

# Knapton Parish Council

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 6 Sept 2005 in the Village Hall.

Present: Alan Young (in the Chair)  
David Ross  
Norman Dodd  
Karen Herbert-Okey

NCC Councillor Wyndham Northam.

## 1. Apologies

Peter Kaye, and Anne-Marie Coe

## 2. Declarations of Interest

None.

## 3. Minutes:

Norman Dodd proposed that the minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of Knapton Parish Council held on 5 July, constituted a true and correct record. David Ross seconded and it was unanimously agreed. The Chairman initialled and signed these minutes.

## 4. Matters Arising

### (a) Allotments

The Parish Clerk had recently passed all historical data to Norman Dodd for review. It is apparent that the current rent paid by allotment holders has remained the same for the past 30 years. Consideration should now be given to reviewing the rent paid. There was a lot of discussion about what needs to take place. It was agreed that priority must be given to residents of Knapton, and a proper written agreement must be established between the Parish Council and each allotment holder. It was proposed by David Ross and seconded by Norman Dodd that the realistic rent charged should be £12 per annum for each one third acre plot. This was carried unanimously. This item will be carried over until the next Council Meeting (October 2005) to allow consultation, plus a suggestion to the allotment holders regarding the formation of an Allotment Committee. Norman Dodd will liaise with George Wiseman and report back next month.

**Action:** Norman Dodd

### (b) Homewatch

David Ross had been in consultation with Norfolk Constabulary with respect to the siting of Homewatch signs. For the major points to be covered, it is proposed that £120 be allocated to purchase 4 signs (The Grove, Old Hall St, Old Rectory, and at the bottom of The Street) and 10 smaller repeater signs. This proposal was seconded by Norman Dodd and carried unanimously.

**Action:** David Ross

**(c) Pigneys Wood**

The Clerk had recently distributed a Management Plan to make the above a local nature reserve. This had been reviewed by the Council, and it was proposed by Karen Herbert-Okey and seconded by Norman Dodd that this plan be endorsed and supported. This was carried unanimously. The Clerk will reply in due course outlining this decision to NNDC.

**(d) Notice Board**

There was discussion about the general state of notice boards in the village. The Clerk stated that even in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century the only real way of conveying information to the village at large was still via notice boards located in and around the Village Hall. Some of these were in need of refurbishment/replacement. Norman Dodd stated he would research some options. This was carried over until the next meeting.

**Action:** Norman Dodd

**(e) Pond Lane sign**

The Clerk had located this sign not far from the signpost in Pond Lane. It was thought that with a little tlc courtesy of Alan Young this sign could be replaced saving the Council the additional expense of purchasing a new item.

**Action:** Alan Young/Clerk

**Update:** This has now been done, and the sign resurrected by Alan Young.

**(f) Highways signs**

Norman Dodd drew the Councils attention to some overgrown highway signs in Hall Lane, and else where in the village; they were a danger to all for they could not be seen due to overgrown hedges and banks. It was agreed that the Clerk shall contact Highways.

**Action:** Clerk

**5. Finance**

**(a) Statement**

The Clerk outlined the current financial situation which was now looking a lot healthier after the major expenditure during the first part of this year. The sum of £1,000 has now been placed in a 30 day business account to act as a contingency fund. The precept for the second part of this year was due at the end of September.

The Clerk asked the Council to consider what amount be sought from NNDC for the financial year 2006/7. After discussion it was proposed by Norman Dodd to keep the same figures as last year ie £4,250 for the full year payable in two equal instalments - April and September 2006. This was seconded by Karen Herbert-Okey and carried unanimously.

**Action:** Clerk

(b) The Clerk's remuneration was authorised.

## 6. Planning

The Clerk related that the recent planning application for 2 School Close had only contained the yellow notice, no plans had been forthcoming. In consultation with the Chairman, the Clerk had consulted with the planners at NNDC asking for time to review the plans, downloaded the plans from the NNDC website and distributed the same to the council members. Norman Dodd will be approaching near neighbours to consult and get back to the Clerk with an answer which can be passed to NNDC.

**Action:** Norman Dodd & Clerk

**Update:** After consultation with all parties, the plans had been passed and permission granted.

## 7. Correspondence

The Clerk stated he had received a letter from CHP Solicitors cancelling the bill for services regarding Land Registration. The Clerk was instructed to write a letter of reply.

**Action:** Clerk

## 8. Village Matters

### (a) Vote of thanks

The Chairman stated that a wonderful time was had by all at this years Village Fete. The Council would like to thank John Kemp and his team for all the hard work that had been put in to make this event such a success. It was understood by the Clerk (though unconfirmed) that the sum of £1200 pounds had been raised. The Clerk undertook to write to John Kemp to formally thank him and the team for such a great day. This was unanimously endorsed by the Council.

**Action:** Clerk

### (b) Nelson Celebrations

David Ross gave the council an update on this event planned for 1830 on 21 October 2005. There will be a programme produced and distribute throughout the village. Essentially though, the Beacon will be light, the Flag raised, a VIP will open the event, then on to MADRA where refreshments can be purchased (a Hog Roast is planned), and a sing-along with a Naval theme, supported by some local choristers. It is also understood the Knapton Church bell ringers would be undertaking a quarter peal of the bells.

## 9. Reports

### (a) MADRA

David Ross stated that problems still existed but the Committee were desperately trying to get back on track. David agreed to keep a watching brief on events.

**Action:** David Ross

(b) **Address** by Councillor Wyndham Northam

The Chairman invited our County Councillor, Wyndham Northam to address the Parish Council. Wyndham gave the Parish Council an update on his areas of involvement at City Hall.

One area Wyndham is involved in is the provision of services including the Fire Service, and stated that the Norfolk Fire Service was held in very high regard nationally and provide a high standard of service. Recently 9 new fast response Fire and Rescue vehicles had been added to the Service. On the Commercial Services side, Wyndham explained due to fact he was a member of the Cabinet, he was a Director of Norfolk County Services (NCS) which worked with City Hall in providing cleaning, maintenance, and support. The profits were shared with City Hall, helping to keep Council Taxes down. Workers in this sector were the unsung heroes of the Council, working to provide cleaning services especially in the area of hospital cleanliness. He was pleased to have recently been involved with Roy Waller in presenting awards to workers who had provided outstanding service in performing this essential work.

With regards to the recent Norwich ring road routing, Wyndham explained that the route which was recommended by NCC was the one that stood the best chance of being accepted by Central Government.

The Chairman thanked Wyndham for this interesting insight into the workings of NCC.

**10. Date of next meeting and agenda items**

Next meeting to be held on Tues Oct 4, at 1930 in the Village Hall.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**Chairman**