

Brampton and Oxnead Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall, The Street, Brampton
on Wednesday 4th September 2013 at 7.30 pm

Present

Councillors: Stuart Wilson (Chairman), Laura Humphrey, Mark Little, Margaret Whiley & Trevor Whiteman

Also in attendance:

David Harrison, County Councillor

Barbara Rix, Broadland District Councillor

Ros Calvert, Clerk to the Council

2013/34 Apologies

Were received and accepted from Councillor Fiona Scott

2013/35 Declarations of Interest – there were none

2013/36 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2013 were circulated, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record

2013/37 Matters Arising from the Minutes

The paper bank had been installed next to the bottle bank.

Consideration of bulb planting had been deferred to the next meeting as Cllr Scott had not been able to attend this meeting

2013/38 Reports

Were received from the following authorities:

1. Police – reports for July and August had been received. There were no matters arising.
It was noted that the theft of the post box had not been mentioned in any of the reports. The Clerk would contact the Post Office to see if and when it would be replaced
2. County Council – Cllr David Harrison reported on the government's efforts to reduce the national deficit which would include a £66 million reduction in its funding to Norfolk County Council each year and possibly for three years. County Council was working towards its next budget and would have to make hard decisions on the cuts it would have to make to its services.
Consultation was underway on new speed regulations that would impose an enforceable restriction of 20 mph outside all schools during school hours.
He updated the meeting on the progress of the Northern Distributer Route and the costs and difficulties encountered around Norwich Airport.
He would be re-establishing the Aylsham Area Forum.
3. District Councillor – Cllr Barbara Rix reported on the Audit Committee and the budget process, funding from government would be reduced and it was hoped that some of the shortfall may be made up by the Community Infrastructure Levies (CIL) paid by developers on the erection of buildings in the district. She noted that permission had been given for a number of large developments but that the work on those developments was slow is starting. The ratio of affordable housing may have to be reduced to encourage more development.
She had attended meetings of the Internal Drainage Board and the Licencing

Committee. She also reported on the Green Deal and improvements being made to houses in Rackheath built in the 1950s to reduce energy consumption.

2013/39 Public Participation

It was agreed to adjourn the meeting to take comments from members of the public and Councillors. There were no comments

2013/40 Planning

There were no planning applications. Planning enforcements were noted.

2013/41 Thinking Fuel

It was agreed to join the scheme on behalf of the parish (£20 per annum). The Clerk was appointed co-ordinator for the Brampton and Oxnead Bulk Buy Scheme, this would be reviewed annually. It would be advertised locally and some councillors took forms to circulate to neighbours.

2013/42 Highways and Footpaths

Reports from Cllr Little were received.

1. Potholes along The Street, and Marsham Road previously reported Highways had been filled and the job sheet received. There were no further reports

2. Marsham Road/Aylsham Road crossroad. In his letter of 25 July the NCC Highways Engineer explained that it had, earlier in the year, attempted to reduce the quantity of water making its way to the new system by cutting additional drainage grips in the verges on the approach from Aylsham, however they had been filled, presumably by the adjacent landowner. He said that this was a minor measure and further works were planned. It was the County Council's intention to provide an additional gully as previously described to utilise the drain soakage area earlier when flooding occurs. This would significantly reduce the flooding on the ditch side of the road and he anticipated that these works would be carried out this financial year, subject to funding

Council thought this response was encouraging but it doubted that it would produce the required outcome. It would like Norfolk County Council to review the whole design again. The flood was dangerous and it was permanently full of stagnant water.

3. Footpath 12 – Highway Engineer Chris Mayes explained that Norfolk County Council did not have a duty to prevent erosion by the river but that it was investigating whether a local improvement could be delivered at the point where the path now goes through the river. In July 2013 Norfolk County Council had been in discussion with the landowner and the Environment Agency to agree a suitable treatment and they hoped to deliver this work later this year subject to agreement from all the relevant parties.

Sophie Fallon, North Norfolk Operations Team Leader for the Environment Agency confirmed that the Environment Agency (EA) had no responsibility for footpath erosion. She explained that the EA undertook a joint project of erosion protection with Highways at Buxton in 2012 as there was imminent danger of the bank failing, but that at this location at Brampton they did not consider this to be a concern.

She considered that river levels were higher than normal due to weed growth in the channel and that they expected to have it cut up to Brampton by mid-August.

It was agreed that Council should seek assurance from EA that when the work had been done the river level would drop low enough to make the route passable.

It was suggested that photographic evidence should be produced for the next meeting.

2013/43 Phone box

Cllr Little had cleared the brambles and other growth from around the phone box.

It was agreed that he should buy paint and other necessary materials up to a limit of £100 for the restoration of the phone box.

2013/44 Emergency Planning

Cllr Wilson would bring the updated Emergency Plan to the next meeting

The new Village Agent had asked for help in identifying vulnerable people in the village to make sure that they were getting the help they needed. It was suggested that this could be incorporated into Emergency Plan

2013/45 Correspondence

Correspondence was noted.

- Dates for training sessions for Councillors were noted, this training was recommended by members and it would be paid for by Council.
- Broadland District Council Local Development Framework Site Allocations Consultation Preferred Options 2013 had been circulated. There were no matters arising.

2013/46 Finance

1. The bank reconciliation was received and approved.
2. It was agreed to implement the 1% pay increase for the clerk with effect from 1st April 2013 as recommended by the National Association of Local Councils
3. **It was agreed** to approve the following payments:
£12.00 to Get Mapping plc (Chq: 100305)
£239.91 to R Calvert Re-issue of chq: 100304 (Chq: 100306)
£338.23 to R Calvert (Chq: 100307)
£20.00 to Norfolk RCC (Chq: 100308)
4. Financial Regulations 2010 and Risk Assessments 2011 were reviewed, there were no changes.

2013/47 Late Correspondence and Reports from Councillors

The following items would be considered at the next meeting on 6th November

1. Bulb planting, 2. Emergency Planning, 3. Dog Bins. 4. Conservation

2013/48 Closure of the Meeting

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 pm

Approved

Date