

SNETTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Snettisham Parish Council held on 3rd September, 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall

Present:

Cllr E Langford (EL) – Presiding

Cllr J Bailey (JB), Cllr R Barker (RB), Cllr M Fountain (MF), Cllr A Gascoigne (AG), Cllr A Lamplugh (AL), Cllr R Pugh (RP), Cllr D Snelgrove (DS)

Also in attendance: County Cllr J Dobson (JD)

Approximately 20 members of the public

Minutes taken by Simon Bower (Clerk to the Council)

At 6pm a presentation was given by the company proposing to site a solar farm in the Village. This was for councillors and other interested residents to raise questions, and seek information.

Meeting started at 7.33pm

2014.09.03.01 – There were **apologies** from Cllr Eddie Fountain, and from Borough Cllrs Christopher and Wright.

2014.09.03.02 – There were no **declarations** of interest.

2014.09.03.03 – The meeting was suspended for **public speaking**. The position of the Townlands Charity land was raised in respect of potential solar farm – Council would protect and if possible exploit.

2014.09.03.04 – No nominations for co-option had been received.

2014.09.03.05 – The **Chairman** reported on: the use of new induction loop system in the Hall; his thanks to AG for chairing the previous meeting; the 26th September deadline for objections to the confirmed footpath order; the 21st /22nd September court case over the Land Registry claim at the Beach; the proposed solar farm, and potential benefits.

2014.09.03.06 – *The **minutes** of the meeting held on 6th September were approved for accuracy and duly signed.*

Prop: AG; 2nd: RB; 6-0

2014.09.03.07 – **Matters arising** from the above included: VAT letter written and awaiting response; chickens had been removed though some remain; double yellow lines proposed still with Highways.

2014.09.03.08 – **JD** reported on the new Managing Director at NCC, which should improve running of the authority; main issue coming up is finance – to avoid Government penalties NCC need to ensure Council Tax does not rise, JD's feeling that economies can still be made by changes to contractors etc. Details of flood funding were discussed in questions.

2014.09.03.09 – The Clerk read from recent **Police** reports. Car crime was still the main issue – damage rather than theft – but there had been a small number of thefts and break-ins in the immediate area. Email scams were raised by the Chair.

2014.09.03.10.a – **Budget** Monitoring Report presented. 50% of the accounting year has passed and there are no unexpected overspends on individual budgets.

Signed:



(Chair)

Date: 1/10/14

2014.09.03.10.b – Payments were approved, including for two additional invoices received after account preparation – Heronwood (£276), Ultimate (£106.80).

Prop: AG; 2nd: JB; unanimous

2014.09.03.10.c – Street Lighting: RB reported on a survey conducted by him and EL. Certain areas were not lit (notably West of the by-pass, but other specific places mentioned); and there some adjustments to power and possible resiting needed. The Clerk reported that any lighting on Beach Road would be SPC not NCC responsibility. Quotes (three) were looked at by Council. [AG declared an interest due to employment by a subsidiary company.] Due to large amount of detail in one bid, and the need to confirm whether this work was required, the item was deferred for further discussion. EL, RB and Clerk to pursue and report back.

2014.09.03.11.a.1 – DS informed Council that he felt lack of information prevented any informed **planning** decisions.

2014.09.03.11.a.ii – On application **14/01127** – change of use - Clerk reminded Council they had held this over from last month, and outlined concerns from a neighbour [meeting suspended to allow her to speak]. Council asked that Clerk should write expressing the view that any restrictions on commercial activities should be clearly expressed and agree with the original plans, and that neighbours are not affected by noise etc. (no vote)

2014.09.03.11.a.iii – Snettisham School improvements: Clerk reported that paperwork had arrived on day of the meeting. *Council resolved to express general support for removal of temporary classrooms and improvements at the school, but that they could not comment on the details of the plans given the late arrival of the paperwork.*

Prop: AG; 2nd: AL, unanimous

2014.09.03.11.b.i – An **Amenities** Group meeting had taken place, covering actions outstanding and process for follow-up and resolution of these.

2014.09.03.11.c.i – Open Spaces: AL reported on the plan for the **Common**, the need to break the project into six smaller ones, and some detail on the various elements, and the reason/need for such works – Health and Safety, biodiversity etc. The Open Spaces Group recommended a quote to Council for this work. The use of volunteers to help would be limited and dates of “volunteer days” were given. *Council resolved to accept the quote of Ultimate Gardens, at a total cost of £3244. Work to be co-ordinated and confirmed at each stage with partners and Common Development Plan.*

Prop: AL; 2nd: MF; unanimous

[Clerk informed Council that this was within budgets, but large future expenditure would need to be confirmed to ensure adherence.]

2014.09.03.11.d.i – Discussion took place over the change in government legislation on the **recording** and blogging of meetings.

2014.09.03.11.d.ii - *Council resolved that the Clerk should write to Eric Pickles protesting the recent change in regulations regarding the recording of meetings.*

Prop: AL; 2nd: MF; unanimous

Council resolved that the Clerk should incorporate suitable, legal restrictions into revision of Standing Orders.

Prop: MF; 2nd: RP; unanimous

Signed:



(Chair)

Date: 1/10/14

2014.09.03.11.e.i – EL confirmed that the **Personnel** Group had obtained approval of revised contracts with NorfolkALC, and that Clerk had signed amendments including RFO position at 26 hours (not 31 as in the press) and the Admin Support contract would be signed in near future.

2014.09.03.11.f.i.1 – EL reported on the Land Registry case as above, damage to **footpaths** and the need for repair by RSPB, and the same with stiles by Ken Hill.

2014.09.03.11.f.i.2 – *Council resolved to register the existing path along the top of the inner sea bank (Ken Hill land) as a public footpath/right of way.*

Prop: MF; 2nd: JB; unanimous

Council resolved to register the existing path from Beach Rd/Shepherd's Port, around the lake, across the causeway to the beach as a public footpath/right of way.

Prop: MF; 2nd: JB; unanimous

[These to devolve to Open Spaces on demise of BFWG]

2014.09.03.11.f.ii – RB reported on the (complicated) information gathered regarding ownership of the redundant **oil tank**, and an apparent disclaimer. Clerk to contact other councils who it appears may have had similar issues. This then to return to WG for final recommendations.

2014.09.03.11.f.iii – Another meeting of the **Market Square** WG to be organised in the near future.

2014.09.03.12 – Other organisations' **meetings** and information. It appears unlikely that there will be any more WECMS meetings. SNAP – no takers to represent Village or Council. Allotments – rent had been received and paid to Ken Hill on this cheque run. Memorial Hall accounts received by Clerk – copies for councillors.

2014.09.03.13.a – *Council agreed to support moves by local councils nationally to allow them to benefit financially from the sale of generated **electricity**.*

Prop: RB; 2nd: AL; unanimous

2014.09.03.13.b – *Council agreed to **donate** £250 to Tapping House Norfolk Hospice under s.137 of LGA 1972.*

Prop: MF; 2nd: RP; unanimous

2014.09.03.14 – No **A.O.B.**

2014.09.03.15 – No concerns or **agenda** items raised.

2014.09.03.16 – The meeting was suspended for **public participation**. Issues raised were: further information on application 14/01127 above; advice from Clerk to Council at last meeting; future of Townlands Trust and Halls' Foundation – still with NRCC.

2014.09.03.17 – The date of the next ordinary **meeting** was confirmed as Wednesday 1st October, 2014.

The meeting concluded at 9.23.

Abbreviations:

BFWG – Beach Footpath Working Group

NCC – Norfolk County Council

NorfolkALC – Norfolk Association of Local Councils

NRCC – Norfolk Rural Communities Council


RSPB – Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

SNAP – Safer Neighbourhoods Action Plan

WECMS – Wash East Coast Management Strategy

WG – Working Group

Signed:

 (Chair)

Date: 1/10/14