

## Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 25th October 2010  
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 Hempsall, Mr N Law, Mr B Tibbenham (Chairman).

### 1. PUBLIC FORUM

There were ten members of the public present. Matters raised included the village website and the Safer Neighbourhood Area Panel. Paul Jones from Acle High School gave a report on the archaeological work being done at the land behind Springfield and thanked the Council for their support.

2. **APOLOGIES** Mr R Perry and Brian Iles (County Councillor)

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

Basil Tibbenham declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Recreation Centre Management (as his son is a trustee) and in the Royal British Legion as he is president.

Barry Brooks suggested that item 10, (to consider options for assisting with the funding of repairs to, or replacement of, play equipment at the Recreation Centre,) should be deferred to the next meeting; he said that the legal advice obtained by the clerk from the National Association of Local Councils' solicitor was flawed as he considered that the advice only took into account the Trust Deed for the Charity, rather than considering Charity Law. He recommended that the councillors read "The Essential Trustee", published by the Charity Commission.

Barry also said that he was aware that the Parish Council had been advised to apply for a dispensation so that councillors who are also Recreation Centre trustees could remain in meetings to discuss matters concerning the Recreation Centre. The clerk advised that where sufficient councillors would remain in the room to form a quorum, then a dispensation would not be given. Barry repeated that discussion of the issue should be left until the dispensation had been obtained so that all councillors could join in the discussions.

After some discussion it was agreed that the Council would appoint local solicitor Nicholas Hancox to advise on whether the Recreation Centre charity could spend its money on repairing or replacing the play area equipment. The clerk was also asked to request a dispensation for those councillors who are also trustees. Item 10 was formally deferred.

4. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 27th September 2010 were agreed to be correct and were signed by the Chairman.

## **5. MATTERS ARISING**

- 5.1 Parliament has agreed that parish council elections may take place on the same day as the Government's referendum in May 2011.
- 5.2 As requested, the clerk has ordered a 15' Christmas tree from Moulton Nurseries, for £59. Festivalite have been asked to check and re-lamp the shop front lights in the village.
- 5.3 A contractor has been asked to re-turf the green.
- 5.4 Victim Support sent a letter of thanks for the recent donation.
- 5.5 Norfolk County Council explained that the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) near to Acle High School is set to operate during school times as it is a "Mother/child & slow down" sign, and this was thought to have the most impact on drivers. NCC said that there were not funds to extend the footway to the houses at the end of South Walsham Road.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

- 6.1 Acle with Fishley PCC is currently carrying out the restoration of Fishley Church tower and drainage works to the entire building. English Heritage has given a grant and some fundraising has been carried out. £14,200 still needs to be raised. It was agreed to donate £250. (LGA 1972 s.137 donation.)
- 6.2 Quotes have been received for replacement flooring at the Fletcher Room, from £710 to £807. It was agreed to let the Pre-school committee choose whether to have carpet or tiles.
- 6.3 Norfolk Association of Architects sent a brochure setting out their ideas for Acle. The councillors discussed the ideas which include developing a lake to the north of Acle, significant housing and improved infrastructure. The councillors discussed the ideas but repeated their belief that small-scale housing over the next 15 years would be the best way for Acle.
- 6.4 It was agreed to give a donation of £30 to the Royal British Legion (LGA 1972 s.137) (Basil Tibbenham declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or voting)
- 6.5 NCC has sent the Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies Development Plan Document for comments. This was noted.
- 6.6 A company has sent details of a digital mapping service. It was agreed that this was not needed at present.

- 6.7 Norfolk Pension Fund has sent a document on the Employer Contribution Rate Stabilisation Mechanism; this is a ceiling on contribution rates and a floor on contribution reductions to smooth changes in employer contribution rates. This was noted.
- 6.8 There has been no correspondence from the person who had offered to run the website. John Harriss offered to contact Peter Upton who had expressed an interest in helping.
- 6.9 PC Paul Fox sent a report of four recorded crimes since the last meeting.

Nigel Law left the meeting at this point.

## **7. PLANNING MATTERS**

- 7.1 Plans discussed at the meeting:
- i) **Mr Petley, Acle Garden Machinery** – showroom extension. The councillors had no objections to the plans.
  - ii) **Ms Wilson, North View, Bridewell Lane** – conservatory and alterations to access. The councillors had no objections to the plans.
  - iii) **Mr & Mrs Lindsay, Holly Lodge, Old Road** – demolition of existing garage and construction of 1 ½ storey extension comprising 3 bay garage with annexe accommodation over . The councillors had no objections to the plans.
  - iv) **Mr Singh Suwali, The Star of India, Old Road** – change of use from restaurant to restaurant and take-away. The councillors had no objections to the plans.
  - v) **Mr Carter, 1 Hermitage Close** – extension and alterations to bungalow and detached garage. The councillors had no objections to the plans.
- 7.2 Planning results from **Broadland District Council**:
- i) 20101125 **Mrs Steadman, 10 Englands Road** – conservatory – full approval
  - ii) 20101150 **STS** – non-illuminated fascias and sign – advertising approval
  - iii) 20101211 **Mr Tuddenham, former Methodist Chapel, Middlesex Lane** – demolition of chapel and erection of one dwelling – full approval
  - iv) 20101254 **Mr Wilson, 2 De Carle Smith Road** – extension – full approval

## **8. HIGHWAY MATTERS**

- 8.1 Volunteers for the Acle Community Speedwatch Scheme will be sought; the scheme is not currently operating.

- 8.2 The clerk asked if the councillors wanted to fill the Parish Council grit bin in Fletcher Way and whether to provide another grit bin in De Carle Smith Road as requested by residents last winter; NCC Highways will not provide grit bins for smaller roads. It was agreed to investigate the price of salt/grit.
- 8.3 It was suggested that highways signage could be improved at The Green.
- 8.4 The nameplate for Priory Close was reported to be in need of replacement.
- 8.5 There was some discussion about the broken glass around the glass recycling bins at the Recreation Centre car park.
- 8.6 The clerk was asked to contact Highways about the surface water holding tank adjacent to the cemetery and to ask that the nearby groups be cleared out.

## 9. STREET LIGHTING

A couple of lights were reported for repair.

## 10. RECREATION CENTRE PLAY AREA

This item was deferred.

## 11. FINANCE

£

### Receipts:

Evolved Media – donation for watering	25.00
Burial and memorial fees	1,035.00
Reimbursement of costs	61.56
BDC – delegated functions	1,046.04
BDC – second half of precept	25,588.00

### Cheques for payment:

P James – clerk's fee and exps	819.58
Norfolk Pension Fund	197.52
Inland Revenue	657.22
Mick Ward – cleaning (including holiday pay)	926.33
SLCC – training course	111.62
T T Jones – lighting repairs	741.39
Tony Hemmingway – repairs	236.52
Diane Fisher – reimb. repairs to cart	5.82
Blockbuster – drains at Fletcher Room	276.13
Garden Guardian – grasscutting	979.22
SWPC – reimb. stationery	31.71
Hugh Crane – cleaning equipment	18.82
Norse – grasscutting Fletcher Room	80.27
Acle with Fishley PCC – s.137 donation	250.00
Royal British Legion – s.137 donation	30.00

Savings account £162,000  
Gilts £125,000

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, 29th November 2010.**

**At this point it was resolved under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude members of the public to discuss the extension at the cemetery.**

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**13. CEMETERY**

There has been a positive response from the Environment Agency, but they have requested some holes be dug upgradient to 4m depth.

A quote has been obtained for £350 for attendance by the cemetery company but they would need a digger. Two sites have been suggested, next to proposed cemetery; one in the existing cemetery and one in Recreation Centre land. The clerk was asked to find out more about the management of these holes.

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

Signed.....

Dated: 29th November 2010