

Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 28th January 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 N Law, Mr R Perry,
Mr B Tibbenham (Chairman).

1. PUBLIC FORUM

There were eleven members of the public present, together with Brian Iles (County Councillor) Matters raised included parking in the village and various highways matters. PC Ian Kennedy and PCSO Russell Oldham gave a report on recent crime statistics.

2. APOLOGIES

None.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th December 2007 were signed as correct by Basil Tibbenham, as Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING

5.1 The Allotment Association has signed the extension to the agreement and thanked the Council for the comments on the well run site.

5.2 The Acle Community Archive Group has thanked the Council for the donation of £550 for the rental costs for the office at Herondale.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 The Annual Return has been completed and signed by the Audit Commission. Their comments were that the Council must formally review its level of general reserves and consider the level of precept it sets as local councils have no powers to hold reserves other than for reasonable working capital purposes or for specifically earmarked purposes. Councillors confirmed that this was considered when setting the budget and precept for 2008/09 and additional funds were transferred from general reserves to earmarked reserves.

6.2 The Broads Authority has sent its consultation papers on the Local Development Framework: Development Control Policies - Preferred Options and draft Supplementary Planning Document on Development and Flood Risk. There were no comments.

6.3 BDC has arranged a meeting to explain Project Argus which is aimed at protecting against terrorist attack.

6.4 The Acle Events Committee has sent notice of the May Day event on Sunday, 4th May at the land adjacent to the library.

6.5 The Department for Communities and Local Government has sent its consultation document on Orders and Regulations relating to the Conduct of Local Authority Members in England; a revised ethical conduct regime for local government based on the principle of proportionate decision-making on conduct issues by local authorities. There were no comments.

6.6 The Parish Council's contributions to the Norfolk Pension Fund will increase to 18.0% by 2010/2011. This was noted.

6.7 BDC has invited two members of each parish/town council to attend a meeting for the Local Development Framework on Wednesday, 27th February to explain the paperwork for setting out their specific planning-related needs. John Harriss and Nigel Law will attend.

6.8 The Broads Authority has sent details of its consultation on changes to planning application forms. This was noted.

6.9 BDC has asked councils to comment on the Broadland District Landscape Character Assessment. Acle is shown as "Marshes - Fringe". This was accepted as a broad description of the area.

6.10 The contract for the 2008 grass cutting at the Fletcher Room is £445.21. (2007 429.73) This was accepted.

6.11 John Harriss, Diane Fisher, Lana Hempsall and the clerk met with a representative from NCC who explained that she was gathering information for services under the Sure Start programme; to provide better access to services for local families, with outreach services for isolated families, information on local childcare, activities for children and parents and links to Jobcentre Plus to encourage and support labour market participation by parents/cares. Very little funding will be available for the scheme.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

7.1 Plans discussed at the meeting:

i) **Mr Robson, 7 Orchard Close** - single storey front extension, car port to side/front. The councillors had no objections to the plans.

ii) **Mr & Mrs Belgrave-Lock, 6 Charles Close** - side extension. The councillors had no objections to the plans.

iii) **Mr Bayfield, Ivy House, The Street** - internal and external alterations, replacement thatched roof (listed building). The councillors had no objections to the plans.

iv) **Mr Stimpson, 16 Englands Road** - erection of conservatory to rear. The councillors had no objections to the plans.

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

i) **Acle Recreation Centre** - smoking shelter - full approval

ii) **Mr Bayfield - Ivy House** - change of use of ground floor room to residential use (retrospective) - full approval

iii) **Mr & Mrs Whittaker, 3 George Lane** - single storey side extension - full approval.

7.3 Appeal decision from the **Planning Inspectorate**:

i) **Mr & Mrs Armes, 72 Old Road** - erection of bungalow - appeal allowed, permission given.

7.4 John Harriss reported on his review of the new BDC planning forms; no further comment is necessary.

8. HIGHWAY MATTERS

8.1 The Leader+ scheme has awarded a grant of £2,500 towards four new community noticeboards. Thanks to David Dickeson for preparing and submitting the grant application form. David offered to contact landowners for permission to erect the noticeboards and to ask local businesses for a fee to advertise on the boards.

8.2 NCC has offered cycle parking at four sites - by the public toilets, by Barclays bus shelter, by the library and by the doctors' surgery.

8.3 A hole around a manhole cover in South Walsham Road was reported.

9. STREET LIGHTING

9.1 Two new lanterns are required. It was decided to pay for the more expensive Philips Cosmopolis Iridium lanterns which produce a white light and have less light spillage, as recommended by the County Council and the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England. A second quotation is expected shortly.

9.2 It was agreed to obtain an assessment of light levels in The Street, between The Limes and The Co-op and to consider installing an additional light.

9.3 Electrical Testing has reported that all locations for the Christmas lights have timer switches. It was agreed to set the lights next Christmas to come on between 7.00 and 8.00 and then 15.30 and 24.00.

10. PARISH PLAN

Processing of replies continues. More people are needed to help with the work.

11. CHANGES TO PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Diane Fisher, John Harriss, Basil Tibbenham, Brian Grint and the clerk reported on a site meeting with local residents and businesses. Consultation letters had also been delivered to all properties fronting the areas being considered. People living outside the village had also been asked their views.

After some discussion it was agreed to request changes as follows:

- support the installation of double yellow lines along the short side of The Green
- shorten the parking bay outside Fern House/ Acle Coffee Shop to two spaces
- shorten the parking bay outside the hairdressers' by one metre to improve access to the loker
- add double yellow lines around the corner of Old Road from the pet shop store room
- add parking bays outside the pet shop and Jary's- to request that these have a one hour restriction from 9.00 to 16.00, Monday to Friday
- reject proposals for parking bays opposite Wilkerson's
- reject proposal to paint double yellow lines along Old Road in front of Wilkerson's
- leave the parking restriction around The Green and Folly Tree area at two hours, but change the hours to 9.00 - 16.00 Monday to Friday
- add short double yellow lines around the "corners" of Priory Close visibility splay
- remove the single yellow lines, and current Thursday parking restriction, along The Street, from the churchyard driveway to the pelican crossing markings, and all of Priory Close and outside the Post Office

12. HANGING BASKETS

It is proving difficult to find someone to take on the regular watering of the hanging baskets this year. John Harriss and Diane Fisher offered to carry out a survey of local businesses to see if each might consider taking on the watering of a basket/display at a lower level.

13. FINANCE

£

Receipts:

VAT refund	3,246.36
Reimbursement of expenses	125.98
Burial and memorial fees	355.00
Wayleaves	139.93
Allotments - reimbursement of water costs	139.93

Cheques for payment:

Veolia - skip hire DD	85.61
Anglian Water DD cemetery	25.79
Anglian Water DD public toilets	1,124.56
EON - electricity DD	532.06
S Taylor - electricity for Christmas lights	144.30
Inland Revenue - PAYE & NIC	509.26
M Ward - cleaning	530.92
Norfolk Pension	159.09
P James - clerk's fee, del. functs and battery	800.57
Bunzl - supplies	468.97
Micro-Tec - computer repairs and upgrade	190.96

CPRE - subs	28.00
Festivelite - Christmas lights	4,848.05
SWPC - share of subs	24.25
Acle Methodist Church - room hire	42.00
Hugh Crane Cleaning Equ't - supplies	38.34
Wilkersons - supplies	37.28
Copy IT - copying	33.88
T T Jones - lighting repairs	377.07
Derek Willgress - work at cemetery	35.00

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, 25th February 2008.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman

Dated: 25th February 2008