

SNETTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Snettisham Parish Council held on Wednesday 1st May, 2013 at 7.30 p.m. in the Methodist Church Hall, Snettisham

Present:

Cllr E Langford – Presiding

Cllr J Bailey, Cllr P Bradshaw, Cllr N Burchett, Cllr I Devereux, Cllr M Fountain, Cllr A Gascoigne, Cllr D Snelgrove

Alistair Skipper - RFO

County Cllr Dobson was present for some of the meeting. Borough Cllr Christopher was present throughout the public section of the meeting, as was PC Ian MacCrae from Norfolk Constabulary.

Also in attendance: Approximately 20 members of the public

Minutes taken by Simon Bower (Clerk to the Council)

Prior to the meeting being opened Cllr Langford welcomed the Public to the meeting. He also requested that Cllrs should stand to speak if possible to make hearing easier for all.

Meeting commenced at 7.32pm

2013.05.01.01 – **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Steinacker and E Fountain.

2013.05.01.02 – A **declaration of interest** on item 12.f was received from Cllr Devereux.

2013.05.01.03 – The meeting was suspended for **public participation**. Issues raised were: the **Watermill** (Norfolk Mills Trust remained to be contacted); land opposite the Pet Shop on Lynn Rd and **planting** taking place there (BCKLWN approval received); Lodge Walk **Trees** (to be covered in ASSG report); sand remaining by **Butterfly** (final completion awaited)

2013.05.01.04 – No **co-option** names had been put forward.

2013.05.01.05 – **Chairman's remarks**.

Cllr Langford reported that, following a parishioner's question, the Council had checked the position regarding **VAT on Council Income**. It appeared that SPC had been deregistered in 2005, against HMRC rules. Consequently SPC had not paid VAT since then; the sum involved could be up to £60,000. SPC were in discussion with HMRC on the matter, and Police had also been informed. A written statement was available.

A letter from Ken Hill Estates' solicitors indicated that they wish to raise the **rent** considerably on the **Car Park**. This would be a flat rate and would take no account of SPC expenditure. Legal advice is continuing.

Cllr Tim Cannon has **resigned from SPC** for personal reasons. Cllr Langford thanked him for his work on the Council and its groups and wished him well.

Council were reminded of the opening of the **Heritage Display** at the Parish Church – 3/5/13 at 7pm

Signed:..... Date: 15/5/2013

A **Plaque** has been erected in the Market Square commemorating those who died in the '53 floods. The Events' Committee have organised an unveiling on 2/5/13.

The **DMMO** dealing with the footpath is out for consultation until 3/5/13; objections and supportive comments should go to NCC before that date.

2013.05.01.06 – **Minutes** of the meeting held on 18/5/13 were confirmed as correct.

Prop: Cllr Devereux; 2nd: Cllr Burchett; 6 for

2013.05.01.07 – **Matters arising** – none were brought up

2013.05.01.08 – Council considered **revisions to Council procedure** etc held over at last meeting under S/O 79:

1. *Council to adopt the email policy into Standing Orders, with adjustment of Standing Orders as required.* [Clarification was sought – “as required” meaning those changes needed to enable such inclusion]

Prop: Cllr Devereux; 2nd: Cllr Burchett; 5 for, 1 abst

2. *Council to adopt amendments to email policy*

Prop: Cllr Devereux; 2nd: Cllr M Fountain; 6 for

3. *Council to adopt revised Members' Code of Conduct and adopt into Standing Orders.*

Prop: Cllr Devereux; 2nd: Cllr M Fountain; 6 for

2013.05.01.09 – County/Borough **Councillors Remarks**: Cllr Dobson commented that the **Incinerator** Public Enquiry had now concluded. Summaries would now be presented to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. Cllr Dobson had proposed a special meeting of NCC to see if they wished to continue given the possible changes to the Council in current elections. Cllr Christopher commented that she had seen how much time and effort had been focused on the Incinerator issue at Borough level.

2013.05.01.10 – **Constabulary Report**: PC Ian MacCrae reported that crime in Norfolk had fallen by 10% with Anti-Social Behaviour doing so by 16%. The figures locally were even more favourable. Staff changes included the move of the Chief Constable moving to SOCS, replaced *pro tem* by his assistant, and the appointment of Carl Edwards as the local superintendent.

2013.05.01.11 – **Financial** matters:

- a) The **RFO** wished to make Cllrs aware that:

- i. Chalk Pit cheques now being paid into that a/c directly
- ii. mileage payments were overbudget, partly due to Norwich trips, and would be likely to continue so for remainder of year
- iii. Car Park printing cost had exceeded expectations since there had been a remaining invoice from last year
- iv. The Play Area account had been closed and the balance of £2.01 transferred into general funds.

- b) Council to approve **cheque** payments.

Prop: Cllr Devereux; 2nd: Cllr Burchett; unanimous

- c) *Council to approve insurance quotation from Zurich Insurance.* (This dependent on Clerk ascertaining that cover is “new for old” and that new bench is included*) [Clerk was also requested to investigate cover of Car Park**]

Prop: Cllr Gascoigne; 2nd: Cllr Burchett; unanimous

2013.05.01.12 – **Support Groups** and reports:

Signed:..... Date: 15/5/2013

a) **Planning:**

- i. No report
- ii. *Council resolves to approve the Outline Planning Application at 119 Station Rd, ref 13/000529/0 for a two-storey dwelling, subject to confirmation that a) this will not overload the existing vehicular and utility infrastructure, and b) that the style and selection of materials is harmonious with the existing properties.*

Prop: Cllr Devereux; 2nd: Cllr Snelgrove; unanimous

b) **Amenities and Services:**

- i. The notes from the SG meeting were briefly gone through. The issue of trees and Tree Protection Orders was covered. Southgate Lane: Clerk had requested planting by BCKLWN; awaiting response.
- ii. & iii. not voted on

c) **Beach:**

- i. No report

d) **Governance:**

- i. No report

e) **Personnel:**

- i. No report

f) **Beach Footpath Working Group:**

- i. [Cllr Devereux left the meeting] No report
- ii. *Council to confirm engaging services of expert on PROWs at discretion of BFWG.*

Prop: Cllr M Fountain; 2nd: Cllr Snelgrove; unanimous

[Cllr Devereux returned]

2013.05.01.13 – **No** meeting reports presented

2013.05.01.14 – **Correspondence/AOB:**

- a) Council considered paper from Clerk regarding sale of **biodegradable bags** for food waste through Parish Office. This was considered impracticable. *Council resolved to ask local shops if they would be prepared to offer biodegradable bags as service to the Public.*

Prop: Cllr Devereux; 2nd: Cllr M Fountain; unanimous

- b) *Council resolved to donate £50 to the Royal British Legion*

Prop: Cllr M Fountain; 2nd: Cllr Bradshaw; unanimous

2013.05.01.15 – **No** items were introduced

2013.05.01.16 – Meeting adjourned for **Public Speaking**. Subjects raise were: a **petition** had been raised with 1803 signatures supporting the DMMO and sent to NCC – EDP, Lynn News and BBC had all been involved in reporting – some petitions had been removed from the shops where they were held – Council thanked those organising the petition; **thanks** from the Royal British Legion – two separate parishioners; question on **Newsletter** expenditure and income – answer to come from RFO

2013.05.01.17/18 – Next meeting (**Annual Parish Council Meeting**) on Wednesday 15th May at 7.00pm in Memorial Hall; **Annual Parish Meeting** follows at 7.30pm. Request made for potential speakers to be suggested to Clerk.

2013.05.01.18/19 – Public left at 8.45pm leaving Council in private session as per agenda notice. The current position regarding the VAT issue was outlined. A

strategy of raising the issue at the highest level was agreed, copying in MP etc as appropriate.

Keeping a second copy of financial/legal records off-site was also agreed.

Regarding Ken Hill and the Car Park rent, *it was resolved to allow any extra hours by Clerk, RFO and any advisors to be charged against Car Park income.*

Prop: Cllr Devereux; 2nd: Cllr Burchett; unanimous

Considering financial issues, it was agreed that the Clerk should furnish all Councillors with regular summaries of car park income etc.

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm

NB

*Clerk confirmed this on 2/5/13 and arranged insurance cover

** Clerk confirmed on 2/5/13 Car Park not covered for flood. Cllrs informed.