

**HICKLING PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**  
**Monday 7th March 2011, 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, K MOODY  
  D PUGH  
              **Clerk:** Mrs S Sainsbury

---

**7.15PM Public Participation –**

The Chairman welcomed Stephen Hulme from Active Norfolk and 45 parishioners.

Chairman V Tallowin asked Stephen to introduce himself and to explain about the Active Norfolk organized games across the villages. Each village is offered the opportunity to have a visiting roadshow with the necessary equipment for people to participate in various sports. It was noted that this may be a worthwhile project for indoor activities for the new hall, but the key is that interested people need to come forward to get Active Norfolk to visit.

The competition games are held on 12th June and again, someone would need to organize it for Hickling.

A statement with regards to the public participation session was read out by Chairman V Tallowin, essentially, that as an anonymous flyer had been circulated that raised many questions and concerns regarding the proposed new village hall, the Council would take this opportunity to respond to the questions raised, rather than taking verbal questions this evening.

Councillor N Baker read out the Council's response to the issues raised in the flyer, as attached to these minutes.

**7.50 The Parish Council meeting commenced–**

- 1. APOLOGIES** – District Councillor S Partridge, Cllrs D Beales, I Watton.
  - 2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING -** These were approved as circulated.
  - 3. MATTERS ARISING** – Cllr K Moody proposed that future parish council agendas be posted in the GAM notice board, this was seconded by Cllr N Baker and all agreed for this motion to be carried.
  - 4. DECLARATION OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING** –  
Councillor N Baker declared a prejudicial interest in the NNDC Planning item 5.  
Chairman V Tallowin declared a prejudicial and personal interest in the BA Planning item 5
  - 5. PLANNING –**  
**NNDC – applications**
    - 1.Land between Golden Gables & Harrow Weald, Staithe Road - Erection of Single Storey Dwelling – a site meeting was requested for Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>, Clerk to request an extension to deadline.**Late application received after the agenda had been posted** - Burwell Acres, Stalham Road – Removal of condition 11 of permission reference 07/0733 to permit permanent residential occupancy –the vote was 5 against so the Clerk to return the comment of ‘objection’  
Cllr N Baker declared a prejudicial interest as being an employee of the NNDC
- Broads Authority - applications**

1. Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Hickling Nature Reserve - Flood Defence Improvements - supported

**6. CORRESPONDENCE -**

- a) **Mrs D Scott** - Email requesting the 'old' Standing Orders that were in force from Nov 02 - Nov 2010. These had been issued via email. (see also items b & j)
- b) **Mrs D Scott** - Letter regarding the minutes of the 16th August confidential meeting. The reply which included items a & j was read out stating that the confidential parts of the minutes of the 16th were still commercially sensitive so were not available in their entirety to view at this moment in time.
- c) **Broads Authority** - Revised Draft for Public Consultation - Broads 2011
- d) **Broads Authority** - Planning Parish Forum 6th April 2011. No one was available to attend.
- e) **Mr G Bath** - Request to be added to the Wet Berth Waiting list. Clerk to respond.
- f) **Mr P Berrie** - Letters x 4 (10 A4 pages) with issues surrounding the new village hall and the charity including a FOI request. These letters were not read out due to their length but all will be answered in due course as some required legal advice. The FOI request will be answered by the 14th March.
- g) **Mr Burdett** - Letter with concerns over beet lorries using The Causeway and causing damage to the verges and corners. Highways have written to the farm concerned requesting that the verges be reinstated and the mud cleared from the road.
- h) **Norfolk County Council** - Norfolk Minerals & Waste LDF - Notification of Report Submission.
- i) **NNDC** - Local Elections Information Pack.
- j) **Mrs D Scott** - See items a & b.
- k) **Broads Authority** - Upper Thurne & Broads Forum. A map showing various work going on in Hickling Broad was passed around and will be displayed in the GAM notice board at the Staithe.
- l) **Mr & Mrs McKervey** - Request to be added to the Wet Berth Waiting List. Clerk to respond.
- j) **DEFRA** – National Tree Planting Campaign. Clerk to investigate further.
- k) **District Councillor S Partridge** – A reply to a parishioner’s letter to him that he asked to be read out as it clarifies his position when he attends various meetings in Hickling.

**7. TREASURER’S REPORT**

a) <i>Expenses</i>	<i>Cheque no.</i>		<i>Income</i>	<i>B/ Slip No</i>
S Sainsbury Imprest	101961	£ 49.16	£	
NN Hancox Solicitors	101963	£ 2296.35	£	
Methodist Hall Hire (Feb 19 + Mar 3)	101967	£ 24.00		
B G Brooks (village sign)	101962	£ 25.00		
Hickling Infants School (Feb 28)	101964	£ 12.00		
N.R.C.C (Subscription)	101965	£ 15.00		
N Hancox Solicitors	101966	£ 1614.60		
Total		<b>£ 4036.11</b>	£ 0.00	

b) Budget to Date – Distributed July, Oct, Jan & March – a draft @ 31 March was distributed.

**8. PARISH COUNCIL PROPERTY REPORTS**

a) **Staithe**

- 1. The slipway adjustments and sandbags for the small dyke edge. The Clerk had requested three quotes but had only received one quote for the revised works and was still waiting for another quote to be submitted. It was proposed by Cllr N Baker and seconded by Vice Chairman H Purnell that, on the basis of the short time before the

new season, this be delegated to Cllr MJ Elliott to take the best price possible from the quotes requested and organise the work and all agreed, even if only one or two quotes are actually received.

## **9. GRASS CUTTING**

Cllr David Pugh gave an update on the grass cutter's meeting in February and that Mr R Brooks will take over from David as from the 1<sup>st</sup> April organising the fuel delivery and the rotas etc. The recreation ground grass cutting is now the responsibility of the Hickling Playing Field or Recreation Ground charity and will undertaken by contractors.

## **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 M Elliott proposed and Vice Chairman H Purnell seconded such a motion. All were in approval. The Chairman thanked the parishioners for their attendance as they left the meeting.

## **WIDOWS ACRE**

A letter from the secretary of Widows Acre had been received stating they wished to take over the running of Widows Acre. The Charity Commission have agreed on this action. Cllr K Moody wanted her comment of 'she felt that the parish council should be involved' noted. It was proposed by Cllr N Baker and seconded by Vice Chairman H Purnell and all agreed that the parish council could not interfere as it was not Parish Council business.

The independent advisors R Utting, M Prettyman and H Gibbons were invited back into the meeting.

## **MEETING IN CONFIDENTIAL 28<sup>TH</sup> February**

The minutes of the meeting of 28 February were then considered, along with some matters arising from them.

It was proposed by Cllr MJ Elliott and seconded by Cllr L West that, in order to give the project the best financial flexibility, that the Public Works loan be increased to the full amount offered i.e. £190,000.00 and all agreed, except Cllr K Moody who abstained, so the motion was carried and the minute therefore amended accordingly.

Cllr N Baker proposed and Cllr M Elliott seconded that we accept the KPMG report for the Charity as giving us a satisfactory level of financial assurance in terms of capital and likely revenue budgets and all agreed, except Cllr K Moody who abstained, so the motion was carried.

Cllr R Cook proposed that we resolve on the basis of the above motion that recommendations 1,2 & 3 from the 28<sup>th</sup> February minutes be implemented, this was seconded by Cllr D Pugh and all agreed, except Cllr K Moody who abstained, so the motion was carried, the recommendations now reading as follows.

1. Subject to the charity agreeing the terms of the Agreement and a satisfactory financial assurance from KPMG, that the Parish Council draws down a Public works Loan for £190,000.00 (One Hundred and Ninety Thousand pounds) for the purposes of providing a financial contribution to the Charity in respect of the new village hall, for which the annual repayments will not exceed £12,156.00 (Twelve Thousand, One hundred and fifty-Six pounds).
2. Subject to the charity agreeing the terms of the Agreement and a satisfactory financial assurance from KPMG, that the Parish Council donates the proceeds of the sale of the Community Hall, £135,000.00 (One hundred and Thirty-Five Thousand pounds) to the Charity, again as a financial contribution to the new village hall. The Section 106 Agreement entered into by the Parish Council states that this money is only used towards the new village hall.

3. Subject to the charity agreeing the terms of the Agreement and a satisfactory financial assurance from KPMG, that the Parish Council provides a further financial contribution to the new village hall of £9000.00 (Nine Thousand pounds) from its own reserves.

As a result of these recommendations being approved:

- A legally binding agreement between the Hickling Parish Council and Hickling Playing Field or Recreation Ground Charity to agree that monies will be passed from the Parish Council to the Charity who in return will build and provide the hall for public use, was then signed by the Parish Council Chairman V Tallowin and Vice Chairman Harry Purnell.
- The Clerk will draw down the Public Works Loan, subject to the Charity agreeing the terms of the Agreement referred to above, of £190,000 for the specific purposes of providing a financial contribution to the Charity in respect of the new village hall.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 4th April 2011 at 7.15 pm in the Methodist Hall.**

**There was no further business and the meeting was closed at 9.50pm.**