



BINHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Keith Leesmith
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2017/05

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15 MAY 2017 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL

Those Present Pennie Alford, Liz Brown, David Frost, Stan Hewitt, & William Wales
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Marie (& Mike) Strong (NCC), & 4 members of the public

1) Election of Chairman: David Frost elected unanimously
Declaration of Acceptance of Office signed

2) Election of Vice-Chairman: Liz Brown elected unanimously

3) To confirm dates of meetings for the coming year:
Confirmed as 17.07.17 : 18.09.17 : 20.11.17 : 15.01.18 : 19.03.18 : 21.05.18

4) Apologies received: Mike Bond, Lucy McCallum, & Police

5) Declarations of interest: None

6) Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 20 March 2017: Approved & signed

7a) NCC Report

MS thanked those that voted for her in the recent election and promised to work for all the Parishioners during her third term. She was pleased to report that turnout in the Wells Division had been 43% as opposed to 34% in the county as a whole. The current scheme for providing permissive paths is coming to an end, and the county is investigating what might be done to retain some or all of them. There will be a crackdown on misleading broadband speed advertising. The public can access an OFCOM website which gives details of which providers give the best mobile 'phone coverage in each area. With the conservative party now having an absolute majority at County Hall, they would like to reintroduce the cabinet system, although they are currently prevented from doing so. In the meantime they are reducing the numbers on committees, which will mean that members of the minority parties are less likely to be represented. MS will be on the broadband/mobile 'phone committee but will lose her place on other committees. In response to a question about Cherry Tree Corner in Fakenham, although the original plan was to get the developers of the new estate there to pay for a roundabout, it was possible that the road might now be re-routed to merge with the Fakenham bypass further to the east.

7c) Safer Neighbourhood Team Report

PC Jason Pegden had provided a report that KL read. During the last two months there had been no recorded crimes in the Parish and only one call to police. Locally, lead thefts from churches are causing concern and the public is asked to remain vigilant and report any suspicious sightings.

7d) Parish Clerk Report

The Boundary Commission has now produced their final report on the future of representation to NNDC. Despite an appeal from Binham PC the number of Priory Ward Councillors would be reduced from two to one, but Wells and Holkham would be split away and have their own Councillor. The various requests for action from highways at the last meeting have been attended to but in respect of the difficulty in passing through the safety barriers at the end of Priory Crescent highways had said that they would take no action at present but would "monitor the situation" MS offered to assist in the matter. There was recently a request to provide dog bins in the village. KL had said at the time that although the bins were relatively inexpensive the cost of regular emptying was not. He had since discovered that the annual cost of emptying each bin in Wells was £241.80 plus VAT.

8a) To agree the accounts for 2016/2017

Copies of the accounts had been circulated to Councillors beforehand, and it was agreed that the Chairman could sign them off.

8b) To complete the annual governance statement for the audit

Copies of the questions required to be considered had been circulated beforehand and it was agreed that they could all be answered positively. As the internal audit had been completed, the accounts could now go forward for external audit.

9) To discuss any planning matters to hand

There were no new planning matters to hand. The following determinations had been received:

- 1) Certificate of Lawful Proposed Use or Development issued for 40 Warham Road in respect of roofing repairs.
- 2) The official document giving planning permission to the new Walsingham Road/Priory Crescent development.

10) To discuss suggestions for the naming of the new road at Priory Crescent/Walsingham Road

There had been 36 replies from the Parish, which was thought to be a good response. As well as votes for the Parish Council's suggestions several individual ideas had been submitted. However, the clear winner was the name "Leeders". Leeders Pightle was the name of the development land on the 1792 map of the Parish. It was therefore decided to ask for the name "Leeders Pightle" if this was possible, and if not "Leeders Close".

11) To discuss request for a skate park at the Village Memorial Hall

A letter had been received from the son of local Parishioners asking if it was possible to provide a skate park at the village hall. DF had replied saying that the Parish Council would discuss the matter at their next meeting. There are local skate parks at Wells, (which had cost £65,000 plus VAT), Walsingham, and Blakeney. Marie Strong advised that the Blakeney one had been well received and she believed that it operated successfully. Little was known about the Walsingham one, although this was the oldest of the three. The Wells park had encountered numerous problems, including bullying of younger children by older ones, vandalism of the adjacent football club, drug dealing/taking and general anti-social behaviour. Indeed, the local police actually had as one of their current three priorities "antisocial behaviour at Wells Skate Park". It was thought that part of the reason for this was the isolated nature of the Wells site, but the same would apply at the village hall in Binham. It was thought that it would be unlikely that either the landowner or the village hall committee would want a skate park in the grounds of the village hall. However, it was recognised that the Parish Council should do something to help if it could. Enquiries would be made of the Binham Youth Group, and perhaps transport could be arranged on a periodic basis to take children to one of the local parks.

12) To discuss the bus shelter

SH and DF had inspected the bus shelter, and found that although it was in need of attention they thought that it was repairable. SH believed that he could undertake the repairs, with some voluntary assistance, for approximately £650. The cost of building a new wooden shelter would, he believed, be at least £2500. It was thought that repairs would give the shelter another fifteen years of life, and on this basis it was resolved to proceed in this manner. There was some material at the back of the shelter (but in front of the boundary wall) which, if removed, would make it easier to stop the back boards from rotting. Since this was highways land KL would advise them of the proposed action, and ask if they had any objections.

13) Accounts for settlement

A bank reconciliation had been circulated with agendas. The following were agreed for payment:

Kier Services Ltd (written 25.04.17)	brown bin collection from the Priory	45.50
Cliff & Sue Hudson	grounds' maintenance	420.00
Zurich Municipal Insurance	annual insurance policy	332.49
Norfolk Association of Local Councils	annual subscription	102.45
Community Action Norfolk	annual subscription	20.00
Mike Gates	internal audit	30.00
Keith Leesmith	1 st quarter salary and expenses	466.33
HMRC	PAYE on above	111.60

14) Minor Items

DF had asked Clive Brady to undertake some research on the possibility of providing a defibrillator in the village. Clive had spoken to the *Community Heartbeat Trust* who advise on such matters. Modern defibrillators are more-or-less fool proof and provided that someone is prepared to place the pads on the "patient's" chest, the machine will do the rest. It will not operate if it is not required and will cut in and out at the required rate if it is required. Defibrillators are often placed in unused telephone boxes, but the remaining box in the village is in use, and there are no current plans to close it. An electrical connection is required, and the other obvious places for it to be located are either the village hall or the *Chequers*. It was thought that the village hall was a little too far from the centre of the village, and as a first step WW would ask the trustees whether they would have any objection to one being located at the *Chequers*. The likely cost would be between £1000 and £2000.

With regard to the gateway that has appeared on Langham Road DF understands that discussions are still proceeding between the property owner and highways.

With regard to the "marsh" there does not seem to have been any recent change to the site.

15) To confirm the date of the next meeting

Confirmed as Monday 17 July 2017.

The meeting closed at 2113