

Pre-Meeting Business: The Chairman stated that Mrs. White was present as a representative of the local press and was not a member of the Parish Council.

Public Participation: Mrs. Payne asked for details of the Parish Council's future planning policy. A new plan has been produced by Breckland Council and this will be discussed by the Parish Council in due course. Mr. Bambridge said that a number of meetings have been held and the consultation period is due to commence on 19th September 2016. It will last for six weeks and there will be public meetings with hopefully one being held in the Ward. Comments must be made by 30th October 2016. Mrs. Payne felt that the revised plans for the proposed development in Eastgate Street were an improvement as they provided for an open space. She wondered if the Parish Council could take possession of this area, under a Section 106 agreement, to protect it.

Mrs. Brown said that she felt a lot of money was being spent on the Millennium Wood and the work required could be done by people free of charge. She also thought the Prince William Wood was being ignored with no signage and suggested that fencing with a gate would be useful. Mr. Labouchere explained that some ash trees are recovering and the contractors employed by the Parish Council are specialists in this particular area of operations. Dr. Wade-Martins confirmed that Nick Saunders is very experienced and, in fact, planted the wood originally. A site meeting with parishioners and Mr. Saunders, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Labouchere, was suggested and offered.

Mr. Macintosh raised the matter of a strip of land between Back Lane and Eastgate Street which already has a bungalow on it. The land behind has been submitted to the District Council as a preferred site and it was explained that any land owner has the opportunity to do this.

North Elmham Parish Council

**Minutes of the
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held at 7.30 p.m. at the Sports Pavilion on
Wednesday 7th September 2016**

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151 Those Councillors Present Were:

Mrs. J. Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips (Vice Chairman), Mr. J. Brown, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. J. Labouchere, Mr. C. MacEwan, Dr. P. Wade-Martins and Mrs. D. Warner.

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk), Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor), Mrs. M. White (Elmham News + Dereham and Fakenham Times) and four parishioners.

152 To Consider Apologies for Absence:

Mr. P. Grainger and Mr. C. Smith

153 To Receive Declarations of Interest:

The Chairman reminded the meeting that, should the occasion arise, interests should be declared by Councillors as soon as this was realised, and the interest should be minuted.

154 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd August 2016:

Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Brown. All in favour.

UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

155 Land Management Matters (item 118)

- (a) Village Green Nothing to report
- (b) Cathedral Ruins Mrs. Keeble said that English Heritage had telephoned and asked if their contractors had visited regarding the work required on the high wall. They have not. Dr. Wade-Martins offered to speak to Michael Bunn and will ring him on a regular basis until the matter is resolved.
- (c) Cathedral Meadows Mr. MacEwan has spoken to Natural England regarding the ragwort. It is possible to spray it but this will result in some of the natural species being killed. The preferred option is to cut it and dispose of it appropriately. Dr. Wade-Martins will provide Mr. MacEwan with a copy of the management notes.
- (d) Broom Green Mr. Labouchere said that the required work to the pond is due to be carried out on September 9th.
- (e) Millennium Wood Mr. Labouchere reported that the old posts have been uprooted.
- (f) Bridleway on disused railway line Nothing to report.
- (g) Prince William Wood Nothing to report

156 Street Lights (item 119)

Mr. Fitzalan Howard said that a street light was demolished by a car on 27th August. He has spoken to Westcotec and asked them to provide a quotation for the cost of the repairs. He will also speak to the police to obtain the identity of the person responsible who will be required to cover the cost of all work involved.

157 Highway Matters (item 120)

Dr Wade-Martins reported that:

- (a) *Potholes* The anticipated visit of the Highway Rangers on 8th August did not materialise, and although the requests for pothole repairs and the washing of Highways signs had been submitted well in advance according to the NCC timetable, neither job was done because it all had to be inspected and approved in advance by a Highways engineer. The situation will be monitored.

(b) *Muddy areas on Safe Route to School* We are assured that the matter "will be actioned in the future".

(c) *Resurfacing of cul-de-sac off Eastgate Street* The job has been completed satisfactorily.

(d) *Weed control on the church bend* We have been notified that "the section cannot be added to the routine weed treatment schedule due to traffic management requirements", presumably meaning that it cannot be done without traffic lights. However, this summer's growth has just been cut down by Highways without using traffic lights.

(e) *Overhanging hedge obstructing pavement in Eastgate Street* The hedge was first cut with a tractor-mounted cutter, and the resulting mess was not cleared up by the contractor and this led to justifiable complaints. Fortunately the Adcock brothers were able to complete the job and leave a fully cleared pavement in time for the start of the school term. An invoice covering the total cost will be sent to Mr Thompson.

(f) *New sign to house numbers off Eastgate Street* The householders concerned have agreed to the signs being fitted to their garden walls and an expenditure of £30 was approved for the two signs.

158 Eastgate Centre (item 121)

Nothing to report

159 Pavilion and Playing Field – Play Area (item 122)

Mr. Brown said that moles have returned. He has spoken to Jackie Price of North Elmham F.C. regarding the outstanding monies owed. They are now six months in arrears (£37.50 x 6 = £225). It was agreed that, for the current season, they would be charged £25 per home game. £20 would cover the costs of the game with the remaining £5 being allocated to reduce the arrears. The Clerk would produce a letter detailing this for Mr. Brown to hand to Jackie Price. Payments for home games during a calendar month are to be paid by the end of the month. Dr. Wade-Martins said that there are a lot of weeds in the car park. They are to be sprayed by Julia Srigley.

160 Dog Fouling (item 123)

Nothing to report

161 Allotments (item 124)

Mr. Phillips said that allotment rents are to be collected on 11th November (6.00 p.m.)

162 Community defibrillator (item 125)

Mrs. Warner reported that training is to be arranged.

163 Play equipment and car park proposals (item 126)

The new shelter has been erected. Mrs. Warner said that recent safety reports confirmed that the matting at the bottom of play items was sufficient. There was, however, no bar at the top of the slide (the inspections did not mention this) and this is to be fitted. All agreed that no further action was necessary but the area would be the subject of ongoing monitoring.

164 Community Farm (item 127)

Nothing to report

- 165 Detailed information map for village/Notice and Information Boards (item 128)**
Nothing to report
- 166 Volunteers (item 129)**
Nothing to report
- 167 Village Maintenance (item 130)**
Nothing to report
- 168 Village Institute Hall (item 131)**
Nothing to report
- 169 Village Resilience Plan (item 133)**
Nothing to report
- 170 Bus routes (item 134)**
Nothing to report
- 171 Refurbishment of the pump at the King's Head (item 137)**
Mr. Phillips said that the work will be finished in the near future
- 172 Speeding/traffic management (item 139)**
Nothing to report
- 173 Local Plan Working Group for Interim Site Allocations and Settlement Boundaries Consultation (item 140)**
See comments under "Public Participation"
- 174 Discussions with the Mid-Norfolk Railway Company (item 142)**
One of the crossing gates is now completely broken.
- 175 Report from District Councillor**
Mr. Bambridge reported that the devolution issue is continuing to be discussed with a number of District Councils in Norfolk having withdrawn from the process. These include Breckland Council.

176 Revision of responsibilities of individual members

The Chairman stated that it was some time since the situation had been reviewed. Members were asked to consider their own areas of activity and whether any adjustments to these were required. A further discussion will be held at the next meeting.

177 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income

a) Resolved to approve the following Accounts for payment:-

12/8/16	E-on (monthly direct debit for streetlights – July)	£113.42
7/9/16	Norse (monthly grounds maintenance)	£822.66
7/9/16	Norse (new padlock)	£18.00
7/9/16	Brown and Co (completion of Basic Payment Scheme appn)	£470.40
7/9/16	K. Webb (Clerk's pay for August)	£528.74
7/9//16	HMRC (tax on Clerk's pay for August)	£63.80
7/9/16	Mazars (annual audit fee)	£360.00
7/9/16	Broadacre Gardens (herbicide application to the ruins)	£85.00
7/9/16	D. Tyson (pavilion cleaning – August + 4/9/16)	£108.00
7/9/16	R. Brown (tiles for pavilion roof and wasp nest killer)	£32.99
7/9/16	J. Duffield (work in Cathedral Ruins)	£335.00
7/9/16	Amey L G Ltd (call out to accident involving street light)	£273.58
7/9/16	A.C. Crisp (cut hedge in Eastgate Street)	£108.00
11/9/16	E-on (monthly direct debit for streetlights – August)	£113.42
7/9/16	NGF Play Ltd (timber shelter)	£5,940.00 *

(* to be paid by the Diamond Jubilee Green Trust)

b) Schedule of Income:

4/8/16	Pavilion takings	£40.00
7/9/16	North Elmham Tennis Club (rent)	£75.00
7/9/16	North Elmham Bowls Club (rent)	£75.00
31/8/16	Coif inc div	£26.83
31/8/16	Coif inc div	£43.40

(Expenditure approved by all members)

178 To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:-

a) Applications

- (i) Mr. K. Owen, Back Lane, North Elmham – barn conversion (new access, parking areas, external works and landscaping) – (3PL/2016/0820/F)
- (ii) M. B. Clake and Son, Lings Farm, Great Heath Road – extension to agricultural building (3AG/2016/0014/AG) – no objections

b) Determinations

- (i) Mr. K. Owen, barn conversion, Eastgate Barns, Back Lane – removal of section of garden wall retrospective (3PL/2016/0724/LB) – listed building consent
- (ii) Mr. K. Owen, barn conversion, Eastgate Barns, Back Lane – new access, parking areas, external works and landscaping) – 3PL/2016/0820/F – planning permission refused
- (iii) Mr. J. Pennells, site adjacent to 10/12 Larch Grove – erection of four dwelling houses (3PL/2015/1459/F) – permission granted

The proposed development at Eastgate Street was discussed. Dr. Wade-Martins suggested that if this is approved, the Section 106 Agreement should specify that all of the area marked on the site plan as an "Open Space" should be given to the Parish Council with a maintenance grant at the start of the development to manage as a public open space in perpetuity. It should also be fenced off as an open space at the start of the development. Proposed by Dr. Wade-Martins and seconded by Mr. Labouchere. All in favour except Mr. Brown who voted against.

179 **CORRESPONDENCE -7/9/16**

- 1) Clerks and Councils Direct magazine – September 2016
- 2) Age UK Norfolk AGM – 13/9/16
- 3) Community Action Norfolk Signpost magazine – Summer 2016
- 4) CPRE Field Work – Summer 2016
- 5) CPRE Countryside Voice – Summer 2016
- 6) Norfolk County Council – publishing of the data for County Farms

180 **Announcements**

- a) Mrs. Borgnis thanked everyone who had been involved in the Flower Festival
- b) Mr. Phillips said there would be a Family Fun Day on the Village Green on 24th September.

181 **Agenda items for next meeting:**

- a) Local Plan
- b) Parish Council meeting dates for 2017

182 **Next Meetings:**

Wednesday, 5th October 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

This part of the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

183 **Confidential item: update on the evaluation of the current strategy regarding the possibility of future assets growth**

It was agreed to continue with the services of Jonathan Rush of Brown and Co. for the purpose of providing professional advice. A further sum of £500 to cover this was authorised. Proposed by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Phillips. All in favour. A further meeting will be held in the not too distant future.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

Chairman

Date

