

27.01.2010

Minutes of Poringland Parish Council meeting held at 7.00 p.m. in the Community Centre.

In the Chair: Mr D. Hewer.

1. Attendance Register & Apologies for Absence

Present: Mrs Harrison, Mrs Beard, Mrs Neal, Mrs Watkins, Mr Walker, Mr Kudar & Mr Timson.

Also Present: Mrs Milton, Mr Overton & Mr Smith. Mr Foster arrived during the meeting.

Apologies: Mrs Kereama-Ellis, Mr Ellis & Mr Henson.

Mr Timson signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and was welcomed to the Parish Council.

2. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2010

Minutes of the meeting held on 6.1.10, having been circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

3. To Report Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda: For Information Only

3.1 Proposed Improvements to Bus Stop outside 27 Norwich Road

Email response from NCC circulated. Following a discussion it was agreed to send no further comments.

3.2 Playing Field Committee Obtaining Separate Insurance Cover

The Clerk was asked to contact the RFO for clarification on whether the advance of £1,016.62 will be deducted from the Committee's precept for 2010/11.

4. Adjournment for Public Participation and Councillors' with any Prejudicial Interests

Mr Walker proposed Standing Orders are suspended, seconded by Mr Kudar, agreed.

No matters were raised.

5. To receive written Community Centre Reports

(a) Parish Council Issues

Wirefree Sounder for Fire Exit Door

Quotation from A. C. Leigh for £175.00 to fit a Wirefree Door Alarm with sounder in bar area. This will alert the Caretaker if the Fire Exit Door to the rear of the stage is opened. Following a discussion Mrs Neal proposed the quote is accepted, seconded by Mrs Harrison, agreed.

(b) Report from Community Centre Management Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 2.12.09 circulated. The Chairman confirmed that Mr Foster will present the Financial Projections as soon as he arrives.

6. To consider Planning Applications Received for Consultation

Permission Granted

Finch House, Dove Lane – Proposed amendment to application 2008/2446/H (Two storey side and rear extensions with garaging and alterations to dwelling) – to change dormer window to be cladded in wood feather edge boarding instead of render.

7. To Consider Correspondence

7.1 St. Mary's and St. Anne's Road - Gritting

Letter from a resident circulated concerning the possibility of including additional roads to the gritting route. Following a discussion the Clerk was asked to write to NCC supporting the request for additional roads, including Rectory Lane, to be added when the list is revised in May. Clerk was asked to express Council's surprise that the resident was told it would be better for her to contact the Parish Council for this matter to be raised at an appropriate meeting as Parish Councils do not have any direct input into the Gritting Routes programme. Clerk to write to the resident advising that her request has been supported by the PC.

7.2 Request for a Salt Bin – All Saints Road

The Clerk confirmed a request has been received for a salt bin to be provided on All Saints Road. Following a discussion the Clerk was asked to meet a Highway Officer in order to discuss the most suitable site in this area.

8. To Pass Accounts for Payment

1. Staff Salaries to 31.1.10	£ 3,717.01
2. Spruce Landscapes (Maintenance to 31.1.10)	£ 577.04
3. Veolia (Trade Waste Collection)	£ 66.53
4. All Saints Church PCC (Grass cutting Grant)	£ 300.00
5. Norfolk Pension Fund (Superannuation)	£ 861.54
6. W. Carpenter (Computer Service)	£ 154.99
7. Hugh Crane (Cleaning Materials)	£ 9.22
8. Ms. L. Gooderham (Bar Stock)	£ 1,051.44
9. SNC (Bar Licence)	£ 21.00
10. ESPO (Gas)	£ 443.88
11. British Gas Business (Electricity)	£ 432.34

All passed for payment.

9. To receive written report from the Chairman

Mr Hewer reported he attended a Community Emergency Planning meeting on 7.1.10, Community Centre Management Committee meeting on 13.1.10 and a Strategic Group meeting on 18.1.10. At the Strategic Group meeting Mr Gudgeon and Mr Shearer confirmed they will both retire after producing the March Five+ Newsletter. The Parish Councils have been asked to consider presenting them each with a Scroll to mark their commitment to the Newspaper. Finance for the Scrolls can be used from the Parish Plan fund. Mrs Beard proposed that Mr Gudgeon and Mr Shearer are presented with Scrolls, Mr Walker seconded the proposal, agreed. Mrs Beard explained that Mr Gudgeon will continue to update the website and this will be used as an online Newspaper.

10. To receive brief verbal County Councillor's Report

Written report from Mr Smith circulated. He mentioned that repairs will be carried out along The Footpath as part of the highway maintenance programme. Mr Overton confirmed the Village Hall Trustees have been awarded a grant from SNC and work has started to erect fencing and tidy the area.

Poringland Post Office

The Chairman reported that he was told the Post Office was not prepared to pay any staff costs and also insisted the counter would have to be at the front of the store, costing the owner of the premises about £10,000 to make the necessary changes. Mr Overton explained the situation is ongoing and a particular property is being considered to be used for this purpose 2 or 3 days a week. Following a discussion Mr Walker proposed a letter is sent registering our disappointment and extreme disgust at the fact the Post Office is not prepared to pay staff costs and that the last Post Office was run from the back of the shop. Mrs Watkins seconded the proposal, agreed.

11. To receive brief verbal District Councillors' Reports

Mr Overton reported on the latest situation regarding Gypsies and Travellers. A meeting was recently held at Framingham Earl High School to discuss a BMX track and the youngsters produced an excellent power point presentation. Crown Estates are not happy with Poringland Wood being used for this purpose and other sites on Sir Timothy Coleman's land will be investigated. Mr Du Brow is also looking at proposing suitable sites on his land.

Finally, Mr Overton reported a meeting has been held with Breckland Council at Dereham to look at joining certain services as a Government grant of £200,000 is available for this purpose.

Mrs Neal reported the youngsters have worked very hard on the plans for a BMX track.

5. (b) Report from Community Centre Management Committee

Mr Foster presented the Financial Projections to Council on behalf of the Management Committee, outlining the position to the end of September. There have been a few issues which caused some significant adjustments, the main one being VAT in relation to the bar takings. Because of the repayment of VAT there has been a change in the Cinema arrangements, but income is still received from the hall hire. At the end of March last year the building had almost broken even in terms of Community Centre finance but with the adjustments there will now be a deficit for last year of about £6,000. Mr Foster explained that despite the VAT issues the performance of the Centre is continuing to improve and at the end of March 2010 the income is expected to be close to £45,000. He projected that for next year the Centre will be close to breaking even, so the overall position is quite good. The Chairman thanked Mr Foster for his work on the Financial Projections and for attending the meeting.

12. To receive written Amenities Committee Report

No report.

13. To receive written Playing Field Report

Mrs Harrison reported a brief budget meeting was held on 12.1.10. The hiring agreement has been revisited and hopefully will be ratified at the next meeting. Letter from NALC confirming the application for funding was not short listed. Mrs Beard attended a Play Partnership meeting on 26.1.10. Mr Millson is actively pursuing the leakage allowance from Anglian Water.

14. To receive written Drainage Reports

No report.

15. To receive written Newsletter Report

No report.

16. Cawstons Meadow Dog Waste Bin

The Clerk confirmed she checked the dog waste bin each week since the last meeting and the bin was full on every occasion. She spoke to the resident who raised the issue and he agreed to a larger bin being placed on the site. Following a discussion Mr Walker proposed a 45 litre green bin is purchased from Earth Anchors at a cost of £173.00 plus VAT. Mrs Harrison seconded the proposal; five Members voted in favour, one Member abstained. Carried

17. NALC's Local Council Awards 2010

Information circulated.

18. Parish Plan Review

The Chairman explained that Mark Bishop, Partnership & Funding Development Manager at South Norfolk Council will address the next Strategic Group meeting on 19th April and he asked Council if they would like the Parish Plan to be updated. Mr Walker felt it would be valuable to look at the action plan to find out what is still outstanding, establish what action can be taken to achieve those goals and see if there are any new issues. Agreed. Members were asked to submit any suggestions to the Clerk.

19. Land Registry

The Chairman informed that Parish Councils should consider registering all land in their ownership. The Community Centre land and the new Cemetery land have been registered. The Leisure Garden is leased from SNC, leaving the Playing Field and Cemetery. Mrs Harrison confirmed the Playing Field Committee is currently making enquiries about War Memorials which will include land registry. She agreed to liaise with the Clerk.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

