# HICKLING PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 6th December 2010, at 7.30pm in the Methodist Hall

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN: V TALLOWIN VICE CHAIRMAN: H PURNELL

COUNCILLORS: M ELLIOTT, R COOK, M J ELLIOTT, N BAKER, L WEST,

D PUGH

Clerk: Mrs S Sainsbury

# 7.15PM Public Participation -

The Chairman welcomed 10 parishioners.

Mr Glass asked 'do the parish want a large debt for the village hall and would the parish council ask the village first? A. The Chairman replied 'we do not know if we will have a large debt and the majority of parishioners want a new hall, but of course the finances will be closely looked at before a loan is taken on but the parish council will not be consulting the village as we have taken professional advice all through the process.

A question was asked whether the parish council had got a separate quote for the roof structure as being higher for badminton playing ? A. No, as this was the design of the building from the very beginning.

Cllrs R Cook & D Pugh both confirmed that Neatishead Village hall would have liked a hall large enough for badminton, and our hall will be multi-purpose for a lot of sports. The chairman explained the hall's facilities are for the future and the introduction of more activities and clubs being formed will make for more cohesion in the village.

Mrs A Lambard asked about the minor changes to the plans as stated in the news letter? A. Cllr N Baker explained the changes are insignificant but do require planning permission. To take advantage of a grant from the Football Association the showers had to be a certain size, also child protection issues had to be addressed between the shower area and the hall plus the plant area had to be increased.

Mrs D Scott had received her reply to her last letter but wanted clarification on the procedure of the posting of the agenda and minutes as they had not been posted in the chapel foyer when she looked for them? A. The Clerk explained that the agenda & minutes from the last meeting (1<sup>st</sup> Nov) had been removed from the chapel foyer for the meeting that evening but had been replaced the next day. Mrs D Scott was unhappy about this and asked that we check the procedure and requested a complaints procedure form and any other necessary forms and also asked whether the 3 clear days included weekends. Clerk agreed to respond in due course.

Mr P Berrie said there was an atmosphere of hostility in the village and he didn't want to live in this atmosphere.

Mrs S Clarke remarked that there appeared to be some hostility when replies to parishioners questions were given at meetings.

Mr Lambard said there was 'no where' for people to meet and it was a retirement village with no communication. The chairman replied that she quite agreed hence the need for a new hall to bring people back together through the creation of new clubs and activities etc.

Mrs a Lambard remarked that the 15 minute public participation session was not long enough and whether other meetings should be held for ideas on fund raising to be discussed. A. Cllr N Baker replied that we had never been restrained by the 15 mins as the last 3 meetings it had range from 50 – 25 minutes. If a significant answer was required the question must be submitted before the meeting, at least 5 days prior to the agenda being published. Even at district level a question is not answered on the same evening unless it had been submitted beforehand.

It was agreed on all sides that a public meeting be held in January solely to discuss fund raising for the new hall.

Mr Lambard remarked about being 'sick and tired' and we should all be working together. He also mentioned about a shop, but as Cllr N Baker explained at this moment in time it is not allowed in the objects of our charity or on charitable land and would it really work being Tesco's is so close! It may be a possibility in the future but the finances would have to 'stack up' and it would have to be self sufficient.

# 7.50 The Parish Council meeting commenced with no public participation –

- 1. **APOLOGIES** Cllrs D Beales, I Watton & K Moody.
- 2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING These were approved as circulated.

# 3. MATTERS ARISING -

Item 8 Precept – It was agreed that the precept be raised by the RPI. this was checked by the Clerk who notified everyone that it was 4.6% resulting in a rise of £350.15p making a total of £7962.15p. The form was completed and returned accordingly.

#### 4. DECLARATION OF COUNCILLOR'S INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING - none

#### 5. PLANNING -

#### NNDC - decisions

- 1. Eastfield Farm, Eastfield Rd Erection of replacement dwelling permit
- 2. Community Centre, The Street Conversion to Dwelling permit

#### 6. CORRESPONDENCE -

- a) **Broads Authority** Governance Review Update.
- b) Citizens Advice North Walsham Annual Accounts and request for a donation. As 106 Hickling parishioners had used this service in 2010 it was felt that a donation of £100 would be appropriate. Cllr R Cook proposed and Vice Chairman seconded the motion and all agreed for the Clerk to raise a cheque accordingly.
- c) Stalham & Happing Minutes from 21st September.
- d) **Unlock Democracy** Email regarding an issue with The Sustainable Communities Act. No response to be given.
- e) **NNDC** Letter confirming we have entered (6 Nov) the 'six months rule' whereby if a vacancy occurs no election can take place although if necessary the vacancy can be filled by the co-option method.
- f) **Mrs D Scott** Letter about the method of displaying agenda's and minutes in the village. Clerk explained current procedure. See public participation session above.
- g) Mr K & Mrs T Elliott Letter regarding a planning application, to be revisited when application received.
- h) Mr M Scott Email requesting the 'Wish List' of activities requested in the last survey.
- i) **Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)** Confirmation that a loan would be available if required.
- j) NNDC Request for the Chairman & Clerk to meet with Legal Services to clarify what their office can offer the parish council on governance issues but other matters to be directed through our own solicitor Mr N Hancox.
- k) Upper Thurne Update Meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> December. No one is available to attend.

# 7. TREASURER'S REPORT a) Expenses

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S Sainsbury Imprest	101941	£ 38.48	£
NNDC Parish Poll	101943	£ 558.10	£
Methodist Hall Hire (Dec 6)	101946	£ 12.00	
S Sainsbury (Bonus)	101945	£ 500.00	
Total		f 1108 58	£

£ 63.59	15
£ 35.77	16
£ 99.36	

B/Slip No

Income

b) Budget to Date – Distributed July, Oct, Jan & March

Cheque no.

c) NWACTA Donation, it was proposed by Cllr N Baker and seconded by Cllr L West and all were in favour that a sum of £400 be forwarded due to it being such a valuable service to the village and 216 trips had been undertaken by Hickling parishioners in 2010. The cheque was raised and signed accordingly, (101944).

#### 8. PARISH COUNCIL PROPERTY REPORTS

#### a) Staithe

1. The slipway adjustments and sandbags for the small dyke edge. The Clerk explained that 4 companies had been approached, one could not undertake the work until late May 2011 and no replies had been received from the others. Due to time running out for the work to be undertaken before the season begins, it was agreed that after consulting with councillors that a quote be accepted before the next meeting.

# b) Chapel Pit

- 1. The bore hole is progressing well, with the bonus of a better more efficient reconditioned pump being donated by Mr F Page, the Control Panel is built, the fuse board and fuses are in place so should be operational by spring 2011.
- 2. The bus shelter repairs quotes were discussed, with Mr Hodgson being successful in securing the work. Clerk to respond.

# 9. CHAPEL PIT CAR PARK

Further to a meeting with H Gibbons regarding the disabled access to the chapel a quote was received of £515.06 or £581.06 for paving slabs and materials, but the labour would be

provided free of charge. This was discussed and Cllr L West proposed and Cllr M Elliott seconded and all agreed that a sum of £150 be donated towards the costs. This would be for the area between the gravel edge and the chapel garden wall from the back of the new porch

to where the disabled entrance is situated.

# 10. FOOTPATH MAPS

This is still outstanding as the RB3 footpath has not been resolved yet, so another meeting will be arranged with the footpath officer to discuss other anomalies on the draft map.

# 11. GRASS CUTTING

Cllr D Pugh gave notice that he will retire in May 2011 after 8 years of organising the mower and grass cutting rota's. In light of the new hall it was felt that the entire operation should be reassessed before the next season begins. Clerk to investigate other companies for

quotes for reference and comparison against our costs.

#### 12. NEW BUILD TEAM UPDATE

Cllr R Cook gave a brief update on recent events, the open day on the 13<sup>th</sup> November was well supported with over 70 people attending with many positive comments. The plans are displayed in the foyer of the Methodist hall with a box for comments. As we have been advised to have a separate solicitor to deal with the charity business seperate from the parish council, 2 solicitors have been approached and the trustees will appoint one at their next meeting and Nicholas Hancox will be retained as the parish council's solicitors.

#### **CONFIDENTIAL**

The Chairman asked for a proposal that a resolution be introduced, under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude members of the public and the press in order to consider items in a confidential session. Cllr N Baker proposed and Cllr L West seconded such a motion. All were in approval. The Chairman thanked the parishioners for their attendance as they left the meeting.

The Chairman Viv Tallowin explained that we had held a meeting with the trustees and others relating to the Widow's Acre charity and it transpired that it was a subsidiary of the Poor's Land charity. It had been agreed at that meeting that there were 3 options to take these charities forward;

- 1 A member of the parish council should be appointed as an additional trustee to the Poor's Land, to administer Widow's Acre on behalf of the parent charity as historically the parish council always used to have members on the Poor's Land charity.
- 2 Widow's Acre could be treated as a 'small accepted' charity and run by the parish council and would still have to publish accounts at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 3 Widow's Acre set up as a separate charity with new trustees.

It was proposed by Cllr N Baker and seconded by Vice Chairman H Purnell that the Parish Council offer to take on the trusteeship of either or both of these charities as a 'corporate body'. This was put to the vote with 4 in favour 3 against, the Chairman Viv Tallowin abstained from voting due to having a personal interest, so the motion was carried. Clerk to write to all parties concerned.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at 7.15 pm in the Methodist Hall.

There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 9.10pm.

Signature	Dated
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