

Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 27th April 2009
Venue: Methodist Church, Bridewell Lane, Acle
Time: 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mr B Brooks, Mr B Coveley, Mr D Dickeson, Mrs E Elliott,
Mr B Grint, Mr J Harriss, Mrs L Hemsall, Mr N Law,
Mr R Perry, Mr B Tibbenham (Chairman).

1. PUBLIC FORUM

There were eight members of the public present, together with Brian Iles (County Councillor) and PC Paul Fox. Brian Iles gave an update on County Council matters, including an explanation of the current Boundary Committee's consultation. The budget has just been approved for an extension to Acle library. PC Fox gave a report on recorded crimes in the village for the past month.

2. APOLOGIES Mr R Clarke

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None.

4. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 30th March 2009 were signed as correct by Basil Tibbenham, as Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING

5.1 The clerk has written to NCC Legal Services to ask if should proceed with compulsory purchase order for cemetery extension

5.2 The clerk reported on a training session on the Planning Portal; it is hoped that the large majority of applicants will submit planning applications on-line and that they can then be sent to parish councils by email. This would involve councils having an A3 printer and a laptop and projector so that councillors could see the plans at the meeting. There are grants available for the technology needed but Broadland District Council has stated that paper plans will continue to be sent to councils for the time being.

5.3 The road near to the Co-op has been repaired.

5.4 Norfolk County Council has been chasing the debt for the vehicle activated flashing speed sign on A1064. The clerk spoke to a member of staff who said that a credit would be raised and then the invoice sent out when the work has been completed. NCC said that there is a problem with the landowner where the sign has been sited. If necessary, the sign will have to be relocated at no additional cost to the Parish Council.

5.5 The bus shelter has been cleaned.
(Diane Fisher joined the meeting at this point.)

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 The beer and music festival co-ordinators have contacted local residents to explain about plans to use the Damgate Lane play area for the summer event. Barry Coveley queried whether it was legal to charge for events in a public open space. Since the councillors did not know the answer to this question it was agreed to suggest that the event be moved to the school grounds.

6.2 A member of staff at Acle High School, who is also a First Responder for Acle area has explained that another defibrillator is needed for the village as the Responder who stores the defibrillator is not always on call or available. The new equipment will be available for all users of the School and for local medical staff. A heat-controlled box is required to store the equipment correctly and would be fixed to the outside of the school building for access outside school hours.

Councillors queried whether this was the most efficient use of public money and suggested that it would be better to purchase an additional defibrillator for the village.

6.3 Norwich International Airport has sent details of a consultation on the proposal to establish controlled airspace in the vicinity of the airport. There were no objections to the proposals.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

7.1 Plans discussed at the meeting:

i) **Mr Casey, Ivy Farm Barn, The Hill** - conversion and extension of dwelling. There were no objections to the plans.

ii) **Mr & Mrs Wright, 8 Bensley Close** - new porch roof. There were no objections to the plans.

7.2 Planning results from **Broadland District Council**:

i) **Mr & Mrs Cumpstey, Stone Cottage, Rotten Marsh** - alterations, extensions and new garage - full approval.

8. HIGHWAY MATTERS

8.1 Watering has been proposed for the hanging baskets at 1 1/2 hours per day @ £6.70 per hour. There will be 24 baskets this year compared with 18 last year. This was agreed.

8.2 NCC has said that there is no problem with installing “Welcome to Acle - Gateway to the Broads” signs at three locations:

i) New Road, by Travelodge

ii) Norwich Road, by telephone exchange

iii) Old Road, near to junction with link road

The price will be roughly £1,500 for these three signs which will be 1.2m x 0.6m. These were agreed.

8.3 A new bin has been installed by Broadland District Council by the public toilets - for bottles and cans.

8.4 Brian Grint reported that the new signboards for the woods have been erected.

9. STREET LIGHTING

9.1 It was agreed to proceed with the additional street lights in Station Road. There is no known landowner so the proposal will have to be advertised.

9.2 An updated list of the Council's lights has been produced and will be sent to the electricity supplier for their records.

10. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

District Councillor: At the Annual Parish Meeting a resident had expressed his disappointment that Charlotte Casimir had not attended a parish council meeting or parish meeting for several years.

Several letters were received by the Council and several members of the public attended the meeting to speak in support of Charlotte and explained that she had worked hard for them, on district council matters. After some discussion it was agreed that the clerk should write to Charlotte to explain what had happened and to confirm that the Council supported her and the work she does in the village.

11. BDC'S SITE ALLOCATIONS - POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT SITES

Maps have been received showing land put forward by landowners for consideration by Broadland District Council for potential development sites. The planning committee has examined the proposals in detail and made recommendations that large-scale development to the west of the village should be resisted as it was agreed that less than one hundred new houses was appropriate for the village and these could be accommodated in a combination of smaller sites around the village.

12. ACLE REGATTA

Brian reported that the Environment Agency has confirmed that the footpath will be kept open for the regatta. Plans for the regatta are well under way.

13. FINANCE

£

Receipts:

BDC - street naming and numbering	38.80
BDC - public conveniences	5,208.75
BDC - monitoring street cleaning	446.40
SWPC - reimb. costs	37.54
SWPC - reimb. costs	51.64

BPC - reimb. costs	25.82
WPC - reimb. costs	25.82
Burial and Memorial fees	150.00

Cheques for payment:

Norfolk Pension Fund	173.59
Hugh Crane Cleaning Eq't - supplies	62.40
T T Jones - lighting repairs	310.44
HMRC - PAYE & NIC	542.70
M Ward - cleaning	907.15
P James - clerk's fee and exps	1,034.26
Wilkersons - supplies	49.49
Garden Guardian - grass cutting	767.20
Copy It - photocopying	36.09
Norfolk ALC - subs	365.65
Norfolk RCC - subs	15.00
Broads Drainage Board - rates	33.31
Compass Blinds - Fletcher Room	495.00
Acle Pre-school - reimb. Rodent control	134.55
Aqua-force - cleaning bus shelter	92.00
Acle PCC - grant for grass cutting	1,250.00

Insurance quotes:

An alternative quote from Norwich Union has been received for £2661, or £2528 if the Council signs up for three years, compared with Zurich at £3130. The finance committee has compared the policies and the Norwich Union appears to be better cover, for less money, so it was agreed to change to Norwich Union.

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, 18th May 2009.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman

Dated: 18th May 2009