
EXTRACT

as published in the Church and Village Magazine

February (2010) - Attended by 5 Councillors, District Councillor Kiddle Morris and one member of the public the following was considered:

Highways/Traffic Matters. Several potholes in the parish had been noted and these would be reported to the Highways Department. The sign on Dereham Road for Litcham had not yet been replaced and this would be requested again with the addition of Please Drive Slowly. Druids Lane had been added to the gritting route for the parish and it was hoped that the route to the Primary School would also be added in the near future although no decision had been received as yet, as there are a number of requests across the county to add roads to the routes. Concern was expressed at the poor parking on Church Street near the junction with Druids Lane and it was agreed to write to the High School to enquire if it was possible to put an article in their newsletter requesting that the junction be kept clear to ensure there is adequate visibility when accessing Church Street.

Finance. Payments for the Clerk's salary, cutting of the churchyard, the replacement light bowls and new photo-electric cells for the street lighting, and donations to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, Open Spaces Society, and the Litcham Common Conservation Group were all approved.

Planning. The Parish Council had raised no objection to the proposed conservatory. shed, courtyard and fencing at nocks Cottage Front Street although concern was expressed that the style of fencing was not suitable for a conservation area and the application had received permission.

Other Matters. The Parish Council had received a quotation for the cutting of the churchyard for 2009 but it was agreed to request further quotations on a reduced cutting basis so that the area would only be cut four times per year not monthly as had been the programme in previous years.

Land Registry had been contacted regarding the parcel of land the gives access to the river between the allotments on Dunham Road and the land registry have confirmed that this is not registered but a caution has been placed on the land which means that it is not able to register the land until such time as this caution is removed. Therefore Land Registry is to be contacted to confirm the procedure to follow.

The street lighting had now been changed to the reduced period so that the lights do not remain in operation all night but up to midnight and from just before dawn. Complaints had been received about anti-social behaviour on Church Street but as none of these had been reported to the Homewatch co-ordinator no record of the complaints had been received by the police which makes any response difficult to justify.

Vacancy on the Parish Council. Following the resignation of Councillor Payne no election had been requested by a parishioner so the Parish Council may now co-opt a parishioner to the Council.

FULL MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of Litcham Parish Council held on **Monday 1st February 2010**, in The Jubilee Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Councillor M Oldfield (Chair)
Councillor T Carter
Councillor M Anderson
Councillor C Lawrence
Councillor C Mitchell

County and District Councillor Kiddle Morris

4 members of the public

In the part of the meeting open to the public the following points were raised with the Parish Council.

The top has been blown off a litter bin and it is to be ascertained if just a lid can be purchased.

The co-opted trustees requested that the Parish Council write to Councillor D Holland asking for the minutes book for Litcham Relief in Need Charity.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Councillor D Holland had sent his apologies but these were not accepted.

2. Declaration of Interest.

Councillor Lawrence declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 7.3 as her son is to be requested to tender and Councillor Anderson declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 9.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Carter proposed and Councillor Anderson seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2009 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed.

4. Matters to Report.

4.1 Registering of the Green.

A further 9 copies of the questionnaire had been completed and the Chairman would distribute a further 6.

4.2 Heritage Map.

No meeting had been held with Chris Hood.

4.3 Employment of Young Offenders Team to assist in the Churchyard.

Councillor Lawrence had not contacted the supervisor to confirm when the remainder will be cleaned.

4.4 Cleaning of the War Memorial.

It was agreed to obtain a quotation for the cleaning of the War Memorial.

4.5 Village Fair 2010.

The clerk reported that he had been unable to obtain the names of the signatories from Nat West Bank. Les Raven is to be contacted to ensure that the money is withdrawn and deposited in the Parish Council account.

4.6 Planting of Tree.

The District Councillor has still got this item in hand.

4.7 Emergency Plan for the Village.

The Clerk is to meet the Emergency Planning Officer from Breckland Council on 2 February and he will report to the next meeting.

4.8 Post and Wire fence at Long Meadow

This had not yet been completed and concern was expressed that Jamie Dodd is no longer undertaking fencing work. The clerk would contact him to progress the fence.

4.9 Breckland Town and Parish Council Forum 24 February.

The Chairman would be attending this.

4.10 Recycling.

Breckland Council had written to the Parish Council stating that at present there is no glass recycling bank in the village. The Clerk had replied that no suitable site had been found in the past but possible sites would be looked at again. It was suggested that Tittleshall road could be used if the vehicle is removed and the Highways Department will be contacted.

5. Planning.

5.1 Applications.

There were no planning applications.

5.2 Decisions.

There were no decisions to report.

5.3 LDF Task and Finish Group Meeting

Councillor D Holland and the Clerk attended this meeting and the proposals from the officers for the realignment of the settlement boundary to include developments that had recently occurred had not been objected to by the Parish Council. It was commented by the District Councillor that no changes to the settlement boundary had been proposed that would allow for any limited development and the officers agreed to consider this. The proposals would come out for public consultation later in the year.

5.4 Land at Wellingham Road.

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Breckland Council regarding the parcel of land owned by Breckland to the rear of the properties on Wellingham and Weasenham Roads. The Council is evaluating the land for possible uses and will be consulting the Parish Council in the near future.

6. Correspondence for circulation.

The following correspondence had been received and would be circulated.

- 6.1 Information from Norse
- 6.2 Norfolk Link December 2009

7. Highways**7.1 General.**

The following are to be reported for action by the Highways Department:

1. Dunham Road in front of the entrance to the Common car park.
2. Dereham Road opposite Osier Carr.
3. the path on Lexham Road/Pound Lane.
4. the verge alongside the flint wall on Mileham Road.
5. the hedge at Holly Cottage.

The Clerk reported that Norfolk County Council had issued a top priority gritting route map if salt becomes in short supply so that all the normal routes are not able to be gritted. It was agreed to request that the route from Litcham to the A47 through Beeston be considered for the 2010/11 gritting routes as it was felt that more people use this route than the current gritted route through Dunham. The parking on Dairy Drift and Dereham Road at Beeston was raised as this is causing problems for through traffic.

7.2 Car on Tittleshall Road.

The District Councillor informed the members that the police should be taking action following a request from the Highways Department to remove the vehicle.

7.3 Kissing Gate on Weasenham Road.

The Clerk is still awaiting a meeting on site.

7.4 Speedwatch.

Several parishioners in Mileham are interested in joining the group but do not wish to do their own village. The police will be asked to undertake the training and the roads have been identified for Litcham and Mileham and if Tittleshall also joins the group the roads would be identified when the training takes place.

8. Finance.

8.1 The budget sheets had been circulated and these were approved.

8.2 Balances:

The following balances and cheques for authorisation were approved.

Bank of Ireland.

Balance at 31 10 09	16492.77
Less cheques authorised 02 11 09- 453.78	
Direct Debit E-on 13 11 09- 41.24	
cheques authorised 07 12 09- 931.17	
Direct Debit E-on 14 12 09- 41.24	<u>1467.43</u>
	15025.34
Plus interest- 05 11 09-0.01	
07 12 09-0.01	0.02
Balance at 31 12 09	15025.36
Less unrepresented cheques-	<u>292.98</u>
Balance at 01 01 10	14732.38

Amount available for Section 137 :469 x 6.15= £2884.35

Spend to Date :£ 790.00

Cheques for authorisation:

052	B J Leigh	Salary-January	222.98
053	Mr Feeke	Village Sign Maintenance	50.00
054	Litcham Jubilee Hall	Hall Hire	45.00
055	Dereham, Watton and Holt Citizens Advice Bureau	Donation	100.00
056	Society of Local council Clerks	25% of membership	33.75

8.3 Pre-mix to repair a bench on the Common.

This had already been repaired so no assistance was necessary.

8.4 Purchase of telephone kiosk on Weasenham road.

The Clerk is to find out the cost of removing the electrics.

9. Litcham Relief in Need Charity.

9.1 Reports from Trustees Meetings.

As no nominated trustee was present no report was received.

9.2 Reply from the Charity commission

The Clerk had informed the Charity Commission of the inability to arrange mediation and requested their comments on the situation. The Charity Commission had replied that the tenure of all the trustees is to be as the governing document and at present it sees no need to intervene with the charity as it is the responsibility of the trustees to work together. Councillor Lawrence proposed and Councillor Carter seconded the resolution to confirm the Parish Council support for the co-opted trustees and welcomed the clarification from the Charity Commission on the tenure of all the trustees

and that the Charity is being run in accordance with the Charity commission rules.

10. Matters for the next meeting.

There were no matters raised for the next meeting.

11. Date of the next meeting.

This was confirmed as Monday 1 March 2010 at 1930 to be held at The Jubilee Hall, Litcham.

The meeting closed at 2050