

LITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
of Meeting held on 4th February 2008 at 7:30 pm in the Jubilee Hall
Litcham

Present

Councillor M Oldfield (Chair)
Councillor R Payne
Councillor T Carter
Councillor D Holland
Councillor C Holland
Councillor C Lawrence
Councillor C Mitchell
District Councillor

M Kiddle Morris

1 member of the public

1. Apologies for Absence.

There were no Apologies for Absence.

2. Declaration of Interest

Councillor D Holland declared a prejudicial interest in Item 12 being a trustee.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2007 having been circulated were approved and signed.

4. Matters to Report.

4.1 Breckland Service Centre Briefing 5 February.

It was agreed that no one would attend this. District Councillor Kiddle Morris would be attending and would speak on behalf of the Parish Council to ensure that Litcham remained as a category two service centre. Queries were raised as to the data for planning applications and if no needs could be justified was the Parish Council able to object on this principle alone. This would be confirmed.

4.2 Access from Druids Lane to the extension of the graveyard.
The reply from the Parochial Church Council stating that it would not change its original decision to oppose an entrance from Druids Lane was noted. It was agreed to take no further action.

4.3 Dog Fouling on the Footpath between Manor Dr. and Church St.
No information had been obtained on the perpetrator and it was agreed to place report in the village magazine and to contact the Dog Warden to attempt to enforce the Act.

4.4 Registering of the Green.
One reply had been received to the questionnaires.

4.5 Breckland Consultation on Core Strategy and Policies.
The timescale for replies by the 10 March 2008 was noted.

4.6 Norfolk Waste and Mineral Framework.
The timescale for replies by the 28 March 2008 was noted

Planning.

5.1 Applications.

5.1.1 3PL/2008/0071/F-Land adjacent to 19 Wellingham Road-new chalet bungalow style dwelling and garage.

OBJECTION. The design is inappropriate and out of character where it is situated. It would not maintain the street scene in this part of the village. The design should be of the age and period of the surrounding properties and it is not necessary to have a fancy design.

All were in favour

5.2 Decisions.

The following decision was noted:-

5.2.1 3PL/2007/1686/F-Cedaville Front Street- domestic extension.
Permission

5.3 Enforcements.

5.3.1 7 Weasenham Road. The letters from Breckland regarding the sale and repair of vehicles at the above stating that planning permission was not necessary as the vehicles are owned by the resident or under the family's ownership were noted.

6. Correspondence for circulation.

6.1 Breckland-Agendas

6.2 Norfolk Link

6.3 Clerks and Councils direct

6.4 Norfolk Gritting Routes

6.5 Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework

6.6 Consultation on Orders and regulations relating to the Conduct of Local Authority members

6.7 Dereham Local Action Group minutes,

6.8 Breckland-LDF-Consultation on Core Strategy and Development Control Policies

6.9 Norfolk NHS Visions for the next three years

6.10 Dereham CAB

7. Highways

7.1 General.

The Clerk reported that the footpath on Lexham Road near to Pound Lane would be widened over the next months. The drains would also be cleared on Church Street. The following would be reported to the Highways department :- the potholes on Dereham Road and Pound Lane, the 30m.p.h. sign on Mileham Road and the poor drainage on Tittleshall Road near to Back Lane.

7.2 Replacement of Posts on the Green.

It was agreed to await until the green is registered.

7.3 Planting of Bulbs.

Councillor Lawrence is to liaise with Mr T Angell to find suitable sites for planting.

7.4 Parking at the Post Office.

The white lines installed are not working as the wheels of the vehicles are parked on the white lines and still block the pavement. It was agreed to contact Norfolk County Council to see if bollards could be installed instead of the white lines.

8. Finance.

8.1 The budget sheets had been circulated and these were approved. There is still a discrepancy in the figures and the Clerk will

endeavour to ascertain the difference.

8.2 Balances:

Business 30 Day account	
Balance at 30 10 07	15420.60
Interest	81.04
Balance at 31 12 07	15501.64
Current Account	
Balance at 31 10 07	1961.41
Less-Direct Debits	
- E-on Energy	121.64
- Open Spaces Society	30.00
- cheques authorised 05 11 07 650.28	
- cheques authorised 03 12 07 359.66	1161.58
Balance at 31 12 07	799.83

Amount available for Section 137 : $483 \times 5.64 = \text{£}2724.12$

Spend to Date : $\text{£}18.00$

The following cheques were authorised for payment:-

572		B J Leigh
Salary-Dec-		214.88
Salary-Jan-		214.88
Salary back pay		20.80
Total		450.56
573	Litcham Jubilee Hall	£52.00
574	J Relph Salary -back pay	£28.84
575	The Open Spaces Society	£25.00
576	Litcham Common Conservation Grp Donation	£200.00
577	Norfolk Accident Rescue Service Donation	£50.00

8.3 Changing Bankers to the Bank of Ireland

It was agreed to change and the resolution will be placed on the agenda for next month.

8.4 Maintenance of the Graveyard.

It was agreed to await two further quotations prior to deciding whether to continue with the cutting. The Chairman agreed to contact Jonathon Boston regarding the matter.

8.5 Appointment of External Auditors.

The letter from the Audit Commission appointing Mazars LLP as External Auditors was noted.

9. Heritage Map.

This was deferred to the next meeting for the Clerk to contact the previous Clerk to find the details on the proposed map.

10. Affordable Housing Survey.

Prior to the meeting the Enabling Officer from Breckland Council and the Housing Officer from NRCC gave a presentation to the Parish council about Affordable Housing and the procedures to be followed. Affordable Housing could be rental, shared ownership, open market all with a local connection cascade. Initially contact is made with the Parish Council to identify sites and a Housing Needs Survey is completed. It was agreed to proceed with the Housing Needs Survey which would be sent to all households and the results analysed by NRCC.

11. Nar Valley Way.

The Clerk is to contact the Countryside Department of Norfolk County Council to ascertain what progress has been made.

12. Litcham Relief in Need Charity.

Councillor Holland reported that the income for the past year had been £963.90 and expenditure £539.50. The income is made up of the rent from the allotments and Tittleshall Road, and bank interest. The allotments showed a loss of £339 for 2007 and over the past 14 years the allotments have only shown a return after expenditure of about £600 whereas the Tittleshall Road field has returned £5,600. The rent for the allotments has been doubled for the current year to £20 per plot giving an income of about £200. In contrast the interest gained on the proceeds of selling .14 acre of

Hall Hire Sept-Dec

Changing Bankers to the Bank of Ireland. agreed to change and the resolution will be placed on the agenda for next the 4.21 acres of land the charity owns would be about £750. The

average rent for plots of the same size in the County is £78 compared to Litcham's £20. In a letter from the Charity Commission it clearly states that the object of this charity is relief in need and not the provision of allotments. The allotment land held by the charity is investment land and the trustees are under a duty of care to ensure that this investment is in the best interest of the charity to meet its charitable objectives.

13. Clerk's Corner.

13.1 Reporting Parish Council Meetings in the Dereham Times It was unanimously agreed not to place the minutes in the Dereham Times.

13.2 Depositing Old Records at the Archive centre. It was agreed unanimously to deposit all old records at the Archive Centre.

14. Matters for the next meeting.

14.1 Streetlighting Maintenance

15. Date of the next meeting.

This was confirmed as Monday 3rd March 2008 at 1930 to be held at The Jubilee Hall, Litcham.

The meeting closed at 2142.