expressed his concern over the state of the public footpaths in the parish. It was agreed that Mr Brooks would write to Mr Wollacot at NCC expressing his concerns and requesting action to improve the footpaths.

**Clerk: -**

Mr Smith advised that the advert for a new clerk had appeared in The Mardle and 1 application had been received. Mrs Bushell will be placing further adverts on the parish notice board  
The job description used previously to be sent to Mr Duffin and it was agreed that Mr Duffin and Mrs Bushell would interview candidates.

**Noticeboards: -**

The current noticeboard at the village hall could not be re-located as intended as it is rear opening. Therefore the new noticeboards will now be installed one at the ex – village shop and one on New Road.

**District Council Report: -**

Mr Smith advised:-

1. The nearest travellers site would be at Suton
2. He was trying to get the Neighbourhood Speed Watch for May / June

**A.O.B.**

The meeting was advised that Mr Taylor had left Greenwood Close so a new street lighting co-ordinator was required.