

Parish Council Meeting held at Hardwick Village Hall on Tuesday 19th September 2017

Present: David Alexander (Chairman), Jeremy Alexander, Clive Ling, Jeremy Styles, Mark Cann and Josephine Murgatroyd (Clerk).

Apologies: Andrew Penn and Alison Thomas (County and District Councillor)

There were no Parishioners present.

1. Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th May 2017 were read, confirmed and signed.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Highways

During the summer, a number of the roads in the Parish had been resurfaced and a number of footpath signs had been erected.

The Clerk had contacted Gary Overland at the Highways Department explaining the issue with the bend at the bottom of Fritton Hill and the number of vehicles failing to negotiate this bend safely. He had also been informed of the ideas considered at the last Meeting to solve the problem. Gary Overland had replied saying he had visited the site and could see why there were concerns about some drivers failing to safely negotiate the bend.

His conclusion was that due to the geometry of the bend, it would not be suitable for a chevron sign, but he did think that there would be some benefit in installing some hazard markers to help guide drivers around the outside of the bend. Arrangements were in hand for this to be hopefully done in time for the clocks going back in late October. Whilst the PC welcomed the plan, there were concerns that hazard markers placed elsewhere in the Parish previously did not last due mainly to them not being visible enough during the cutting of the verges. Hopefully, that would not be the case here.

The Clerk was requested to report to the Highways the following:- potholes on Primrose Lane, missing/damaged fingerpost signs at the junctions of Alburgh Road/Low Road, Room Lane/Shelton Common and at the Fritton Common junction at the top of Fritton Hill. Also the Bridleway sign was missing on Shelton Common and the post for the metal footpath gate on the meadow opposite Shelton School needed repair.

Miscellaneous

There was no update about the Parochial Church Council application to the Diocesan to see if Shelton Church was eligible to be 'leased' to them under the new scheme.

Morningthorpe Recycling Centre had reopened following its closure for 6 weeks. There had been some fly tipping in the Parish, but this had also happened after the Recycling Centre reopened.

3. Correspondence

a) South Norfolk District Council

See below – otherwise nothing to report.

b) Norfolk County Council

There was nothing to report.

c) Miscellaneous

(1) The Clerk informed the PC that she had received correspondence from The Business Debt Advisor concerning an apparent outstanding liability by the Parish for VAT in the sum of £ 4,860 to

Kids 2 Adults in liquidation. After an exchange of correspondence, the Liquidator had accepted (and apologised) that the claim was clearly erroneous and that the Parish Council had had no dealings with Kids 2 Adults.

(2) Following the campaign by CPRE to persuade South Norfolk Council not to grant any new planning permissions until existing permissions had been developed, there had been an exchange of views between the Council and CPRE. One of the points made was to do with the need for Parish Councillors not to pre judge any planning applications for new housing estates. As the Parish had been allocated only 2 possible sites for single property development, this was not likely to be an issue for the PC.

(3) The Clerk read out the report from Alison Thomas who, due to a number of other meetings this evening, was unable to attend. The report included the following:-

‘over 170 children completed the summer reading challenge and were presented with their certificates by me at the Library.

The County Council Leader will be running some roadshows in Oct/Nov to meet the public and hear their views. Dates will be advertised in Your Norfolk out soon.

Parish boundary review is out for its second consultation with recommendations but no change for Shelton and Hardwick.

I hope to meet with Gary Overland our replacement highway engineer soon so if you have any longstanding or tricky highway matters you want raised please let me know.’

4a. Planning Cases

Church Farm, Hardwick

SNDC had approved the planning application.

Sundial Farm, Shelton

SNDC had approved the planning application.

Mulberry Tree House, Harris Green

The PC considered an application to replace an existing corrugated garage with a new timber and pantile garage. The house is a Listed Building. The plans were considered by the PC and approved as the proposed structure was in keeping with the architecture of the dwelling and was a great improvement on the current structure.

4b. Long Stratton Bypass and Development.

The Clerk had attended a Meeting for local parishes organised by Wacton Parish Council. This Meeting had been arranged to canvass views on the proposed bypass, whether this was going to deal with the traffic issues and the impact on the Long Stratton infrastructure of the proposed 1,800 houses. The Developer had organised a public consultation on their proposals. Concern had been expressed at the Wacton Meeting about the possibility of four roundabouts, the intended speed limit of the Bypass (ie less than 60mph), the number of houses that could be built before the bypass was completed (a figure of 500 had been mentioned) and the detrimental impact on the Doctors’ surgery, the High School, parking, and the loss of the petrol station as a result of the proposed development. The main concern was the impact that the additional traffic generated by the development on the A140 which was already seeing queues at peak times as commuters made their way to and from Norwich. Wacton PC had circulated a summary of these main points and had arranged a Meeting with South Norfolk Council for 26th September. It was proposed by The Clerk and seconded by Jeremy Styles and agreed by the PC that they shared the concerns raised by Wacton PC. The Clerk and Andrew Penn were able to attend the meeting with South Norfolk Council . Due to other commitments, there was no one else able to go.

5. Accounts

Bank Balance £278.15

The second half of the Precept was due to be paid this month. The Clerk confirmed that the Audit had been completed. There were no comments from the auditor and no fee to pay.

6. Meeting Suspended for Public Participation

There was none

- **7. Any Other Business**

There was none.

8. Date of Next Meeting

This was fixed for Tuesday 9th January 2018 at 7.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 8.35pm

Chairman

2018

Cheques:- Village Hall Hire £15.00