

Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 25th February 2008
Venue: Methodist Church, Bridewell Lane, Acle
Time: 7.30 p.m.

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

1. PUBLIC FORUM

There were eight members of the public present, together with Brian Iles (County Councillor) Matters raised included some lights needing repair and some highways matters. Brian Iles reported on the police budget and the boundary review. The Police sent a report; there have been two reported crimes in February.

2. APOLOGIES

Mr N Law, PC Ian Kennedy, PCSO Russell Oldham and PCSO Jon Morgan-Jones

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None.

4. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 28th January 2008 were signed as correct by Basil Tibbenham, as Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING

5.1 It was agreed to proceed with Parish Council identity cards for councillors to use at meetings and training sessions.

5.2 Brian Grint and David Dickeson reported on a meeting with the County Council to discuss the siting and design of the new noticeboards; planned locations are the wall of the bus shelter/public conveniences, the Recreation Centre car park, Acle Bridge and the railway station.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 The Recreation Centre has requested nominations for Trustees; Barry Brooks, Barry Coveley, David Dickeson, Chris Dove, Brian Grint, Lana Hemsall, Nigel Law, Rodney Perry and Norman Pryor were nominated.

6.2 Henry Cator, Chairman of the Broads (2006) Internal Drainage Board, has asked parish councils to write a letter of support for the consideration of a Yare Barrier to manage the risk of local flooding. It was agreed to support this campaign.

6.3 BDC has sent a consultation on the Supplementary Planning Document on Affordable Housing; after some discussion it was agreed that the threshold for the inclusion of an allocation of affordable housing in developments of greater than 0.4 hectares or those containing 15 or

more dwellings should be lowered to include villages with populations of 2,000 or more inhabitants, (BDC proposes populations of 3,000 as the cut-off). If this were adopted then Acle would fall into this bracket. Developments in smaller villages would have a requirement to provide affordable housing for sites of 0.2 hectares or where there were 5 or more houses being built.

It was agreed that 40% of housing in such sites should be affordable housing.

6.4 It was agreed that Parish Council would oversee Acle Regatta again, and insure the event. Brian Grint offered to be the Council contact with the Regatta committee again.

6.5 The clerk has obtained a quote for tree work at the cemetery for £400. This is to remove low and crossing branches from the trees along the boundary of the cemetery. This was accepted.

6.6 NCC has sent the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Consultation for the Local Development Framework.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

7.1 Plans discussed at the meeting:

i) **Travelodge, A47/New Road** - hardstanding and 3 LPG tanks. The councillors had no objections to the plans.

ii) **Mr Crowson, 4 Peter Avenue** - single storey extensions and dormer extension. The councillors had no objections to the plans.

8. HIGHWAY MATTERS

8.1 NCC has sent notice that The Stracey Arms Bridge on Branch Road, Halvergate (C434) has a capacity of 7 ½ tonnes, which falls short of the European Union requirement for the UK to provide a road network capable of carrying 40 tonne vehicles. The County Council plans to avoid carrying out bridge strengthening works where introducing weight restrictions may be a practical alternative. The Parish Council supported this proposal as it was felt that it was inappropriate for heavy lorries to be using this route.

8.2 Lana Hempsall and the clerk are to meet with police traffic officers to discuss improvements to the A1064.

8.3 It was reported that a carved block of stone has been removed from the wall adjacent to the development at The Limes, during repairs to the wall. Councillors hoped that this could be retained and used elsewhere.

8.4 It was reported that the carriageway is breaking up in St Edmunds Road.

8.5 EDF has been carrying out roadworks in the village centre in order to install a new power supply to The Limes. It was agreed that better signage would have encouraged people from

other villages to avoid the village centre where possible and this would have improved the situation.

8.6 There was a report that visitors are finding it difficult to locate Mill Court, off Mill Crescent. The clerk will contact Broadland District Council about improved signage.

9. STREET LIGHTING

9.1 The clerk has obtained a quote for the new style Philips Cosmopolis Iridium lantern at £294.00 each, (other quote was £445.00), for two lights in Damgate Lane. These lights have reduced light spillage and have a clear white light.

It was agreed to order replacement lanterns for these two lights, as well as for two lights in Englands Road and for the one opposite the High School.

9.2 The clerk has requested a review of light levels in The Street by the Co-op to see if an additional street light column would be appropriate. It was noted that light levels might improve if The Limes has additional lights on the front of the building.

10. PARISH PLAN

It was agreed to investigate paying someone to complete the processing of the remaining questionnaires to speed up the work.

11. PARKING LEAFLET

There was a proposal to draw up a leaflet to advise people that parking is available free of charge at the Recreation Centre. This leaflet would be placed under the windscreen wipers of cars noted to be parked long-term in the village centre, to try to improve the parking for short-term visitors and shoppers. The police have confirmed that leafleting in this way is legal so long as no damage is done to the vehicle, nor any obstruction caused to visibility.

The clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of the Recreation Centre trustees.

12. FLORAL DISPLAYS IN THE VILLAGE

Christopher James does not want to water the hanging baskets this summer and there have been no other volunteers so far to do the work full-time.

There was some discussion about purchasing additional planters for the folly tree green and by the monument.

13. COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARDS

It was agreed to proceed with the purchase of three noticeboards (the fourth board is to be sponsored by the Wherry Lines Partnership.) The project is grant funded by Leader+ and advertising space will also contribute to the costs.

14. FINANCE

£

Receipts:

Grazing fee for Springfield/Old Road land	216.00
Burial and memorial fees	740.00
BDC - del. functions	939.70

Bank interest	0.24
Cheques for payment:	
Veolia - skip hire DD	83.19
EON - electricity DD	532.06
N Law - petrol to meeting	16.20
M Ward - cleaning	501.56
P James - clerk's fee and exps	645.39
Inland Revenue - PAYE & NIC	489.13
Norfolk Pension	159.08
T T Jones - lighting repairs	424.66
BDC - replacement bin at cemetery	35.00
Wilkersons - consumables	15.19
G Nicholls - top soil for cemetery	117.50
Audit Commission	470.00
John Wilson - Christmas tree	35.00

It was agreed to purchase a wheelbarrow for use at the cemetery.

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, 31st March 2008.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

Signed.....
Chairman

Dated: 31st March 2008