

STOW BEDON & BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council on Monday, 15 December 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

**Present: Councillors: Phil Childs (Chairman), Paul Howe, Dawn Jessett, Jonathan White (from item 11).
Julian Gibson (Clerk)**

There being no urgent business to discuss, the meeting scheduled for 10 November 2014 did not take place.

- 1 **Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to accept the reason for absence offered by Councillors Morfoot and Pilkington.
- 2 **Declarations of interest.** None.
- 3 **Dispensations.** None.
- 4 **Public participation session.**
 - 4.1 **Norfolk County Council matters.** County Councillor Ian Monson said that once again his Council had to look at ways to cut its budget. His Council was also trying to be more proactive by identifying schools which were having issues before Ofsted inspections. With regard to the state of Peddars Way, he said that temporary repairs were to be done (even though this was not the most suitable time of year) to try to make it passable, and that a senior County officer (John Shaw) was in negotiations with Breckland Council about establishing a more realistic figure to be demanded from the Watering Farm developer under a Section 106 Agreement for its future maintenance, should permission be given. The initial estimate of £63,000 to cover 10 years was based only on what had been spent by NCC in recent years, which has failed to maintain the road to a satisfactory level, and so was considered inadequate. However, he pointed out that there were restrictions on what could be demanded. Finally Councillor Monson said he had been speaking to the Trails Officer about the Pingo Trail, and they were due to check the whole trail. However he has been unable to get Highways to accept that the lay-by and car park could be made safer by changing the car park entrance.
 - 4.2 **Spinney Corner.** It was reported that water spills onto the B1111 at this location because the culvert under the road is blocked. The Clerk said he had reported this as a possible burst water main last May, but Anglia Water had said that it was surface water. He will report this now to NCC Highways and ask them to clear the culvert.
- 5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 20 October 2014 were **confirmed** and **signed**.

It was agreed to bring item 11 up the agenda and to deal with it at this point.

- 11 **Casual Vacancy.** It was **agreed** to co-opt Mr Jonathan White to fill the casual vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs Garrod. Mr White signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the Council.
- 6 **Matters arising.**
 - 6.1 [11] **Notice Boards.** The Clerk has accepted the quote from Harry Stebbings Workshops of £165.00 + VAT per notice board, and instructed them to proceed with the renovation work. The Clerk said he would ask for a likely start date for the work.
 - 6.2 [4.1] **State of Peddars Way.** In an email to Breckland Planning dated 21 August 2014, Graham Worsfold, on behalf of NCC Highways, had asked for a Section 106

payment of £63,000 rather than £10,000 as reported at the last meeting. This, though, is based only on the cost recently spent by NCC repairing the road. This has failed to maintain it to an acceptable standard, so probably grossly underestimates what will really be required.

- 6.3 [6] **Telephone Kiosk repair.** The Clerk has again written to Mr Perry and Miss Hallet of Harvester, Mere Road requesting reimbursement of the £172.23 the Council has spent repairing the Kiosk after a guest staying at their house vandalised it, suggesting that the Council would report the matter to the Police, but again received no response. The Clerk was asked to write one more time by 'Signed for' mail suggesting action would be taken in the Small Claims Court.
- 6.4 [13] **Parish Name.** The Clerk has asked Breckland to formally change the name, but they first require a copy of the approved minutes of the Meeting at which the Council agreed to this. He will send this when the minutes are approved at this Meeting.

7 Correspondence. The following correspondence was **received**:

- 7.1 Norfolk Constabulary: *Parish/Ward Crime Statistics - September 2014.*
- 7.2 Norfolk County Council: *Flu vaccination campaign.*
- 7.3 National Joint Council for Local Government Services: *Local Government Pay Consultation.*
- 7.4 Breckland Council: *Breckland Council Local Plan - Issues and Options Consultation 2014.*
- 7.5 Norfolk County Council: *Stow Bedon - Highway and Community Ranger Visit - 8 December 2014.*
- 7.6 *Clerks and Councils Direct - November 2014.*
- 7.7 Breckland Council: *Breckland Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation 17 November 2014 to 9 January 2015.*
- 7.8 Norfolk County Council: *Better Broadband for Norfolk Information Sheet 18 - 30 October 2014.*
- 7.9 Barclays Bank Plc: *Community Account Statement - 1 - 31 October 2014.*
- 7.10 Barclays Bank Plc: *Active Saver Account Statement - 30 August - 31 October 2014.*
- 7.11 Norfolk Association of Local Council: *Suggested notice regarding rights to film, record, photograph and use social media to report Council Meetings.*
- 7.12 Suffolk Association of Local Councils: *Managing Public & Press Reporting at Meetings.*
- 7.13 Norfolk Constabulary: *Parish/Ward Crime Statistics - October 2014.*
- 7.14 National Joint Council for Local Government Services: *2014-16 Payscales & Allowances.*
- 7.15 Norfolk Age UK: *Appeal letter.*
- 7.16 Breckland Council: *Your Budget, Your Decision - Participatory Budgeting.*
- 7.17 Barclays Bank Plc: *Community Account Statement - 1 - 28 November 2014.*
- 7.18 Peter Smith, Labour Parliamentary Candidate for South West Norfolk: *Parliamentary Elections 2015.*
- 7.19 Department for Communities and Local Government: *Parish Polls - Consultation on the Government's intentions to modernise parish poll regulations. Any comments?*
- 7.20 Campaign to Protect Rural England: *Light Pollution Questionnaire - Ten Years On.*

8 **Watering Farm.** A letter from the Growing Farms Manager of Dalehead Foods (British Quality Pigs) regarding Watering Farm was **received**. It was considered that, although this was unsatisfactory, there was really nothing more that could be done via this avenue.

9 **National Salary Award for Clerks.** Notice of the 2014-2016 National Salary Award for Clerks, which includes a pro-rata non-consolidated payment of £100 to be paid in December 2014 (amounting to £11.23) and a 2.2% increase w.e.f. 1 January 2015 (bringing the Clerk on

SCP 19 to £9.551/hour, an annual equivalent of £2,063.02, an increase of £44.50) was **received**.

10 **Planning.**

10.1 **3PL/2014/0779/F: The Paddocks, Lower Stow Bedon, Rocklands, NR17 1EL.** Continued siting of mobile home. Planning Permission dated 2 October 2014 was **received**.

10.2 **3PL/2014/1070/F: 6, The Close, Stow Bedon.** Application for New Rear Two Storey Extension. To note that the Clerk has responded "No objection" under his delegated power, and Planning Permission dated 26 November 2014, which was **received**.

10.3 **3PL/2014/1166/F: Honeypot Estate, Spring Lane/Mere Road Junction, Stow Bedon.** Application for Erection of 3 bay open fronted tractor and implements shed. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objection, although it was pointed out that the site plan only showed the proposed building, and not other existing ones.

11 See above.

12 **Drains outside Church Cottage, Breckles.** The Clerk and Councillor White reported on meetings with Paul Groom, Highways Engineer, who had accepted that work which had been done to contour the road surface to direct water down the gully had been done incorrectly, as water will not flow uphill. The work is scheduled to be redone soon, and hopefully this will take away the bulk of the problem. The drains south of the cottage will also be cleaned. In the longer term there is a scheme scheduled for implementation in 2016/17 which will inset a further gully to the north of the existing system, which should improve matters further.

13 **Autumn Seminar.** A report from the Clerk on the Norfolk Association of Local Councils and Norfolk Society of Local Council Clerks joint Autumn Seminar was **received**. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should purchase an up-to-date edition of the Practitioners Guide at a cost of £20.00 plus delivery.

14 **Council Meetings.** A schedule of future Council Meetings was **agreed**.

15 **Budget 2015/16.** The Clerk presented a draft budget for 2015/16, which was **approved**.

16 **Precept 2015/16.** It was **agreed** to fix the Precept for 2015/16 at £4,460, an increase of £700 on the current year. This will amount to an increase of approximately £5.70 for a Band D property.

17 **Finance.**

17.1 **Clerk's salary.** It was **resolved** that cheques numbered 100654 & 100655 totalling £609.09 (salary for 1 October 2014 to 31 December 2014, plus back pay: £518.20; Mileage Allowance Payment for 9 June 2014 to 7 December 2014: £90.89 (of which £1.75 is the VAT element)) to the Clerk and HM Revenue & Customs be signed. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 112(2)*)

17.2 **Clerk's reimbursement.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100656 for £31.85 (Postage & Telephones) to the Clerk be signed in reimbursement for items paid on behalf of the Council for 1 June 2014 to 7 December 2014. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 111*)

17.3 **Hire of venue.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100657 for £40.00 to Caston Village Hall Committee be signed, being payment for use of the Hall during 2014. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 133*)

17.4 **Subscriptions.** It was **agreed** not to renew the Council's subscription with Getmapping PLC.

17.5 **2014/15 budget.** It was **agreed** to vire £300.00 from the contingency budget line and £35.00 from the Hire of venue budget line to the Other budget line to partly cover the cost of restoring the notice boards.

18 Matters for consideration at next meeting. None.

19 Next meeting. The next meeting of the Parish Council, was **confirmed** as **Monday, 19 January 2015** (or, if there is no business to discuss then, on **Monday, 16 February 2015**) at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Confirmed:

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Phil Childs, Chairman

19 January 2015

Scheduled future Meeting dates:

Monday, 16 February 2015	Monday, 15 June 2015	Monday, 16 November 2015
Monday, 16 March 2015	Monday, 20 July 2015	Monday, 14 December 2015
Monday, 20 April 2015	Monday, 17 August 2015*	Monday, 18 January 2016*
Monday, 18 May 2015**	Monday, 14 September 2015	Monday, 15 February 2016
	Monday, 19 October 2015	Monday, 14 March 2016

*If needed

**Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Meeting of the Parish Council