

SWANTON MORLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Swanton Morley Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 10th December 2007. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr R. Atterwill (Chair), Mr C. Perry, Mr G Northall and Mrs J Walden. Also in attendance were District Councillor Mrs Kate Millbank, two members of the public and Mrs F. LeBon (clerk)

The following items were raised under Public Participation

- It was raised to the council that the trees on Harkers Lane had been felled raising speculation that a housing development was going to be proposed on this land.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mrs Thomas.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Atterwill declared a personal interest in item 9.

Mrs Walden declared a personal interest in item 10a, and also a prejudicial interest in item 10b.

Mr Perry declared a personal interest in item 9.

3. Minutes from Parish Council Meeting of 12th November 2007 to be accepted, initialled and signed.

Mr Perry proposed that these minutes be accepted, Mr Northall seconded. All in favour. Mr Atterwill signed the minutes as a true and accurate record of this meeting.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of 12th November 2007

Mr Northall asked whether progress had been made on the repair of the notice board in Manns Lane. Mr Atterwill responded that there had not.

5. Minutes from Parish Council Meeting of 4th December 2007 to be accepted, initialled and signed.

Mr Northall proposed that these minutes be accepted, Mr Perry seconded. All in favour. Mr Atterwill signed the minutes as a true and accurate record of this meeting.

6. Matters Arising from Minutes of 4th December 2007

None

7. Finance

a) Accounts to approve for payment:

The clerk read out an amendment to the payment to Dereham Hire. Mrs Walden proposed that the following payments be authorised, seconded by Mr Perry. All in favour

Payee	Detail	Cheque No	Amount
Faye LeBon	Clerk's Salary	101381	£249.69
Faye LeBon	Clerk's Expenses	101381	£27.11
Norfolk Pensions	Local Government Pension Scheme	101382	£81.04
HMRC	Clerk's Income Tax	101383	£70.40
Eastern Office Equip.	Parish Council Expenses	101384	£19.18
Staples	Parish Council Expenses	101385	£33.12
Dereham Hire and Sales	Hire of Tree Chipper	101386	£69.15
Neptune Outdoor Furniture	Replacement of Concrete Support	101387	£113.89
T.T.Jones	Quarterly maintenance and repairs	101388	£926.49
EON	Street Lighting Electricity (August)	DD	£140.34
TOTAL			£1730.41

b) Income

The following income was reported:

Received From	Detail	Amount
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Biffa	Partial payment of grant monies	£16127.00
Barclays	Interest (Sept to Dec)	£700.96
Bartrums	Burial Fee Bryan	£100.00
TOTAL		£16927.96

The clerk is to circulate the contract for TT Jones.

8. Planning

a) To consider the following planning applications

i) 3PL/2007/1851/D Mr and Mrs Fisher, The Elms, Woodgate - Proposed Residential Development (3no. Dwellings) Detailed Application

Mr Atterwill proposed that there be no objections to this application, seconded by Mrs Walden. There were three votes in favour with Mr Northall voting against.

ii) 3PL/2007/1508/F 3PL/2007/1900/F – R Hines c/o Pelorus , 80 Greengate - Extension to existing cottage, new dwelling and double garage.

Mr Atterwill proposed that there be no objections to this application, seconded by Mr Perry. There were three votes in favour with Mr Northall voting against.

Mr Northall stressed that larger developments in the village give rise to the opportunity of facilities being put back into the community, whereas smaller developments do not give this benefit.

b) To receive a report from the Chairman on the progress of the LDF and its effects on Swanton Morley.

Mr Atterwill reported that he had spoken with Ann Steward, the Cabinet Member at Breckland District Council responsible for the Local Development Framework. She has offered to help the Parish Council arrange a public meeting to explain Swanton Morley's position on the LDF, the options open to the village and answer Parishioner's questions. She also recognised the frustrations of the Parish Council in not yet being permitted to know which areas of land had been put forward for potential housing.

9. Village Hall

a) To receive an update report on the management of the village hall

Mr Perry reported that the village hall management had agreed to request financial assistance from the Parish Council in the next financial year. Assistance of £5000 was agreed by the Parish Council on the provision that the social club Terms of Reference were clearly resolved. Mr Hipper had been employed as a floor cleaner for ten hours per month but a replacement treasurer had not been found. Fund raising and improvements to the hall were ongoing and progress was being made.

10. Old Village Hall & Car Park

a) To receive an update on sale of land

Mr Atterwill reported that the contracts had been exchanged for the sale of the land and the date for completion had been set as 20th December. He asked the council to give thought to three potential projects:

1. To replace twelve street lights that require moving to the opposite pavement. Councillors are to look at these columns and make a decision.
2. To replace the 8ft fencing around the Gooseberry Hill playing field and erect new fencing at the far end of the field to prevent children going near the barbed wire.
3. To lay another pathway in the burial ground to enable better access to future plots.

Mrs Walden Left The Room

c) To receive an update on the right of way for adjacent cottage owners

Five contracts all signed by the cottage owners had been received agreeing to the council's terms and conditions for access across the village green. Mr Atterwill proposed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be permitted to sign on behalf of the council. Mr Northall seconded, all in favour. Mr Atterwill and Mr Perry signed the contracts, the signatures of which were witnessed by the clerk. These are to be sent registered post to Nicholas Hancox.

Mrs Walden Re-entered the Room

11. Street Lighting

a) To receive fault reports / matters for attention

The clerk has written to TT Jones regarding the inoperative street light outside 15 Bedingfield Road.

b) To receive an update on street lighting project

Mr Atterwill reported that EDF Energy will commence transfer of supply to the new columns on 17th December. The Vehicle Activated Signs have been installed on Rectory Road and are already making a noticeable difference to traffic.

Mr Perry remarked on the great difference the new street light on Manns Lane is making. Discussions occurred as to whether another light between Middleton Avenue and Manns Lane would complete illumination of this area for school children.

12. Highways

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

The clerk is to follow up with Highways to find out if there has been any progress with the Mill Street widening project. Also to be followed up is the ponding and general state of the pavement on Manns Lane outside the school.

13. Quality Council

a) To receive an update on the Quality Council Project

The clerk reported that the date from which the electoral mandate is decided is that of the election, therefore the council still has a 100% mandate for Quality Council purposes. Mike Grayley is to visit the clerk in January to evaluate progress and a Quality Council submission is hoped to be made by April 2008.

b) To agree content and distribution of second edition of the Mardler

Mr Atterwill explained the reasoning behind the articles in the proposed edition of The Mardler. He and the clerk had decided to write an article giving details of the sale of the old village hall land on the basis that it can be distributed immediately after 20th December. Mr Northall proposed that this edition of The Mardler be accepted and printed, Mr Perry seconded. All in favour.

14. Chairman's Reports

a) To receive a report from the chairman on meeting at Breckland District Council regarding Unitary Authorities.

Mr Atterwill reported that he and the clerk had attended a meeting at Breckland District Council about unitary authorities. Breckland revealed that it favoured a three unitary breakdown in Norfolk, a city (Norwich), a coastal (North Norfolk) and a country (South Norfolk).

b) To receive a report on the maintenance of land owned by Breckland District Council.

Mr Atterwill reported that he and the clerk had met with Laura Apps-Green from Breckland District Council to discuss the maintenance and future of lands in the village owned by Breckland. There is a possibility that some of these lands could be transferred to the Parish Council. It was agreed that Councillors would visit the areas in question and then discuss further at the next meeting.

15. Churchyard & Burial Ground

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

As Mrs Thomas had given her apologies there was no report.

b) To consider actions as a result of latest tree report

Following the latest tree report, Mr Atterwill proposed that the trees bordering the B1147 be left and reviewed when more is known about the Mill Street widening scheme. One tree should be removed from the Rump grave as it had fallen and was starting to rot. Mr Perry seconded, all in favour.

16. Youth & Playground Equipment

a) To receive an update report on progress of the Sub Committee.

Mr Atterwill reported that, following a lack response to the Parish Council, he had contacted Lorna Vyse to help resolve the situation of the inoperative youth club.

A response had been received from Cemex on the 'back up' grant application that had been submitted in case the Biffaward grant was unsuccessful. An offer of £12500 had been made from Cemex and it was being established whether the Parish Council would be permitted to keep the monies for extra equipment. He requested that the new grass cutting contractor be asked to complete the hedge cutting on Gooseberry Hill.

17. Commons, Open Spaces & Environmental

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

Mr Northall reported that a working party had met twice to clear the rubbish going into the ditch on Mill Common. It was hoped that work is to start soon on the disabled access to Burgh Common, and it had been established that CL387, that is owned by the Parish Council, is part of Burgh Common.

A meeting is to take place on Thursday 13th December with the fishermen to find a resolution to the fencing around Mill Common.

18. Correspondence

The clerk reported positive responses from both Hunters Hall and Bylaugh Hall regarding signposting to events.

It was agreed that there were no potential issues in relation to the proposals put forward by Norwich Airport.

Mrs Walden requested that time critical correspondence to be emailed. This was agreed. It was also requested that unapproved minutes for sub committees be circulated. This was not agreed as unapproved minutes should not be made public documents.

The meeting was suspended.

District Councillors Report

Mrs Millbank reported that further discussions had occurred on possible unitary status councils but the information received from Westminster was very confusing.

A series of events had been arranged to celebrate the return of the Light Dragoons. Reports from the soldiers had been that they were thrilled with the reception they had received.

Mrs Millbank had attended a youth enterprise scheme and was now part of the General Purposes Committee. She also felt that a public meeting for the LDF was a very good idea.

There was no report from the County Councillor. The clerk is to write to Mrs Floering-Blackman to see if an email report can be obtained in the future.

Public Participation Summary

The following items were reported:

- That there had previously been play equipment on both Thompson Close and Gray Drive
- That great confusion was occurring over the changes in the bus pass system.
- That the dangerous state of the Z Bends by the Tuddenham Road requires addressing.
- Concern was raised over the developments on 80 Greengate and whether anything can be put back into the village under a s106 agreement. The Parish Council responded that these were two separate applications therefore no s106 agreement was required.

The meeting resumed

19. Any item to be reported for the next agenda

The future of lands owned by Breckland District Council.

20. To confirm the date & time of next meeting to be held on Monday 14th January 2007 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

All in favour. The Chairman thanked all councillors for their hard work this year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

_____ (Chairman) _____ Date