



T. Cartledge	£639.82	101200	
B Woolnough	£ 84.13	101203	Noticeboard Repairs
T Cartledge	£116.17	101201	
Mr Allsop	£539.33	101202	
Wensum Valley Services	£ 58.75	100064	Village Appraisal Photocopying
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 2150.55</b>		

**c) Precept**

Mrs. Northall was of the opinion that the inclusion on £4,000 contingencies was excessive and should be reduced to £2,000 however after discussion Mrs. Thomas proposed, seconded by Mr. Perry and it was agreed, with 4 votes in favour to 1 against, that the inclusion of £4,000 contingencies remain in the Budget.

Mrs. Thomas then proposed that the Budget for the year 2006/07 be accepted and that the Precept for the year 2006/7 be £37,528.64. This was seconded by Mrs. Wood and agreed.

**7. Public Participation Session**

Mrs. Wood proposed, seconded by Mrs. Northall and it was agreed that the meeting be adjourned and opened for public debate.

- Mr. Atterwill pointed out that the Rectory Road trod needed attention as it had become slippery with decaying fallen leaves.
- Mrs. Warman said that she had spoken to DEFRA about the proposed new Commons Bill and had been informed that as long as there was a willingness by the Parish Council to grant an easement to cross the Village Green then one could be granted; subject to the usual payment under the 2002 Act. Mr. Carrick agreed that he would speak to the Council's Solicitors on this matter.
- Mr. Northall expressed his concern that at times the items at the end of a lengthy Agenda are rushed through and not given due consideration. He suggested that reports given by District and County Councillors be moved to the end of the meeting so that proper consideration is given to Parish matters.
- Mr. Marsham spoke of the lack of chevron bend warning signs on the B1147 at the bridges and Mowles Road near Mr. Dann's wood. Mrs. Wood informed him that the County Councillor had agreed at an earlier meeting to look into this. Mr. Marsham also pointed out the lack of warning signs on the Worthing Road left hand bend, just past the gravel pits, which could result in vehicles leaving the road and driving into the river.
- Mr. Atterwill suggested that a group be formed to look into ways of utilising the Old Village Hall site. He suggested that Mrs. Walden be invited to sit on this Group.

**8. County & District Councillors Reports**

In the absence of the County Councillor, Mr. Carrick gave a brief report as District Councillor which outlined:

- The report of rogue traders operating in the area.
- Recycling and the importance of including high-value cans and foil in the black bins.
- The extension of I.T. facilities within Breckland Offices which would make public enquiries easier to deal with.
- Affordable housing partnerships
- The Unitary Authority review which could result in more powers at Parish Council level.

**9. Youth & Playground Equipment**

- a) Mr. Atterwill handed a report to Members outlining the present position. He reported that the mound at the Gooseberry Hill site had been successfully reseeded and the Notice Board had been re-fixed on the Village Green. It had been suggested that the trees bordering the Village Green be pruned so as to give better visibility. Mr. Atterwill continued by outlining funding options and reported that the sub-committee would be meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005.
- b) It was agreed that the Risk Assessment previously prepared should be circulated to Members and that an item be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting to formally agree these.

**10. Churchyard & Burial Ground**

- a) Mrs. Thomas reported that work on the Memorial Garden would commence in the spring, that it continued to be difficult to find a Contractor willing to undertake work on the paths at the Burial Ground and that the Committee would not be meeting again until the New Year. In response to a question from Mrs. Northall, Members were informed that interment of ashes was not being carried out in the Churchyard extension and that the Stonemason would be approached for suggestions as to how the "book" memorials could be made more secure.
- b) Mrs. Northall asked whether the Chairman and Vice Chairman had received instruction and the necessary forms required for interments, should the Clerk not be available to deal with these. As this did not seem to be the case, the Clerk was asked to see that they were fully informed.

- c) Following the request for permission to erect a memorial stone within 12 months of an interment, the Clerk was asked to ensure that the Stonemason was sent a copy of the Parish Council's Regulations and Fees regarding the erection of memorials.

#### 11. Village Appraisal

It was agreed that the following working groups be formed. Volunteers who had indicated their willingness to sit on the Groups were:-

- **Traffic & Pedestrians:** Mrs. Northall, Mr. Willis, Mrs. Walden, Mr. Atterwill, Mr. Perry.
- **Commons & Open Spaces & Environmental:** Mrs. Wood, Mr. Northall, Mr. Marsham
- **Planning & Local Development:** Mr. Willis, Mrs. Walden, Mr. Marsham
- **Old Village Hall:** Mrs. Woods, Mr. Atterwill Mrs. Walden.
- **Playing Fields:** As existing Sub-committee

The Chairman said that he and the Clerk would meet to allocate Councillors to each Group and discuss possible co-opted Members before reporting back at the next meeting.

Mrs. Wood proposed, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and it was agreed that the meeting be brought back into session.

#### 12. Planning

3PL/2005/1650/F – Mr. & Mrs. N. Doye, 19 Farrow Close – Erection of 1<sup>st</sup> Floor extension to side  
Mr. Carrick reported that this application had been withdrawn.

3/P/2005/1694/O – Mr. & Mrs. Barber, Home Cottage, Manns Lane – Erection of single dwelling  
Councillors had no objection to this application.

Mr. Carrick reported that, despite the objections by the Parish Council and members of the public, permission had been granted under Delegated Decision powers by Breckland Officers for the erection of 3 dwellings at 39 Greengate.

#### 13. Grasscutting

The 5 Tenders having been circulated, Mrs. Northall proposed, seconded by Mrs. Wood and it was agreed that the contract for grasscutting for the 2006 season be awarded to Mr. R. Allsop.

#### 14. Correspondence

- a) **Open Space Audit** – It was felt that no response could be given at the moment and that the Chairman would liaise with the Clerk before the next meeting to ascertain what areas are included.
- b) **Affordable Housing** – It was agreed that an Officer of the Norfolk Rural Community Council be invited to visit the village and address the Council on this matter.
- c) **School Travel Plan** – Mr. Perry outlined the contents of the plan. Members were invited to peruse the Draft Plan and notify the Clerk if they wished comment to be made.
- d) **Small Business Rate Relief** – This item was deferred until the next meeting.
- e) **Right of Way: Gooseberry Hill Playing Field** – Mr. Carrick explained that the Right of Access existed when the Playing Field was passed to the Parish Council by Breckland and that on inspection of the Deeds to Kesmark House the owners did have right of travel over access to the field and were within their rights to form a new opening to their garden. He suggested that the Complainant be advised that if he wants to mount a legal challenge to this he is free to do so at his own expense. In view of the Clerk's present incapacity it was agreed that the owner of Kesmark House, as a Parishioner, could have sight of the letter after the meeting rather than at the Clerk's office.
- f) **Traffic Calming** – Mr. Carrick reported that the responses from North Elmham, Beetley and Brisley Parish Councils were that the introduction of flashing 30 mph entry signs had little effect on vehicle speeds. However, he pointed out that £8,000 had been included in the 2006/7 Precept to finance traffic calming measures. Mr. Carrick also advised Members that the SAM Project would loan temporary, moveable signs, which had proven to be successful in other villages. It was agreed to pass details of these to the Traffic & Pedestrian working group.
- g) **Acorn Grants** - A copy of the letter offering 100% grants to certain youth employment initiatives was received and it was agreed that the Youth Club Committee should be sent a copy.
- h) **Standards** – Sue Allen, Breckland Council, had indicated that she was free to attend the next meeting scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> January 2006 and it was agreed that she be formally invited. Members were asked to submit topics for discussion to the Clerk so that she could pass these to Ms. Allen. It was further agreed that this matter should be placed at the top of the Agenda, after Apologies and Declarations.
- i) **DEFRA** – Mr. Carrick spoke of a letter having been received concerning de-registration of part of the Village Green. It was agreed that this would be circulated to other members before discussion.

- j) **Burial Ground paths** – In the absence of the Clerk the result of her correspondence with Cromer Town Council concerning path-laying contractors was not known and the matter was deferred.
- k) **Tree Warden** – Now that Mr. Montgomery had moved the Village needed a new Warden. It was agreed to pass the matter to the Commons & Open Spaces and Environmental Group for consideration who could then approach the Gardening Club if necessary.

**15. Mill Common**

Mr. Carrick reported that DEFRA had responded to his letter concerning electric fencing and had indicated that they regarded this as a “de minimus” issue over which they had no concerns. One landowner had indicated that he might agree to upgrading the old fencing, one had indicated that he might agree to the existing hedge being strengthened and that he had not been able to trace the Gravel Company’s successors. The implications to the site’s HLS and SSSI status was also discussed. It was agreed that an early cut of the Common, followed by grazing had proven successful this year and should be continued. A further report was to be made at the next meeting.

**16. Old Village Hall & Car Park**

- a) Mr. Carrick reported that the District Valuer had suggested an open market valuation of £180,000 for the site but that Breckland had indicated that they required £90,000 to lift the covenant on the Gooseberry Hill Playing Field so that de-registration of Village Green could proceed; making this a non-viable option. It was agreed that the Old Village Hall working group should meet to prepare a report on options available to further the matter for consideration at a later meeting.

Mrs. Woods proposed, seconded by Mrs. Northall and it was agreed to an extension of the meeting.

- b) Having been unable to find a Contractor willing to carry out repair works to make the Hall waterproof and remove vegetation, it was agreed that a working party meet at the Old Village Hall on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2006 at 10 a.m. to do what they could to alleviate the problems.

**17. Village Sign**

- a) As it had not been possible to find any contractor willing to consider repairs, it was agreed that Mr. B. Woolnough be asked to submit a quotation for his proposed work.
- b) It was further agreed that the Village sign be taken down at the earliest opportunity so that it would dry out and suffer no further deterioration.

**18. Highway Matters**

- a) **Highway Faults** - The signpost at the Town Street/Rectory Road junction has still not been replaced. Storm drains in Lincoln Close need clearing as they were overflowing during heavy rain. The Landowner had cut the hedge at Gooseberry Hill but complaints had been received that briars and debris had been left on the footpath. Mr. Carrick said that he would mention this to Mr. Keith.
- b) **Ainsworth Close Tree Planting** – It was agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting as details of the proposal were not to hand.
- c) **Poop-Scoop Bags** - The Clerk was asked to make it known that poop-scoop bags were available, free of charge, from the Village Stores.

**19. Equal Opportunities Policy**

Mr. Perry proposed, seconded by Mrs. Wood and it was agreed that the Equal Opportunities Policy for the Parish Council be adopted.

**20. Next Agenda**

- a) Mrs. Northall asked for an item to be included to agree the format of the Questionnaire as to what was to be done with the Old Village Hall.
- b) To consider the report on the meeting with the Street Lighting Area Engineer. ( Deferred from the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2005.)

**21. To confirm date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting is to be held at the Village Hall on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2006 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

..... Chairman .....Date