

SNETTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Snettisham Parish Council held on Wednesday 5th November 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), Borough Cllr A Wright (AW)

Approximately 22 members of the public

Minutes taken by Simon Bower (Clerk to the Council)

Meeting commenced at 7.30

2014.11.05.01 – Council accepted **apologies** for absence from Cllrs E Fountain and Todd.

2014.11.05.02 – There were no **declarations of interest**.

2014.11.05.03 – The meeting was suspended for **public contributions**. Subjects raised were: current position of **Townlands** Charity – in hands of NRCC for advice; traffic plans for **solar farm** proposal – for later agenda discussion; accusations of misleading statements made over **Memorial Hall** accounts.

2014.11.05.04 – There were no candidates for **co-option**.

2014.11.05.05 – The **Chair** reported that the **TORC** was now published; he thanked the editorial and delivery teams; he referred to the correct time for the **Remembrance** Commemoration in the Square and the attendance of several USAF officers, encouraging the public and councillors to attend; EL and JD had been working on the continued **footpath** issues, meeting with Managing Director of NCC and other staff – the revised and misleading signs should be removed with a few weeks; the Lynn News may be reporting on the **Oil Tank** situation.

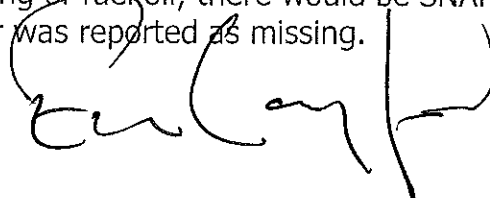
2014.11.05.06 – There being no objection to the **minutes** these were duly signed.

2014.11.05.07 – Matters **arising** from the minutes: EL reported that following discussion with Ken Hill Estates it appeared that any use of Townlands land for energy production was unlikely; they intended to continue farming it, consequently ending the tenancy may be very complicated and time-consuming.

2014.11.05.08 – **JD** reported on the WECMS situation; during a long meeting Snettisham issues had, he felt, been dealt with "satisfactorily" – he will be briefing NCC, including ingoing issues over funding; he confirmed he would be attending the **drainage** meeting on 10/11/14 with issues raised by several residents. **AW** would also be at drainage meeting, and would be visiting BCKLWN **planning** team with AL and the Clerk to pursue any relevant matters raised; she apologised for occasional absence from SPC meetings since taking up vice-chair position on BCKLWN committee.

2014.11.05.09 – Councillors commented that it would be good to have an officer present at a meeting soon – Clerk to contact. The Clerk read from recent **Police** reports referring to recent assaults (three), burglaries (five) plus one or two thefts, including of fuel oil; there would be SNAP meeting on 6/11/14. The bench in the bus shelter was reported as missing.

Signed:

 (Chair)

Date: 3/12/14

2014.11.05.10.a – The Clerk reported on the Barclays **Bank** balances – currently £63,382 after payments, with £655 owing to SPC on invoices, and the current spending against budgets. EL suggested that the Santander account could now be closed.

2014.11.05.10.b – The **payments*** for October bills were checked; £3,500 was being paid as the deposit for the street lighting; the remainder is due on completion and successful operation. *Council approved the payments for later signatures.*

Prop: AG; 2nd: AL; unanimous

2014.11.05.11.a.ii – There was extensive discussion of the **Solar Farm** proposal (Planning **Application** 14/01497), following comments from DS. A paper from the Clerk was used as the basis for this. *Council agreed to support the application, with a series of comments and recommendations. These to be circulated by the Clerk for final agreement by email before sending to BCKLWN. (Attached)*

Prop: DS; 2nd: MF; unanimous

2014.11.05.11.a.iii – Council supported Planning **Application** 14/01214 (wall at Springview).

Prop: DS; 2nd:AL; unanimous

2014.11.05.11.a.iv – Council supported Planning **Application** 14/00016 (barn conversion E. of St Thomas lane) provided that if necessary a "bat survey" is undertaken.

Prop: DS; 2nd: AL; unanimous

2014.11.05.11.a.v – Council supported Planning **Application** 14/01450 (outline permission Parkside) but requested that the number of parking spaces should be maintained and that the path adjacent should be extended for access to number 36.

Prop: DS; 2nd: AG; unanimous

2014.11.05.11.a.vi – Council supported Planning **Application** 14/01445 (outline permission Common Road W)

Prop: DS; 2nd RP; 7-1

2014.11.05.11.b.i – A written report was presented to Council of an **Amenities** Group meeting to begin setting the priorities for the budget for 15/16, along with other actions for the Clerk.

2014.11.05.11.c.i & ii – EL thanked AL for her work with the **Open Spaces** Group on the Common, adding a "big thank you" to other councillors and members of the public for their efforts there. AL referred specifically to the barrier making the old dump area safe, the clearing of the pit, the proposed picnic area, and wheelchair accessibility. Information boards with routes and bylaws were mentioned. *By consensus Council agreed interest in a Pet Cemetery, and a TROD and other works between the bypass and Common; these for final approval when Clerk provides details and costs.*

2014.11.05.11.c.iii – Council agreed to accept **boundaries** of the Fuel Allotment agreed at meeting with Ken Hill Estates. Clerk to inform lawyers as well as Ken Hill. (Attached)


Prop: AL; 2nd:JB; unanimous

2014.11.05.11.d.ii – Council agreed by consensus to adopt revised **planning arrangements** for a trial three month period. (Attached)

2014.11.05.11.e.i – No Personnel report.

2014.11.05.11.f.i – Council agreed by consensus to broaden remit of the group, and rename as **Market Square and Village Parking** Working Group.

Signed:

 (Chair)

Date: 3/12/14

2014.11.05.11.f.ii – RB reported that the **Street Lighting Group** had agreed details at a meeting with the contractor: 113 lamps to be replaced, not currently including any east of By-Pass; they would be timed to switch off from midnight to 5a.m., except at certain junctions; advice had been sought from CPRE, industry and other councils. It was reported that work would possibly start before Christmas.

2014.11.05.12 – MF reported on the long **WECMS** meeting of earlier in the day regarding future sea defence policy. It was likely 75% of costs would be borne by local public (25% by HMG); the plan was now being referred to the relevant ministry. The Clerk reported on an informative Press Release **training** session.

2014.11.05.13.a – *Council granted permission for the usual Christmas Display to use the Market Square.*

Prop: AG; 2nd: AL; 7-0

Council agreed by consensus to allow the Christmas Market to take place on the Market Square, provided a formal letter requesting this is received for insurance purposes.

2014.11.05.13.b – Council addressed a letter from the Trustees of the **Memorial Hall** regarding statements made in October about their financial report. There was discussion of the circumstances [the meeting being temporarily suspended allowing the MH secretary to be involved]. It was agreed that the figure of c£89,000 quoted by a councillor as the balance was not correct, but also that a reference by a Trustee to a balance of c£20,000 at a prior meeting only included that in the bank. After referring to "misunderstandings all round" the Chair moved the meeting on.

2014.11.05.14 – **AOB** – the Clerk referred to a Charity request for volunteers from the Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind, of which he had details.

2014.11.05.15 – no request made for **agenda** items etc.

2014.11.05.16 & 17 – The meeting was again suspended for **Public Questions**.

The position of the microphones was raised. After this Mrs Parkes questioned the loyalty of Council to the MH. She read a detailed series of comments and questions relating to remarks made by EL, of which she said she had been made aware, dealing with the relationship between the MHT and other organisations. A lengthy, heated and acrimonious exchange followed, during which EL maintained that he would have preferred written notice of the details and that any remarks were made in a private capacity, not as a councillor. This was evidently not accepted by Mrs Parkes and others. Interventions by DS, the Clerk and other members of the public also occurred. EL re-opened the meeting, which concluded with him confirming the time and date of the next **Council** session as 7.30p.m. on Wednesday, 3rd December in the same venue.

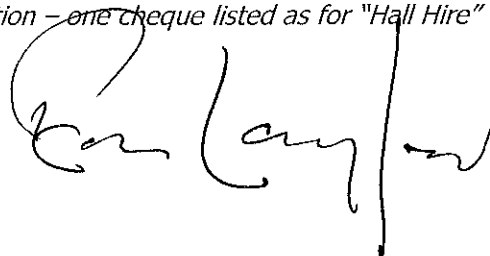
The meeting closed at 9.26p.m.

Abbreviations:

BCKLWN - Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk; CPRE – Council for the Protection of Rural England; HMG – Her Majesty's (i.e. central) Government; MH(T) – Memorial Hall (Trustees); NCC – Norfolk County Council; NRCC – Norfolk Rural Communities' Council; SNAP – Safer Neighbourhood Action Partnership; SPC – Snettisham Parish Council; TROD – a loose finished footpath; WECMS – Wash East Coast Management Strategy.

**clarification – one cheque listed as for "Hall Hire" was for the preparation of the Hall.*

Signed:

 (Chair)

Date: 3/12/14.