

FREETHORPE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting held at Freethorpe Village Hall

Monday 15th March 2010 – 7.45pm

Present: - Nick Spencer – Chair (NS)
 David Lake (DL) – Vice Chair
 Janet Church (JC)
 Michael Blake (MB)
 Paul Bacon (PB)
 Linda Turner (LT)
 Brian Carr (BC)
 Rachel Read (RR) – Parish Clerk
 4 Parishioners
 Cllr Brian Iles

Apologies:- PCSO Jon Morgan-Jones – report provided to Clerk

Item	Description	Action
A	10 MINUTE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
A1	Village Pond	
	Land Registry forms to be completed online to ascertain if the pond is currently registered to anybody. If not we will pay to register it to the Parish Council (PC).	NS ongoing
A2	Play Area, Low Road, Wickhampton	
	<u>Planning Permission</u> Plans are now being scrutinised by the Planning Department. Nick has confirmed that there is no permission for a play area. We will now have to apply for a "Certificate of Lawfulness" from the Broads Authority.	NS ongoing
A3	Affordable Housing, Lower Green	
	Refer to previous Minutes for History. Update – 15/03/10 – Andy Salter from Highfield (nextdoor to development) attended the meeting to say that now the properties have a roof it is obvious that the elevation is higher than was shown on the Plans. There is also the ongoing dispute as to whether we were ever advised in writing that a distance of 6.2m had been agreed between all parties. BDC Planning have advised Andy that they confirmed this in writing to the Parish Council. Where is this letter? Can they provide a copy? Andy says he cannot get to speak to Mr Thirkettle and Nick Spencer has had the same problem over the last two weeks. Calls are not returned. We are also unclear as to when/how the split between rental and shared ownership was changed from what we originally agreed to. The Parish Council have now decided that in order to get some closure we would like to challenge the due process of this application. This would clear up all the misunderstandings and the feeling that the buck is being passed and we are being consulted and then ignored. What is the point of being involved in the planning process? Update since last meeting – Clerk has received a copy letter from BDC Planning responding to several queries put by Andy. This letter is quite difficult to make sense of in isolation and without access to original questions. Clerk has passed this letter to Chairman for incorporation into rest of discussions with BDC Planning.	Clerk to draft a letter for NS

Item	Description	Action
A4	Village Pump Repairs	
	Update since last meeting – John High has completed the work and invoiced us for £1,584.00. This is slightly higher than originally quoted but the work has been done at cost to John and the Clerk and Chairman advised they were happy to cover this increase. It was imperative the work was carried out by year end in order to claim the Grant from BDC. John was happily able to accommodate us and the Invoice and Receipt for Payment have been forwarded by the Clerk to BDC.	Submitted for payment to BDC
A5	Dogs on Village Hall Paths	
	A question was raised by a Parishioner as to whether dogs can be walked on the path around the Playing Field. The signs only indicate they are not allowed on the grass. People are bringing their children to play and then keeping the dog on a lead and on the path – obviously clearing up any mess and removing to a bin. Is this allowed under health and safety or do the signs need to be amended to say no dogs allowed anywhere on the Village Hall site, including the car park?	BC to look into and advise
B	CRIME REPORT	
	No crimes recorded. However police have again requested the memorial bench be moved around the back of the Village Hall. This would reduce noise to the neighbours when the youngsters are hanging around late at night.	BC to advise Village Hall Cttee and report back
C	Cllr Illes Report	
	<p>Commented on legal fight over Unitary Status for Norwich. The dispute is now going to the House of Lords. He gave a brief explanation of the practical changes of becoming Unitary.</p> <p>Election for 6th May? Village Hall provisionally booked!</p> <p>Huge finance problems/rows over cuts – cut now or later?</p> <p>1.0% outbacks this year. 10 to 15% next year.</p> <p>Marco Polo II – grant available for taking lorries off the roads and onto barges. Barges half the price of trains. Brian is personally involved in this in connection with British Sugar at Cantley.</p>	
1.0	PREVIOUS MINUTES	
	Agreed and signed as an accurate record.	
2.0	MATTERS ARISING	
	<p><u>Signposts</u></p> <p>Signs at Wire Road onto Kittles Road still missing – reported again 16/3/10 Ref No is 209479.</p> <p>Signs now missing at Wickhampton end of School Road – reported 16/3/10 to Mrs Hunt at BDC.</p>	RR to monitor
	<p><u>Gates for Village Hall Car Park</u></p> <p>PCSO Jon Morgan-Jones advised that unfortunately the money earmarked for this project has been withdrawn due to a reduction in the overall funding available to Norfolk Constabulary. Cllr Brian Illes to discuss with Police if there is any alternative source available at the moment.</p> <p>Update – Raised again by a Parishioner. Agreed in principal to install gates as requested by Police and Parishioners. Funding needs to be found – approx £3k as a maximum. Feedback on funding and timescale next meeting.</p> <p>Update 8/2/10 – Village Hall have stated they have two other projects – Disabled Toilets and fixing holes in perimeter fence and there is no money available.</p>	<p>Cllr Brian Illes</p> <p>Village Hall/PC</p>
3.0	PLANNING	
	20091538 – Conversion of redundant farm building to private dwelling. Horse Barn Manor Farm Barns, The Green, Freethorpe, NR133XY. Application by Mr K Coleman. Supported by the Parish Council.	Advise Planning

Item	Description	Action
	20100179 – Rear extension/repositioning of conservatory – 119 The Common, Freethorpe – Mr Julian Sales. This was a two bed bungalow. It is now a very large 4 bed bungalow on a small Plot of garden. There have already been 3 extension. Unanimously not supported.	
4.0	FINANCE	
	Update since last meeting – cheque was signed on 30/03/10 by N Spencer and D Lake for £1,584.00 in order to pay John Hall before the year end. This enabled BDC to pay us the Grant that had been agreed to last year.	Reimbursement requested by Clerk to BDC.
5.0	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	Speeding in Village discussed again. The School have again requested a 20 mile Limit down School Road. This has been refused. Update 8/4/10 – Clerk had a long discussion with Highways/Council as to why we cannot get a 20 limit outside a school. It basically comes down to money and the fact that we have not had enough accidents recorded properly in the statistics. There is anecdotal evidence of at least 4 incidents but these do not count. Clerk advised to look at "Make Sam Smile" website for advice on speed checks and has registered our interest with them.	Clerk to monitor
6.0	POST/Information Received	
	Road Traffic – The Green – closed to traffic for electricity installation.	
	Climate letter – given to M Blake as editor of local magazine	
7.0	NEXT MEETING	
	Date of next meeting agreed as – Monday 26th April 2010 – 7.45pm	

N Spencer
26th April 2010