

Geldeston Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Village Hall on 10th March 2010

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

E Peters (Chair) R. Edmunds, B. Ashfield, J Tuttle, M. Fenwick

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:

Mr M Peters, Mr T Game, Mr S Rolt, Mr J Crowfoot, Dr J Oxley, Mr C Smith

Minutes taken by Lucy Seary

WELCOME

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Mrs A Norman and Mr T Morton

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Mrs B Ashfield: BESL C25a (land owner)

3. CRIME

Nothing reported from the Police report. MF advised the Council that Hall Farm's barn had been broken in to and items stolen. The Police had been very helpful.

4. MINUTES OF MEETING, JAN 2010:

Minutes of the meeting of the 10th February 2010 proposed by JT, seconded by BA. All agreed.

ACTION PLAN PROGRESS

5. Target 1: The Environment – wildlife & footpaths

5.1 Footpaths: MF has received a letter regarding footpaths along Marks Wood and changes to the footpaths in Gillingham. TG advised the Council that at the Gillingham PC meeting it was mentioned that footpaths were being checked to ensure they were properly marked. LS was asked to contact Gillingham PC to ask if anything was happening with footpaths in their Parish.

5.2 Village

EP has been approached about the untidiness of some areas around the village, in particular some gardens and the fence adjacent to the pub carpark. BA expressed the importance of wilder areas as they are important for the wildlife. JC suggested that the land being discussed belongs to Mr Dowson and that it is his understanding that Mr Dowson intends to clear some of the areas discussed. EP asked if the PC should approach Dowsons land agent regarding the gardens but it was suggested this would be inappropriate, however the PC would contact them about the fence that needs replacing / repairing.

5.3 Tree Warden

EP asked Mr Crowfoot if he could update the PC. JC advised the PC that he has been looking at what is planted around the village. There are not many TPOs, however as we are in a conservation area work can not be done to the trees without prior permission. JC asked if the hedge along the east side of the playing field could be trimmed to help it grow thicker and be better for wildlife. EP was concerned that it was too close to nesting time to be trimmed. After discussion it was agreed that JT would complete the work before the end of the month.

5.4 Village Hall

BA handed in an invoice for the cleaning cupboard which the PC had previously agreed to buy for the village hall. There is a full filing cabinet of paperwork relating to the PC and BA asked if it could be checked to see it was all required. MF advised the PC that she has been through the files and believes it all to be relevant and should be kept.

5.5 Village signs

EP asked further about the brown village signs. TG advised the Council that he is currently in discussions with NCC about the cost of them and he recommends we wait until we hear further from him.

5.6 Roads

MF is concerned with the poor road surface in Stockton Lane which is causing flooding, created by the dip in the road. LS to follow up with Highways Dept.

Target 4: Planning Documents

5.7 BESL Planning C25a

JC had attended the planning meeting at the Broads Authority and presented his thoughts/ concerns regarding the meeting. The Parish Clerk confirmed a letter has been received to confirm the planning applications for the flood alleviation work along the Geldeston stretch has been given permission.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Jan 2010 / Feb 2010

Broads Authority – confirmation of planning consent given to C25a flood alleviation project
SNC – advising the Parish that planning applications have been presented for 9 wind turbines around the Ringsfield and Barsham areas.

SNC – advising the Parish that the work to the driveway area of 1 Big Row does not require planning permission.

7. NEW ISSUES

None

8. PARISH 10

‘GREEN Group’. JT asked to be included in the considerations of the Green Group so that he could know about when to cut the grass etc. Mr Oxley suggested that it will be a while before ideas are collated and put into action so suggested JT continues to keep it presentable as usual.

Mr Oxley commented on the increase of the Parishes part of the Council tax. He understands the amount of money is a trivial amount, however it appears on the form as a big %. EP confirmed the Parish has requested £1000 more this year which would appear as a big %. The previous years have been kept low to allow for spending the surplus within the Parish account.

Mr Smith asked for the PCs help to promote the businesses within the village. He suggested inviting the different businesses to a meeting to see how they could work together to promote each other. EP offered to help set up and attend the first meeting but would hope the businesses could then continue a network group themselves.

Snowy Rolt asked if the wood, cut down from the work by the river, could be chipped and used in the playgroup. JT advised that only treated wood chips could be used in a childrens play area.

It had been noticed that some work had been completed on the Geldeston Hill footpath. RE said the work had been completed on a rainy day so it may not have been a successful job. Also the area around the bungalows has not been done which is a concrete path.

9. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the proposed expenditure and the current status of the bank accounts. All agreed.

10. PLANNING

Picollo – BA/2010/0017/FUL – No comments

21 Station Road – BA/2010/0050/FUL – No comments

11. AOB

TG advised the next SNAP meeting will be held in Poringland on 24th March. The tax rates for SNC were not increased this year. TG demonstrated a new type of sand bag which is fairly small and light, easy to store and very absorbent. They are not available from SNC but can be purchased by householders. More information is available from the Parish Clerk or SNC Councillor Tony Game.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on May 12th at 7pm in the village hall. EP will be standing down as Chair.

JT asked if the PC would consider sponsorship of his daughter who is raising money to go to Bulgaria as part of the Team GB running team. EP and LS to check if we are able to consider this request.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Next meeting Wednesday 14th April 2010 7.30pm

Meeting ended at 9pm