

Knapton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 11 January 2005 in the Village Hall.

Present:

Alan Young (in the Chair)
Karen Herbert Okey
Norman Dodd
David Ross
Dennis Watmuff
Cllr. Jones and one member of the public

1. Apologies
David Spencer, Henry Wild
2. Declarations of Interest
None.
3. Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 7th December.
They were proposed as a true record by David Ross, seconded by Karen Herbert--Okey and agreed. They were signed and initialed by the Chairman.
4. Matters Arising
 - (a) Village Hall Car Park
Blair Construction Ltd have confirmed in writing (14 December 2004) that the work on the car park will be carried out before March 2005 at a total cost of £6,032, plus VAT. The financial implications are considered under item 5(a).
 - (b) Highways Work on Mundesley Road
This was completed in December. Improvement in traffic flow was noted. It was pointed out, however, that there is no de restricted speed sign between Mundesley and the entrance to the controlled area. The Clerk was asked to query this.
 - (c) Shoreline Management Plan
The Clerk advised that the North Walsham Area Partnership and the Stalham Regeneration Committee are jointly organising a presentation for coastal parishes on 9 February, two representatives per parish. Norman Dodd and David Ross offered to attend. Cllr. Jones was invited to speak on this item. He explained that the existing plan had been in existence for 7 to 8 years, but had proved too expensive. A new plan produced by consultants, the Tyndall Centre of the UEA and the Council's officers, was published in mid-December now required approval by the full Council

and was, therefore, out for consultation. It appears that DEFRA may now be prepared to consider an argument for compensation terms.

The report is circulating.

(d) Preparation for Nelson Celebrations

John Kemp, Chairman of the Fete Committee, was asked to report. He had attended a meeting at NNDC to learn about the plans already being made for the 21-23 October. A document is shortly to be sent to all parishes and a further meeting to be held on 28 January. Norman Dodd and one other councillor will attend. The Chairman proposed setting up a working group, as for the Millennium celebrations. John Kemp suggested putting up a flagpole on the field and lighting the beacon.

(e) Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

It was agreed to invite the Area Organiser to discuss the setting up of a new scheme at the next meeting.

5. Finance

(a) Current Position

The Clerk circulated a document showing the current position, and the obligations to the end of April when the first half of the precept will be paid. It was agreed that it will be necessary to transfer £4000 from the 30-day notice account. The Chairman suggested this could be authorised at the next meeting. Reclaiming the VAT will be an urgent need in order to meet commitments in April and early May.

(b) Clerk's Remuneration of £94.98 was authorised.

(c) Other Payments

(i) North Norfolk District Council £484.10 (inclusive of VAT) for grass-cutting.

(ii) Mundesley District Recreation Association £250 50% grant for cost of paid insurance premium.

(iii) Colin Baxter £63 for gardening.

6. Planning

No new applications.

7. Correspondence

Various notifications of meetings have been received and were announced. Some are to be circulated. Dennis Haynes reported that the footpath alongside the old canal is over-grown and dangerous. David Ross is to look into this. Norman Lamb MP had written about the problem of low-flying aircraft and the difficulty of getting

any response from RAF Coltishall. Dennis Watmuff commented that the routes from and to Coltishall now pass over the local villages whereas previously they went over the Gas Site.

8. Village Matters

(a) Retirement of the Clerk

A quotation had been received from Archant Newspapers of £154.80 plus VAT for 3 entries in the EDP and one in the North Norfolk News. In the light of the financial position set out in item 5(a), it was agreed not to use this method, but to ask the village correspondent to mention the vacancy in her report to the North Norfolk News, to place advertisements in the two local post offices and on the village website, and informally to look for a volunteer from the local community.

(b) Bus Shelter

Karen Herbert-Okey reported that this is deteriorating fast, and is rarely used. It may have to be removed.

(c) Damage

The pedestrian sign on the bend by the entrance to the Street was crashed into again, but NCC Highways repaired it promptly; the wall of a property on Mundesley Road was damaged by a vehicle; and the tree planted for the Jubilee has crashed because of high winds.

(d) Dog Bins

Given the increasing number of dogs in the village, the Clerk was asked to check with NNDC on the provision and clearance of dog bins.

9. Reports

Cllr. Jones, speaking earlier in the meeting, reported that Council house tenants had been sent offer letters by NNDC, and that up to 17 feral cats had been found at Nos 2 and 3 The Green. They will be caught and caged. He asked that in future his report should be presented in the first half of each meeting. This was agreed.

David Ross reported that Sure Start work will begin next week on the newly-equipped playground at MADRA, involving chain-link fencing, new gates, new-style play equipment for young children, safety mats, and repainting of the swings and slides.

Norman Dodd advised he is navigating around the website.

Karen Herbert-Okey reported that footpath signs are not all clearly marked. David

Ross will follow up.

Complaints had been received that the long hedge along the allotments is severely overgrown. The Chairman said he would speak to the landowner Mr. Cargill.

10. Next Meeting.

This will be on 1 February 2005.