

SWANTON MORLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Swanton Morley Parish Council was held in Swanton Morley Village Hall on Monday 10th January 2011. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr R. Atterwill (Chairman), Mr A. Sommerville CPM, Mr B. Marsham, Mr S Westbury and Mr G. Northall. Mrs F. LeBon (clerk) and two members of the public. Mr B. Borrett (County Councillor) entered late as noted.

Matters Raised Under Time Allocated to the Public

None

The Meeting Went Into Session.

1. Apologies for Absence

Council accepted apologies from Mr Fleming and Mrs Thomas.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Atterwill declared a prejudicial interest in item 9a11 as owner of the property in question.

Mr Westbury declared a personal interest in item 9a11 as a colleague of Mr Atterwill on the Parish Council.

Mr Sommerville declared a personal interest in item 9a11 as a colleague of Mr Atterwill on the Parish Council.

Mr Marsham declared a personal interest in item 9a11 as a colleague of Mr Atterwill on the Parish Council.

Mr Northall declared a personal interest in item 9a11 as a colleague of Mr Atterwill on the Parish Council.

3. Minutes from Precept Meeting of 7th December 2010 to be accepted, initialled and signed.

Mr Northall proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Mr Westbury. Carried. The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record by Mr Atterwill.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of 7th December 2010

None raised.

5. Minutes from Parish Council Meeting of 13th December 2010 to be accepted, initialled and signed.

Mr Sommerville proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Mr Marsham. Carried. Mr Westbury abstained from the vote due to non attendance at this meeting. The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record by Mr Atterwill.

6. Matters Arising from Minutes of 13th December 2010

Mr Marsham asked whether the money had been moved into the Scottish Widows account. The clerk responded that a formal complaint had been made to Alliance and Leicester as they had not moved the money at the end of the 30 day notice period, claiming that 30 working days had to elapse. Alliance and Leicester had finally agreed that they were incorrect in this advice and had moved the money across to the Barclays account via CHAPS free of charge. The Barclays account is the 'nominated' account with Scottish Widows, and only payments from this account should be accepted. All that remains is the clerk to issue a cheque to transfer the funds from the Barclays account to Scottish Widows.

7. Finance

a) Accounts to approve for payment:

The clerk reported that, in addition to the published accounts for payment, an invoice had been received from Mr B Woolnough for £120 regarding the repair of the notice board on the village green.

Mr Sommerville advised that the invoice payable to Nicholas Hancox was a result of the enquiry about the possible rental of the underutilised office space at the Village Hall. Advice from the Charity Commission had been sought, however they would not entertain any queries until legal advice had been obtained.

Mr Westbury proposed that the following should be authorised, seconded by Mr Marsham and carried.

Payee	Detail	Cheque Number	Amount
Faye LeBon	Clerk's Salary Village Hall (15 Hours) and Social Club (6 hours)	101825	£460.13 £198.44
Faye LeBon	Clerk's Expenses	101826	£35.88
Norfolk Pensions	Local Government Pension Scheme	101827	£120.76
HMRC	PAYE Village Hall and Social Club	101835	£0.71 £83.37
EON	Street lighting Electricity (December)	DD	£174.41
Swanton Morley Village Hall	Room Hire (December)	101828	£24.75
Norse	Grasscutting (Nov)	101829	£599.25
Eastern Office Equipment	Black Ink & Paper	101830	£30.27
Nicholas Hancox	Legal Advice re: Office Rental	101831	£572.81
S Powley	Rabbit Control in Churchyard 01/09/10 – 30/11/10	101832	£75.00
TT Jones	Callout re: Faulty Street Light Rectory Road	101833	£75.27
Mr B Woolnough	Repair of Village Green Notice board	101834	£120.00
J Keith	Land Rental (Village Hall)		£1.00
	TOTAL		£2572.05

b) Income

The following income was reported:

Received From	Detail	Amount
Swanton Morley Village Hall	Loan Repayment	£106.74
Swanton Morley Village Hall	Refund of clerk's overtime (October)	£282.04
TOTAL		£388.78

8. To Receive Update on the 'Big Conversation' Meeting.

Mr Atterwill advised that there had been several media reports promoting this event, including items in the local press and his appearance on Radio Norfolk. Invitations have been sent to all schools in Norfolk, Age Concern, the Norfolk Coalition of Disabled People, Mid Norfolk Mencap and also members of Norfolk CVYS.

Mr Marsham advised that Mr Peachment would be in attendance as a representative from Gressenhall Museum.

Mr Westbury raised concerns about the lack of response to the Big Conversation from the public up to 31st December 2010.

9. Land and Planning

a) To consider the following planning applications

i) 3PL/2010/1334/F – Postmill Developments re: Land West of Teutoburge – Erection of a Detached Bungalow

Councillors raised similar objections to these plans as they had to the semi detached houses on this site (ref 3PL/2010/0669/F). These were the lack of space for emergency vehicles, the potential contamination of the land and the suspected evasion by the developer of the whole site of the obligation to provide affordable housing under a s106 agreement by submitting small scale applications at different times. It was also noted that water pipes appeared to have been laid in anticipation of a development of another property

The Parish Council would much prefer it if the developer would come forward with proposals for the whole site and an open discussion can be had about the site.

Mr Westbury proposed that the Parish Council object to the application, seconded by Mr Sommerville. Carried by a 4:1 majority.

Mr Atterwill Left the Room and Mr Westbury Took the Chair

ii) 3PL/2010/1356/F – Mr R Atterwill, 23 Primrose Square re: Two storey extension & new bay window and porch to front

Mr Marsham proposed that there be no objections to his application, seconded by Mr Northall. Carried.

Mr Atterwill Re-Entered the Room and Position of Chairman

b) To receive report of planning decisions by Breckland District Council

The clerk reported that no decisions had been made by Breckland District Council this month.

Mr Westbury requested the clerk contact Haart, the local estate agent, about land that was being marketed on Greengate with planning permission. The Parish Council is not aware of any planning permission being granted on this land and would like clarification.

c) To Receive Report on Breckland District Council's decision to sell land at Middleton Avenue and Agree any Actions Necessary

Mr Atterwill and Mr Northall attended the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 6th January to review the decision made by Breckland District Council's Cabinet to sell this land. Mr Atterwill placed on record his gratitude to Mrs Millbank for supporting the Parish in this meeting. The opposition members of the committee were of the opinion that Swanton Morley had done its fair share for the village, however the Conservative members voted against them. Concerns were raised about the Leader of Breckland District Council being in attendance at the meeting which could be perceived as putting pressure on Conservative members, and also about the timing of the decision which seems to be pushed through prior to the Localism Bill being made law, in which Parish Council's will have much greater power in regards to planning matters. The Parish Council is still looking into lines of appeal.

Mrs Vyse had been in contact with the council and thanked them for their efforts. She had also requested a summary of the history of this land so this can be forwarded to residents of Middleton Avenue so that they can be made aware of the situation. It was agreed that the Clerk will provide this information.

c) To agree further action on land at Town Street submitted for registration

The clerk is to liaise with Mr Westbury so that he can visit the Norfolk Records Office to obtain more information on this area of land.

10. Grant Funding

a) To Receive Any Updates on Grant Projects

George Northall, in his capacity of Chairman of Swanton Morley Cricket Club, reported that the ECB has agreed to fund the shortfall in the Cricket Club's project to build a new pavilion. The Parish Council extends its congratulations to the Cricket Club and looks forward to the grant of £20,000 from the Parish Council's grant scheme being used to support this very worthy project.

11. Allotments

a) To receive progress report on allotment project

To defer until next meeting.

12. Street Lighting

a) To receive fault reports / matters for attention

The Clerk reported that Norfolk County Council has accepted responsibility for the inoperative street light outside The Papermakers, however the street light has yet to be fixed. After pursuing Norfolk County Council they suggested that she follow up the query with EDF Energy herself. An email has been sent to EDF Energy. It was agreed that the Clerk should send a strongly worded letter to Norfolk County Council advising them of their responsibilities over this matter and if they do not resolve the matter in 28 days then the Parish Council will rectify and invoice Norfolk County Council.

13. Highways

a) To receive reports of highways faults / matters for attention

The following items were raised:

- The Village of the Year Signs are to be installed by the end of the week.
- Due to the extra asphalt on Mill Street, the camber has been changed and now surface water can no longer cross the road to drain away outside the bowls club. Surface water is now flowing down Town Street and flooding The Papermakers and also resulting in the gully outside the garage over flowing.
- The new kerbs at the end of Rectory Road, installed as a result of the Mill Street widening project are already breaking up.
- There are pot holes at the corner of Mill Street near the waterfalls caused by the Mill Street diversion. Also as a result of this diversion, the drainage gully is now away from the bank and cars are driving on mud rather than the road.
- Children are hiding behind the hedge outside numbers 29/30 Thompson Close and throwing stones at cars. The Clerk is to request that Highways remove this hedge as it is in poor condition anyway.
- Rubbish is building up in the hedge outside Mrs Reynolds' as a result of people discarding litter when waiting for the bus.

14. Churchyard & Burial Ground

a) To receive an update report from Mrs M. Thomas on progress of the Sub Committee

No meeting has been held

b) To receive report on church wall repairs from church architect

Mr Atterwill advised that some flints have fallen off the wall as a result of the recent bad weather. Mr Sommerville is pursuing the matter of the responsibility of the church wall and its relative grade listing.

15. Youth & Playground Equipment

a) To receive update on Youth Provision at the Village Hall

Mr Marsham is to prioritise transferring the Teenage Shelter from Hetherset.

Mr Woolnough has repaired the notice board on the Village Green.

Mr Sommerville has inspected the play areas in the village and identified some matters for attention. The Clerk is to send these to Adventure Playgrounds and request they repair at their earliest convenience.

16. Commons, Open Spaces & Environmental

a) To receive an update report on the progress of the Working Group

The BCTV volunteers should be working on Mill Common on January 18th and February 15th, but this may have to be delayed due to standing water on the common.

b) To receive report on Parish Council's SPS Scheme Claim

There had been no response to date from the RPA regarding the Parish Council's SPS appeals.

Mr Borrett Entered the Meeting

17. To Receive Report on Replacement of Village Sign

The clerk reported that an order has been placed for new village sign. Sketches will be produced based upon the old sign, but to ensure that the sign is as accurate as possible, the sign's designer has requested as much information about the history of the sign's depiction as possible. This includes the date of the depiction to ensure that the period dress is correct and to obtain any drawings of the mill to ensure that this part of the sign is accurately depicted.

18. To Agree Response to Correspondence from Mrs J Walden

The clerk had provided councillors with a draft response to the 3 requests Mrs Walden had made under the Freedom of Information Act. After a small amendment, Mr Atterwill proposed that this response be sent to Mrs Walden, seconded by Mr Marsham and carried.

19. Correspondence

None that had not already been covered in this meeting.

The Meeting was Suspended

County and District Councillor's Report

Mr Borrett stated that Mr Stasiak would be in attendance at the Big Conversation meeting on Friday, standing in for Mrs Millbank.

The Clerk advised Mr Borrett of the matter of the inoperative streetlight (item 12) and Mr Marsham advised Mr Borrett of the Highways problems resulting from the Mill Street widening (item 13).

Further Time Allocated to the Public

Mr Moulton advised that the diversion signs resulting from the Mill Street widening project had yet to be collected. Mr Moulton also asked whether cars can be prevented from parking on grass verges? The Clerk advised that Highways did have the power to prevent this.

Mr Moulton also advised that the manholes in the road on Gooseberry Hill are sinking.

Mr Palmer asked whether the four proposed properties on Middleton Avenue would interfere with pedestrian access to the school and create a road safety issue.

The Clerk asked Mr Borrett to follow up with Breckland District Council with regards to why the recycling bins hadn't been emptied despite the request being made on 4th January. The area was now overflowing with glass bottle and was an eyesore and a danger. Mr Westbury suggested an article in the next *Mardler* to ask the community to help keep this area tidy.

Mr Westbury asked Mrs Borrett when the recycling area in Dereham was due to open? Mr Borrett responded that the area had Planning permission and had been paid for therefore should be complete in the spring.

The Meeting Resumed

20. Any item to be reported for the next agenda

- Ratifying the Village Hall Constitution and Terms of Reference
- Village Sign

21. To confirm the date & time of next meeting to be held on Monday 14th February 2011 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Carried.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm

_____ (Chairman) _____ Date