

BLOFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Blofield Parish Meeting held on Monday 24th October 2011, in Margaret Harker Hall at 7.30pm.

1. **PRESENT:** Chairman Cllr. D. Ward, Cllrs, Dr.D.Pilch, P. Thain,S.Shackle and M.Tetlow.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. A.Pawsey.
Absent Cllr Mrs. P. Wilson.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (Forms provided for completion if required)
Declarations were received from;-
Cllr. Tetlow – Management Committee –Courthouse.
Cllr.Dr. D.Pilch as a member of the Blofield Allotment Association.
Cllr. D.Ward - planning as a member of BDC Planning Committee.
4. **OPEN FORUM (15 mins:** - Parishioners can explain their concerns about matters on the Agenda)
Inc: District & County Cllrs, Norfolk Constabulary etc.
Report received from P.C.Julie Swift 19th September – 18th October 2011.
23rd – 26th September 2011 – Arson (not endangering life) – field off Dyes Road, Blofield – Straw bales set on fire over the weekend.

Resident asked if Norfolk County Council could be approached regarding having a white line down the centre of Woodbastwick Road .After discussion it was agreed that this was a valid request and N.C.C. would be contacted by the Clerk.

Clerk asked if Margaret Harker Hall could be contacted regarding the hump across the access by the side door as it is unlit and invisible. Dr.D.Pilch agreed to bring this up at the next Management meeting.

5. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
Chairman reported that he had accepted the Clerk's resignation with effect from the 15th October and her employment would cease on Saturday 15th January 2012.
6. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING 20th September 2011**
Minutes were agreed as a true report and duly signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr. Pilch and seconded by Cllr. Ward.
7. **CLERKS REPORT.**
Bus shelter manufacturers had been contacted and catalogues were given out for circulation and selection by November 15th
Residents had been contacted regarding their cutting of growth which was impeding pedestrians and visibility of signs.

The broken fence in Globe Lane had been reported again.

Letters had been forwarded to both local schools regarding suggestion of a suitable name for the new houses in North Street.

Notice will be placed in Focal Point to requested names and contacts of clubs for Website use.

Slats should be replaced in the Blofield Bus shelter any day now.

Rev.Cubitt had accepted our invitation to attend our meeting on the 18thOctober

Highways Engineer Mr. J. Cotton declined our invitation, stating that he would be willing to look at any proposals e-mailed to him.

Mrs. Sarah Russen was invited to the November meeting.

8. FINANCE.

Cheques to the value of:- £5397.91 were agreed for payment. Proposed Cllr. Thain and seconded by Cllr. Dr.Pilch.

Balances stood at £63414.37

To agree balances-checked and signed by Chairman.

9. PLANNING - Plans for consideration

9.1 20111303 – Mixed Use Development comprising a maximum of 175 Residential Units, Maximum of 4000 sq m. Employment (Use Class B1) and Open Space (Outline) Revised Proposal.

Land at Yarmouth Road, Blofield

A.G.H.Smith, J,E, Smith & SLA Property Company LTD.

Four letters received from residents.

It was decided that in principle the Parish Council was against this project. Agreed that several councillors would collate the specific details and forward to the Clerk for forwarding to the Broadland District Council.

9.2 20111362 – Avocet 36, Blofield Corner Road, Blofield, NR13 4RT

For:- Proposed Extension to Garage & Construction of Pitched Roof.

2. Single Storey Rear Extension.

3. Pitched Roof to Existing Dormer Window.

4. Car Port to side.

Parish Council had no objections.

10 – was omitted.

11. STANDING ORDERS

Council agreed to study these and select those that they felt appropriate to their needs.

12 ALLOTMENTS

Progress is continuing with considerations being given to two sites. One at Garden Farm and the other by the Doctor's surgery.

Costings and Risks to be explored .Further meeting with Allotment Association on Thursday 27th October 2011.

13. PLANNING REQUISITES – Requested by Cllr. Thain.

Cllr. Thain thought that the Council should have some pre-determined guidelines and ways to manage the village growth and councillors agreed.

Suggestions of changes that would affect traffic flow were discussed and Cllr.Shackle offered to contact a friend at South Norfolk Council to see how they dealt with these matters.

There was much discussion about this matter and how to work with the developers and review the large applications when they arrive .Check how other councils succeed with this.

It was decided that Cllr. Thain would produce a document for all the councillors to agree and adopt after any adjustments.

Cllr.Dr. Pilch reported that he had checked through the "Delivering local highway improvements", recent document raised by the Clerk from the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation. This was a partnership to which we would have to subscribe, it was suggested that trods and footpaths should be investigated , one from Heathlands to She's and the other at Brundall where the

road converges on the long road at the bottom of the dip. To be placed on the opposite side of the road up to the Garage.

We have one V.A.S sign and would like another, as we have shown ourselves to be active in traffic management we would be put into the scheme(, in which other Parish Councils will be participating) to achieve a portion of £100,000 to enable us to obtain another.

We should also explore what the procedure is to get signs for speedchecks, to be placed as a deterrent.

Cllr.Dr. Pilch also suggested that we have a “Gateway” at either end of the village recognised by road narrowing and flowers, where the 30mph signs start.

14. TOWN PIT

Confirming that a skip will be arriving on 3rd November to enable the BCTV group of workers dispose of rubbish that was found and remove unwanted growth.

15. BLOFIELD COURTHOUSE

Cllr. D .Ward reported that Broadland District Council had stated” a loan could be made to the Blofield Courthouse for the funds required, but it would have to be repaid by the end of our financial year”.

Cllr. Tetlow explained that the Courthouse had been working on the heating project for over 2.1/2 years now and had explored every avenue known to them.

After much discussion it was resolved to agree to grant funds to the Courthouse of £5000 and loan another £5000 to be repaid at regular intervals over the next 4 yrs.

Proposed by Cllr. Thain and seconded by Cllr. D.Pilch.

16. KEEP BLOFIELD SPECIAL

Now that the Village sign has been refurbished, repainted and replaced, it was suggested that a black mesh panel be placed on the back to bring the sign to life. Also to place the Village sign into a brick base.

Council approved a sum of £300 - £350 to be ring fenced for this purpose. Proposed Cllr. Thain and seconded Cllr. Shackle.

Cllr. Dr. Pilch reported that donated bulbs had been planted on Bonfire Green and further bulb planting, including assistance from the School children will take place shortly. Parishioner has asked that consideration be given to a seat in Mill Road. Clerk to forward some details.

Other village seats require attention and it was arranged that Cllr. Pilch and Cllr. Tetlow would check on these and collect some figures for approval.

17. PLANTATION WOOD

Cllr. Dr.Pilch attended a meeting with the Highways officers, to obtain permission to go into the site and generally improve this area. A report would have to go to a higher officer, so we await their communications.

BDC had implied that monies would be available from the Tree Wardens scheme to assist us with this project, all we need is the permissions from Highways.

18. HIGHWAYS –requested by Cllr. Dr. Pilch..Extension to Item 13.

Dr Pilch would like Highways to check the Big Trunk Road roadside signs with a view to lowering or slightly moving to enable better visibility and also repair the fence alongside the A.47, which is lying down and doing nothing to protect area.

Stated, it must be nearly a year now since clearing growth from the front of signs, along North Street, was authorised and they still have not been done.

Lastly, Cllr. Dr. Pilch reported that he and Mr. Mackness would go along to the footpath at the end of the Church and clear the growth that was impeding passage. Clerk would report to Norfolk

County Council that the duck boards over the footpath needed replacing and covered in wire netting to avoid slipping.

19. PARISH PLAN

There were no comments to be made and Cllr. Shackle reported that she would contact Sarah Toothill to see if any ideas had been agreed.

20 CORRESPONDENCE

THE QUEENS DIAMOND JUBILEE.

Council had no plans at the present but leaflet was passed around to stimulate some future ideas.

20.2 G.N.D.P. – COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY REGULATIONS 2011 AMENDED.

Consultation from Oct 3rd until Nov. 14th

Councillors to consult with each other and forward replies to the Clerk to be completed by November 14th.

20.3 Norfolk County Council – Views required on the future role of small schools in Norfolk.

Cllrs. would check leaflet supplied by Clerk and reply if they could.

20.4 Boundary Commission for England.

Feedback appreciated .Boundaries can be found on their Web Site.

20.5 Broadland District Council –Changes in recycling collection service at St. Peter & St. Andrew

Church, in Church Road, Blofield,
are likely in 2012. Will notify later.

21. COUNCILLORS INPUT.

To receive notification of items requiring attention around the parish.

21.1 Cllr. Dr.Pileh asked if there were any comments from the aborted meeting that needed ratifying.

Items will be placed on the next agenda if required.

LATE CORRESPONDENCE.

NALC – Invitation to Autumn Seminar

Thursday November 17th 10am – 3pm, Sandringham Visitor Centre,Nr. Kings Lynn

Cllrs aware and will let the Clerk know if willing to attend. Bookings by the 14th, November.

There being no further business, Chairman thanked all for coming and closed the meeting at 10.30pm.

Amendment – Item 20.2 GNDP Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations (amended)

Cllr.paul Thain, was asked by the Chair to respond to the consultation request

Regarding the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Paul responded that he did not have the time to study the documentation, draft a response and check it out with other Councillors.

Paul considered that there was not enough Cllrs to be able to respond to all requests and in this instance it would be better, if the Council could not make a considered response, for it to remain silent.

Council suggested that the “traffic improvements” within Paul’s presentation on Pre-requisites for Major Housing Developments be sent as the Councils response. This was passed unanimously.