

## **Acle Parish Council**

Meeting Date: Monday, 30th October 2006  
Venue: Methodist Church, Bridewell Lane, Acle  
Time: 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mr R Clarke, Mr B Coveley, Mr C Dove, Mrs D Fisher,  
Mr B Grint, Mr J Harriss, Mr A Hemmingway, Mr N Law,  
Mr R Perry, Mr B Tibbenham (Chairman).

Before the meeting commenced, Inspector Crowther gave a report on the district, made up of 55 parishes. The inspector discussed the criminal damage at the public toilets and suggested that they be closed over night. He outlined various approaches to anti-social behaviour, such as letters to parents, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Anti-Social Behaviour Orders. Vic Hannant (BDC's Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator) also attended the meeting and recommended that the Parish Council call a public meeting to discuss the options for the village and consult the young people of the village to ascertain what facilities they would like in the village. It was also recommended that Peter Burnham, County Community Safety Officer, be invited to a future meeting to discuss this further.

Inspector Crowther and Vic Hannant were thanked for attending the meeting.

### **1. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were fifteen members of the public present, together with and Brian Iles (County Councillor) and PC Neil Hargreaves. Matters raised included the new bus shelter.

**2. APOLOGIES** Mr B Brooks and Mrs E Elliott.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Basil Tibbenham declared a personal interest in the request for the payment for a homewatch sign for Bridewell Lane.

**4. MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 25th September 2006 were signed as correct by the Chairman.

### **5. MATTERS ARISING**

5.1 Electrical Testing have confirmed that they will carry out the testing and re-lamping, at cost, again this year but would ask that new lighting is installed for next year. The work will be done week commencing 27th November.

5.2 The Folly Tree lights will be installed in time for the Christmas festivities.

5.3 Correspondence has been received from Keith Simpson MP and Jim Fitzpatrick MP, minister for Employment Relations and Postal Services with regard to the Council's concerns about the future of rural post offices; Mr Fitzpatrick has stated that the Government cannot maintain current levels of subsidy for post offices and that their future depends on their attracting residents in to use their services.

5.4 NCC has written to the Highways Agency to ask them to inspect the retaining wall at the underpass. Markings on The Street for the bus stop will be organised shortly. Further improvements will be made to the warning signs for the crossing at Norwich Road. It was confirmed that all grit bins would be replenished in November. NCC has stated that they could not fund additional road markings on A1064 but would support the Parish Council if it was decided to pay for a flashing speed sign. The clerk was asked to contact NCC for a quote for this.

5.5 NCC also has inspected drains in Aldis Road and has agreed to carry out improvements. Repairs were made to the ground around two telegraph poles in St Edmunds Road. The engineer also inspected the dip above the railway on the fly over and has stated that no repairs are needed as some movement is inevitable where there are joints such as these.

5.6 The public meeting to show plans for the A47 improvements at the White House junction has been delayed until early 2007, but work on the scheme is continuing.

5.7 Two compost bins have been made for the cemetery.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

6.1 BDC will meet with councillors on Monday, 6th November at 9.30 a.m. to discuss production of a map and leaflet to publicise the village.

6.2 A training session has been arranged on Monday, 20th November at BDC's offices on planning.

6.3 Residents of Bridewell Lane have asked the Council to pay for the cost of the Homewatch sign, £25.00. This was agreed. (Basil Tibbenham declared a personal interest as a resident of Bridewell Lane.)

6.4 BDC has offered assistance with local clearing up schemes for litter and flytipping.

6.5 BDC has invited councillors to take part in the Planning Services Review.

6.6 Information has been received on underground recycling bins which might be a good idea for the Recreation Centre site. It was agreed to find out more.

6.7 BDC has asked for comments on their plan to no longer send copies of plans to Parish Councils; details will be available on the website instead. Councillors objected to this proposal as maps would then only be available as A4 sized documents which would be difficult to view. Residents are also invited to visit the clerk's house to view plans and this facility would no longer be very useful if plans were on a small scale.

6.8 BDC has sent a questionnaire on Parking Standards. It was agreed to report that more parking spaces were needed for village developments; most households have at least two cars and space needs to be provided for visitors.

6.9 BDC has also asked for comments on the Supplementary Planning Document on Recreational Open Space. Councillors supported the principle of developers being asked to contribute to open spaces provision but felt unable to comment on the detailed proposals.

6.10 The new owners at the Amber Lodge, formerly Mannings, have written to let the Council know that they plan to have a fireworks display on 5th November each year. This was noted.

## **7. PLANNING MATTERS**

7.1 Plans discussed at the meeting:

i) **Mr Sorrell, 2 Bensley Close** - erect 1.8m high close boarded fence. The councillors decided by a majority to object as they felt the fence would be out-of-keeping and unneighbourly.

ii) **Mr & Mrs Bradbury, 29 St. Edmunds Road** - front porch. The councillors had no objections to the plans.

iii) **Mr & Mrs Miller-Fik, 19 Mill Lane** - porch extension. The councillors had no objections to the plans.

iv) **Executors of the estate of Mr Symonds deceased, adj. 17 Damgate Close** - bungalow (outline). The councillors objected to the plans. There were concerns about access to the site being along a private lane, but also the councillors felt that the building would be unneighbourly because of the difference in levels in this area.

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

i) **Acle Recreation Centre** - variation of condition to allow operation of floodlights until 22.00 hours each day- full approval.

ii) **Mr & Mrs Sadler, Heron Flight, New Road** - proposed garage and workshop - full approval.

## **8. HIGHWAY MATTERS**

The clerk reported some recent vandalism at the public toilets. The broken mirror is to be replaced and a new toilet pan is needed. It was reported that the footpath at the top of Mill Lane needs cutting.

## **9. STREET LIGHTING**

A couple of lights were reported for repair.

## **10. PARISH PLAN**

Questionnaires are still being returned. The committee is to meet shortly to decide how to process the replies.

## 11. BROADS AUTHORITY CORE STRATEGY

The documents are too long and unwieldy to review easily; Nigel Law offered to skim through the document to see if any sections were relevant to the village.

## 12. CEMETERY

Two quotes have been received; £1,600 to level plots and re-seed or compact and re-seed, then remove subsoil build up around hedges, or £750 to level and re-seed uneven graves, weed 15 graves, strim the rear bank, but not to remove the soil. It was agreed to accept the lower quote and to arrange for the soil to be removed separately.

## 13. GRASS CUTTING SPECIFICATION

After some discussion it was agreed to send out the grass cutting specification amended to request cutting every 10 days, rather than fortnightly.

## 14. FOOTWAY REQUEST

Reedham Road was assessed in 2003 and scored 38 points, meaning that it would be at least six years before the scheme would be considered. It is suggested that the road could be reassessed as the pedestrian usage might have changed. It was agreed to request a reassessment on a Thursday.

## 15. FINANCE

£

### Receipts:

2nd half precept	21,500.00
Burial and memorial fees	990.00
BDC - street numbering fee	35.00
Bank interest	0.23

### Cheques for payment:

Inland Revenue - PAYE & NIC	610.31
M Ward - cleaning	713.51
P James - clerk's fee and exps	682.51
BADCOG - subs	5.00
Acle Methodists - hire of hall	37.50
LexisNexis - course book	53.45
Harlequin Electrical - Fletcher Room repairs	129.91
Norfolk Pension	135.52
NCS - grass cutting (Sept and Oct)	139.28
Wilkersons - consumables	38.41
Tudor Printing - additional copies of questionnaire	68.00
MRC Construction - repairs to Fletcher Room	352.50
Garden Guardian - grass cutting	634.50
B Banham - removal of bus shelter	141.00
M Allen - footpath fee	30.00
T T Jones - lighting repairs	814.94
Sth Walsham PC - share of stationery	83.21

**16. FINANCIAL STANDING ORDERS**

The clerk presented revised financial standing orders; amended to show the delegation to the clerk of spending up to £500 in the case of an emergency or to ensure the smooth running of the Council. These were approved.

**17. ACLE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Nigel Law reported that a small committee has been set up to run the event. They have applied to the Police for the road closure from 6 p.m. Stallholders have been asked to provide evidence of insurance cover and to book stalls in advance. The committee has consulted with the owners of the Kings Head to co-ordinate the event.

The committee is also considering a summer event, such as a fete or ball, with a fireworks display in November.

**18. FLETCHER ROOM LEASE**

Norfolk Property Services has agreed to extend the lease at £350 for three years, but has warned that the rent will have to be increased at that time. The councillors were glad to accept this offer.

**19. DAMGATE LAND PLAY AREA**

BDC has sent advice on applying for byelaws; BDC cannot apply for them on behalf of the Council as the land is owned by the charity, Acle Borderland Trust. The Council is advised to apply to the Charity Commission for permission to draw up a byelaw to close the play area at dusk. This was agreed.

It was also agreed to investigate whether the area could be designated an Alcohol Control Zone. The councillors felt that this would be a good topic to consider at the Annual Parish Meeting.

**20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, 27th November 2006.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.

Signed.....  
Chairman

Dated: 27th November 2006