

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 5 February 2008 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Alan Young (in the Chair)

Bea Gatfield

Karen Herbert-Okey

Clyte Venvell

Norman Dodd

Peter Kaye

Sally Dodd

2 members of the public

Councillor Wyndham Northam

1. Apologies

Graham Jones.

2. Register of Interests

Norman & Sally Dodd (MADRA, Allotments, and Newsletter), Bea Gatfield (Newsletter) Peter Kaye (Pygneys Wood).

3. Minutes of last meeting

After having read the minutes of the last meeting, it was proposed by Norman Dodd and seconded by Peter Kaye that the minutes constituted a true record of events and were carried.

4. Matters arising

Grass Cutting

The Clerk stated that he had received a quotation of £463.31 plus VAT for the grass to be cut in 2008. As outlined last month, the Clerk has repeatedly sought clarification from NCC regarding what we exactly got for our money. As yet there had still not been a reply.

The Chairman stated he had recently spoken to Andrew Claydon and thanked him for his efforts in keeping the Millennium Field cut. Andrew has stated that he will have to increase the quote this year due to increased fuel costs. The

village has received excellent service over the years from Andrew, and we should publicly recognise this fact. This was wholeheartedly endorsed by the Parish Council. The Clerk will write a letter of thanks.

Action: Clerk.

5. Financial Report

The Parish Clerk being the RFO stated that Knapton Parish Council currently has £699.63 in the current account and £4,094.11 in the Deposit Account. This was after transferring £1,000 from the deposit account. The Clerks remuneration for the past month was submitted and expenses from Karen Herbert-Okey for her return trip to Police HQ in Wymondham. It was proposed by Sally Dodd and seconded by Bea Gatfield that both the accounts and expenses be accepted. This was carried.

6. Planning

None.

7. Correspondence

This was on circulation.

8. Village matters

a) Village Plan

Bea Gatfield and Pete Alder with the assistance of Pat Spencer had recently held some brainstorming sessions with the young people and children in Knapton. A report was produced and is being fed into the long term plan of the village. One item that was high on the 'wish list' was a bus shelter. The young people of the village will be glad to hear that this has taken a step forward. The Chairman of the Parish Council has held preliminary meetings with the Council and it is understood we may be entitled to a grant of up to 70% of the cost of construction. Discussions are now underway as to exactly where this shelter will be allowed to be put.

During discussions it was suggested that now the project brief for a footpath between Knapton and Mundesley had been started, it might be a suitable time to think about speed restrictions in this area of the village.

At this time the Parish Council wish to publicly acknowledge the good work being done by the Village Plan Steering Group and also to Tricia Doidge who has been doing a great job in getting the Newsletter up and running.

Action: Chairman

b) Community Speed Cameras

Griffon Safer Neighbourhood (Karen Herbert-Okey): gave the Parish Council an outline of what is required. After discussion however, Karen stated she would do a little more research and report back at the next meeting.

Action: Karen Herbert-Okey

c) Reports

Clyte Venvell hopes to be at the next planned meeting of the Griffon Area Partnerships and will report back in due course.

d) Karen Herbert-Okey delivered a very comprehensive report post her meeting with Norfolk Constabulary. In summary this meeting took place to justify the need to increase council tax payer's contributions in support of Norfolk Constabulary's continued fight to create better and safer neighbourhoods with its Safer Area Partnerships.

e) Pygneys Wood (Peter Kaye). A lot of hard work had been put in by the volunteers and some more Saturday work sessions are planned. Why not come along from 0930 until 1200?

f) Website: Norman Dodd gave a quick update on the village website. This is now looking good with some more links being added.

g) Councillor Wyndham Northam presented the Parish Council with the following report:

- **Munhaven**
Work has now started at Munhaven to bring it up to the standard required to treat Dementia patients. With people living longer there is a growing population of elderly dementia sufferers which is a great concern for Norfolk which has one of the highest elderly populations in the country and North Norfolk has the highest number of 85 year olds in the Country.
- **Council Tax**

The increase for next years Council Tax was discussed at today's Cabinet meeting and an increase of 3.75% is being recommended to the next Full Council meeting in February. This is lower than last year and is quite an achievement considering the extent of the services provided and the fact we have had to make savings of over £9 million again this year.

- Government Grant Settlement

There has been much press coverage of the better than expected settlement of £11.4 million. This amount is still several million pounds less than the Government assess we require to run the services they say we must provide. The percentage settlement is based on the amount we received last year and that was £21 million less than what we were entitled to. The previous year we were short-changed by £25 million. The extra money we received will go towards Adult Social Services, Children's Services and Planning and Transportation for much needed road maintenance.

- Unitary Bid

This issue keeps rambling on with as yet no Terms of Reference being given to the Boundary Committee; they should have received them last November. The Government keep changing the rules; it is likely that due to the turmoil they may well decide on the status quo with a few modifications on partnership working between the County and District Councils.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed _____

Alan Young (Chairman Knapton Parish Council)