

Minutes of the Meeting of Litcham Parish Council held on **Monday 4 April 2016**, in The Jubilee Hall at 7.27 p.m.

Present

Councillor M Oldfield (Chair)
Councillor C Mitchell
Councillor M Anderson
Councillor L Christie
Councillor J Jones
Councillor R Fagence

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris

Two parishioners.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Lawrence who was away and these were accepted. Apologies for absence had also been received from District Councillor E Gould.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest.

There were no DPIs.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Jones proposed and Councillor Anderson seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2016 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed.

4. County and District Councillor Reports.

The County Councillor had nothing to add to the report given to the Annual Parish Meeting.

5. Matters to Report.

5.1 Jubilee Hall.

Councillor Anderson reported that assistance is being obtained from Community Action Norfolk who are investigating funding and whether the Jubilee Hall should be a charity or a small business to be able to claim back VAT. Village SOS is paying for the work undertaken so far. The invoice from the builder has been reduced to take account of the reduced work being undertaken by them to obtain grants and permission. There is to be a Parish Breakfast, Murder Mystery Night and a Quiz night in the future.

5.2 Litcham Play Area.

The meeting was adjourned.

A parishioner reported that the first committee had been held on 1 April and 6 committee members were appointed. The next meeting is on 29 April. The balance in the account for Play 2000 has £5425.39. The committee is now researching into obtaining these funds. The name has been chosen as the Litcham Community Recreation Project. . The Bank details of Play 2000 are still awaited to confirm the balance in the accounts and the signatories. There is no land available at the moment and a landowner who had been approached had informed the parishioner that no land would be available without a development.

The meeting was reconvened.

5.3 Complaint about the timing of work on the Common.

Councillor Anderson reported that she had received a complaint about work being carried out on The Common when it had previously been stated that no work would be carried out after February.

The meeting was adjourned.

A parishioner explained that this matter had been discussed at the Management Committee meeting of The Common and as the weed killing undertaken three years ago had not worked it was decided to use a weed wiper. This was supposed to have been carried out over the winter prior to the end of February. This had not been possible. After consultation with Natural England and NWT it was agreed that this should be carried out even though it was after February.

The meeting was reconvened.

5.4 Bio-Diversity Awards.

The forms had not been received as at the time of the meeting.

6. Planning.

6.1 Applications.

6.1.1 3PL/2016/0334/F-Land west of Tittleshall-retention of waterless toilet on approved Lexham solar farm 3PL/2012/1020/F.

No objection was raised to the application.

6.2 Decisions.

The following decision was noted.

6.1.1 3PL/2016/0193/HOU-Willow House Druids Lane-convert garage and erection of two storey side extension. Permission.

6.3 Consultation on Planning Changes.

The consultation on proposed planning changes had been circulated to all Councillors. It was noted that there would be a two stage process the first for a site in principle and the second for technical details. The Parish Council is only likely to be consulted on the first application. If the Parish council is to send a response any comments should be sent to the Clerk prior to 15 April.

6.4 Norfolk County Council Electronic Consultation on Planning Applications.

Norfolk County council is to carry out all consultations electronically with effect from 1 April 2016. This will be monitored to ensure that all Councillors can download the plans, although hard copies are available but at a cost.

7. Highways

7.1 Report on Highways Matters.

Several items reported had been repaired but the Clerk will report again those that have not. Kepple Close is not adopted and the resident should therefore contact Flagship Housing. There is to be a road closure in Great Dunham from 6 to 8 April and the diversion route is through Litcham. The Highway Rangers will be in the village the week commencing 23 May. The dog fouling on Manor Drive had been reported to the Dog Warden. The Dog warden had informed the Clerk that he would write to the owners informing them that he is aware that their dog is straying. He will also advise them of the charges if it is necessary to seize the stray dog and the owner would have to pay a fee for its return. It was requested that a log be kept of when the dog is out without supervision.

7.2 New problems.

The ironwork near to the Anglian Water pumping station is still in need of repair, and the drain and gully on Druids Lane needs clearing. There are still potholes on Pound Lane which need repair and the County Councillor will investigate the failure of the sweeper to adequately remove the loose chippings.

The footway on Pound Lane had been left covered in cuttings from the hedge and this will be reported.

7.3 Ditch to the South of Mouse Cottage.

The County Councillor will contact the Highways Department to have this ditch cleared.

7.4 Parking at Litcham School Primary Site.

The County Councillor had contacted the School and the Travel Plan is in the process of being developed. If cars are causing an obstruction then the police should be informed.

7.5 Request for Bollards on Church Street.

The Clerk reported that Norfolk County Council would not licence the siting of bollards on Church Street outside one property. The County Councillor informed the parishioner that there is no funding available for yellow lines, these would not be enforceable and any parking enforcement currently carried out by Breckland Council may be scrapped. He also informed the parishioner that any sign put up may well be ignored. The parishioner enquired about an H-bar as this is still a deterrent and the County Councillor agreed to ask again about this. He did inform the parishioner that an H-bar will not stop parking on the pavement and that he had been monitoring the parking and had not noticed a problem for most of the day. There had also been no accidents that would assist with the installation of traffic calming measures.

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris withdrew from the meeting.

8. Finance.

8.1 Budget.

Councillor Anderson proposed and Councillor Fagence seconded the resolution that the budget which had been circulated be approved. All were in favour.

8.2 Membership of Norfolk Association of Local Councils.

Councillor Oldfield proposed and Councillor Christie seconded the resolution that the Parish Council continues to be a member. All were in favour.

8.3 Balances and Cheques for Authorisation.

Councillor Anderson proposed and Councillor Jones seconded the resolution that the following balances and cheques for authorisation be approved. All were in favour.

Balances :-

Bank of Ireland.

Balance at 31 01 16	10769.00
Less Direct Debit- E-on- 11 02 16-54.63	
Cheques authorised 01 02 16-470.29	<u>524.92</u>
	10244.08
Plus Interest 05 02 16-.91	
Breckland C/Car- 59.75	<u>60.66</u>
Balance at 29 02 16	10304.74
Less unpresented cheques authorised 07 03 16	<u>4385.88</u>
Balance at 07 03 16	5918.86
Plus float for Community car	<u>100.00</u>
Balance at 07 03 16	6018.86

Amount available for Section 137 : 511x £7.42= £3791.62

Spend to Date :£0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

375	B J Leigh	Salary-Mar-257.88 less PAYE 51.60	206.28
376	HMRC	PAYE-Mar	51.60
377	Norfolk ALC	Membership	143.87
378	Mrs E Christie	Community Car	103.50
379	B J Leigh	Computer Ink	61.97
380	T T Jones	Maintenance April-June	63.53

8.3 Grass Cutting of The Green.

Councillor Anderson proposed and Councillor Fagence seconded the resolution that the grass be cut fortnightly from mid April to Mid October at a cost of £210.00. All were in favour.

9. Access to the Churchyard from Druids Lane.

A meeting had been arranged with the PCC for 1100 on 13 April to agree the siting of the gate. The Chairman and the Clerk would be attending.

10. Correspondence for circulation.

There was no correspondence for circulation.

11. Matters for the next meeting.

11.1 Community Car Rates.

11.2 Litter on Druids Lane.

11.3 Bio-Diversity Award.

12. Date of the next meeting.

This was confirmed as Monday 9 May 2016 at 7.30p.m. to be held at The Jubilee Hall, Litcham.

The meeting closed at 2023