

LITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the Meeting of Litcham Parish Council
held on 15th January 2007 at 7:30 pm in the Jubilee Hall Litcham

Present: Mike Oldfield (Chairman)
Trevor Carter
Claire Lawrence
Chris Mitchell
Roy Payne
Les Raven
Mark Sheard
John Relph (Clerk)

Meeting Opened at 19.32 pm

1) **Apologies; None received.**

2) **Declarations of Interest; None received.**

3) **Minutes:**

of the previous meeting held on the 18th December 2006 were agreed & signed.

4) **Reports:**

Jubilee Hall Bus Shelter: Mark Sheard reported that after a lively debate at a recent meeting, the Jubilee Hall Trust have agreed that the Jubilee Hall Management Committee may completely remove the boarding from the Bus Shelter. The Trust were not totally in favour of the move and considered the installation of lockable gates. The Trust have stipulated that the boarding be stored safely, so that it can be reinstated if trouble reoccurs.

Fencing Litcham Common: The Council noted the receipt of a letter from The Litcham Common Management Committee in response to comments regarding its Notice to Fence Litcham Common presented at the last

meeting. The Council noted that a copy of an objection from the Open Space Society, which advocated the use of cattle grids on the Dunham Road, was included with the letter.

Youth Shelter: This is still awaiting decision from the Litcham Relief in Need Charities Trust, who are unable to make any decisions about this matter until such time as the issue of the newly elected Trustees is resolved. The Clerk has been informed the Trust is still waiting for former trustees to hand over documentation. The Trust have sent a letter to the Charity Commission formally requesting that all documents pertaining to the Trust be handed to the Parish Clerk by the former trustees.

5) Graveyard Gate:

The Clerk reported that a paragraph in the next issue of the Church and Village will request any villagers who wish to see a gate allowing access from Druids Lane to contact him. Council decided that it would send copies of responses to the Parochial Church Council and request they reconsider their decision, before it made any formal appeal to the Diocese.

6) Open Space:

Council considered the latest information from Breckland regarding the defining of open space land for Litcham in the forthcoming Local Development Framework. The Clerk informed the Council that the publication of the LDF has now been set back approximately 12 months. However, an informal discussion with a Breckland Officer has revealed that it is possible that the LDF will class Litcham as being capable of sustaining some development, probably of a small and limited nature.

The Council was concerned the infrastructure within the village was capable of sustaining any such development however small. In particular the Council would like to see the issue of the current shortage of 'Open Space', which has been formally recognised by Breckland, resolved before it would consider supporting such a development.

7) Notice Board on the Village Green:

The Council decided that the proposed notice board for the Village Green will be three panels wide. The two outside panels having glazed lockable doors and the central panel being an open display board. Giving an

overall size of 1.8 wide by 600mm. An A3 map of the Village will be displayed in one of the side panels. The notice board will be fixed into the ground by two posts, it's exact placement on the green has yet to be decided. Clerk will contact local craftsmen and obtain three quotes by the next meeting.

8) Rights of Way:

The Council recognised that there are several paths in the village that are used by local people that are not way-marked. After some discussion it was agreed that Councillor Lawrence will investigate and produce a list of paths for possible adoption and way-marking.

9) Planning:

i) The Council noted the responses of Stephen Scowen of N.C.C. Planning Department to the Council's comments regarding planning application Y/3/2006/3028; erection of Children's Centre in grounds of Litcham Primary School.

ii) The granting of Certificate of Lawful use/or Development for application 3PL/2005/1605EU; use of land for builders yard and storage of materials, was noted.

iii) Granting of Planning Permission for application 3PL/2006/1786/F, The Brambles Back Street; amendment to planning application 3PL/2006/1223/F, changes to roof design on front extension was noted.

10) Financial Business:

the financial reconciliation for the year to date was checked with the latest bank statements and signed.

i) Council noted the successful completion of the Annual Audit for 2005-2006. The required statutory notices have displayed on the Village Notice Board and all electors may inspect the Council's financial records for 2005-2006 by appointment with the Clerk.

Receipts:

ii) Receipt of Deposit Account Interest of £35.02 for December 2006 was noted.

Payments:

iii) £39.00 by cheque to Litcham Jubilee Hall, for use of hall for meetings was approved.

11) Correspondence from the following was noted;

- i) Breckland
 - a) Town and Parish Council Forum Newsletter
 - b) Landscape Character Assessment workshop 18th Jan.
 - c) Housing stock condition Survey.
 - d) Community News
 - e) Electoral Register
- ii) Norfolk County Council: Changes to Local Government in Norfolk, workshop reminder and notification on time change.
- iii) NCAPTC: Newsletter; New Subscription rates from AGM; Elections 2007.
- iv) Norfolk Constabulary – Budget Consultation Evening 18th January
- v) Clerk and Councils Direct – January edition and suppliers yearbook.
- vi) Letter of thanks from Longham Cat Adoption Centre.

12) Items for the next agenda.

Notice board for the green, Rights of Way.

13) Next Meeting:

The date of next meeting was confirmed as Monday 15th January 2007 to take place in the Jubilee Hall starting at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 21.40pm.