

LITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of Meeting held on the 16th January 2006 at 7:30pm
in the Jubilee Hall, Church Street, Litcham.

Present: Mike Oldfield (Chairman)

Les Raven

Mark Sheard

Claire Lawrence

John Relph (Clerk)

Trevor Carter

Christopher Lloyd-Owen (County Councillor)

The Rev. Jonathan Boston and two members of the public.

Meeting opened at 8.05pm

- 1) Apologies and reasons for absence. Two apologies were received, one from Roy Payne who was ill and also from Tim Angell who also wished to tender his resignation.
- 2) Declarations of Interest by Councillors: None were received.
- 3) Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 21st November were agreed and signed.
- 4) Appointment of New Councillors. Due to the resignation of Cllr. Angell both Trevor Carter and Chris Mitchell were co-opted onto the Council.
- 5) Reports:
External Audit is complete and the accounts are available for public inspection, notices to this effect have been displayed on the village notice board.

McAlpine rebate: Last years overpayment to McAlpine Ltd continues to be outstanding. In response to a letter the Clerk received a phone call from a lady who knew nothing about this matter but would forward to the appropriate people.

Dog Fouling: The posts have been erected and Breckland informed. The signs were promised before Christmas but have not yet appeared. Breckland have been reminded about the matter.

Regulatory Documents: Standing Orders, Publication Scheme, Financial Regs, Code of Conduct have been amended by the Processes. Copies were given to all Councillors to read, it is proposed that they be officially adopted at February meeting.

6) Jubilee Hall Trust: Rev. J. Boston explained why he was not prepared to alter the clause that stipulates that the Jubilee Hall could only be used for activities "which do not conflict with Orthodox Christian beliefs". The Council agreed to accept the clause as it stood.

7) Long Meadow Lease: It was agreed to offer David Lucas a three year contract for his continued use of Long Meadow at an increased rent of £180 p.a. with the option to renew for a further three years from April 2008 subject to a rent review .

8) Annual Village Meeting: it was agreed that reports from all Village organization would be sought. Where a representative of the organisation attends the meeting they will be invited to read the report to the meeting, all other reports will be placed on file and published on the website.

9) Village Appraisal:- The Clerk presented various quotes for the printing the Village Appraisal, it was agreed to publish the report in full colour at an estimated cost of £840.00, 75% of which can, it is hoped, be claimed back from DEFRA via the Norfolk Rural Community Council.

10) Photocopier: The Council agreed to the Clerk's request to purchase a photocopier for an estimated cost of £200.

11) Planning :

i) Application 3PL/2005/1875/CU the council raised no objection to this application but made the following comments.

a) Mrs. Bently claims the plan submitted by Breckland Council differs from her deeds. The plan shows the plot extending to the flank wall of her house however she believes her boundary to run along the dotted line shown in the plan.

b) There is concern that the loss of the right of the occupants of Manor Farmhouse to park their cars on this land will exacerbate the growing parking problem in Church St.

c) The Council is concerned about the possible loss of the following rights of way;

i) Public right of way by foot from Manor Drive to Church Street.

ii) Vehicular right of way for the occupants of Manor Farm House from Church St. to the rear of their property.

Clerk and will seek assurances in writing from Breckland that these will be maintained.

ii) The application to purchase of land at the rear of 'Cedarville' from Breckland was noted. Any change of use would be subject to the normal Planning process.

12) Financial Business:

i) The financial reconciliation for the year to date was received, checked against current Bank Statements and signed. The Clerk reported that £1000 was transferred to the deposit account, this will be transferred back next month to meet Council spending in February.

The following payments were noted:

ii) E-on Electricity , 2 payments of £51.69p paid by Direct Debit for Dec & January.

iii) £38 to Jubilee Hall Committee for use of hall for meetings.

iv) By cheque (No.456) £82.25 to T.T. Jones, 3rd Quarter streetlight Maintenance

v) By cheque (No.457) for £141 to Audit Commission.

Payments were made to:

vi) Litcham Youth Club;- donation of £535 towards cost of Cricket Kit.

vii) Tittleshall Bowls Club;- donation of £250 towards cost of Lawnmower.

viii) Clerk;- Salary for Sep-Nov £701.04 plus £82.47 expenses.

13) The following Correspondence was noted:

i) NCC - Norfolk Matters.

ii) Breckland Council Waste Development Framework & Best Performance Plan Audit

14) Items for the next agenda. Road Safety Back Lane - Christopher Lloyd-Owen raised concerns about the exit from the school playing field into Back Lane, despite the recently installed road sign he still felt that there was significant danger to school children exiting the field. Council will debate the matter at the next meeting. Other matters - disposal of the Indoor Bowls Equipment, Hedges and the contract for graveyard maintenance. The Council agreed to the Clerk's suggestion that from now on a draft Agenda be placed on the website.

13) The next meeting was confirmed as Monday 20th February 2006 at 7.30p.m. in the Jubilee Hall.

Meeting closed at 22.15pm