

SWANTON MORLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 9th July 2007. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr R. Atterwill (Chairman), Mr C Clegg, Mrs J Walden, Mr G Northall and Mrs A Evans. Also in attendance were Mrs I. Floering-Blackman (County Councillor), ten members of the public and Mrs F. LeBon (clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr C Perry, Mrs M Thomas and Mrs K Millbank (District Councillor)

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Clegg and Mrs Walden both declared personal interests in items 6ai) and 8a), and prejudicial interests in item 8b).

3. Minutes from Parish Council Meeting of 11th June 2007 to be accepted, initialled and signed.

Mr Clegg proposed that the minutes be accepted, Mrs Walden seconded. There were three votes in favour, with Mr Northall and Mrs Evans abstained due to non-attendance at this meeting.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of 11th June 2007

The ownership of the village hall was established as The Village Hall Management Trust and not the Parish Council. All legal documents are to be transferred to Hood Vores and Allwood from W.F. Smith. The response to Dr Kaushal was not agreed at the Planning and Development working group and is to be added to the agenda for next full council. The correspondence from Dr Kaushal to Mr Atterwill will be placed on circulation.

Highways have still not written to the owner of the house in Town Street regarding ownership of the land adjacent to the road.

With reference to management of the village hall, the Parish Council will receive a copy of the audited accounts and signed minutes.

5. Finance

a) Accounts to approve for payment:

Payee	Detail	Cheque No	Amount
Faye LeBon	Clerk's Salary	101322	£249.69
Faye LeBon	Clerk's Expenses	101322	£35.12
Norfolk Pensions	Local Government Pension Scheme	101323	£81.04
HMRC	Clerk's Income Tax	101324	£70.40
Neptune	2 x Picnic Benches	101325	£1212.60
D Watson	Grass Cutting (to June 27 th)	101326	£1609.76
Larking Gowen	Internal Audit	101327	£293.75
E-On	Street lighting Electricity (June)	DD	£140.34
Linpac	Litter Bin Gooseberry Hill	101328	£198.58
EOE	Parish Council Stationery expenses	101329	£12.08
TOTAL			£3903.36

Mr Atterwill proposed an amendment to these accounts as an invoice from Biffa Waste Management had been received for £1810.10. Upon this payment, funding of £18,101.00 will be released to the Playing Fields project. Mrs Evans seconded, all in favour.

Mr Clegg proposed that all above payments be made, Mrs Evans seconded. All in favour. Total payments now £5713.46 as cheque 101330 was made out to Biffa Waste Management.

b) **Income** – None to report

c) To agree Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement to be submitted to Audit Commission

After agreement that the village hall and common lands should not be listed as Parish Council assets, Mrs Walden proposed that the statement of accounts be accepted, Mr Northall seconded. All in favour. Mr Atterwill read out each section of the annual governance statement, to which all Councillors agreed. The statement of accounts and annual governance statement were signed by Mr Atterwill and the clerk.

6.Planning

a) To consider the following planning applications

i) 3PL/2007/0847/F – R Pugh, Octagon House – Replacements of flat roofs with pitched – Mr Atterwill proposed that there be no objections to this application, but requested that comments be sent to Breckland about there being no windows permitted in the roof. Mr Northall seconded, all in favour.

ii) 3PL/2007/1010/O – G Burton, Jacobs, Woodgate Lane – Erection of Cottage Style Dwelling and garage – Mr Northall proposed that there be no objections to this application. Mrs Evans seconded, all in favour.

iii) SP/C/3/2007/3012 – Beetley Quarry – Extraction of sand & gravel with continued processing of mineral and use of haul route. Mrs Walden proposed that there be no objections to this application. Mr Clegg seconded. The vote was 4:1 in favour with Mr Northall objecting.

iv) 3PL/2007/1043/O – Mrs and Mrs R Fisher – The Elms Woodgate – Proposed Residential Development – Mr Northall raised concerns about highways issues and Mr Clegg felt this was a case of overdevelopment of the area. Mr Atterwill proposed that there be no objections to this application, Mrs Walden seconded. The vote was 3:2 in favour.

b) To receive a report from Mr C. Clegg on the progress of the Planning & Local Development Working Group

Mr Clegg reported that the Planning and Development working group met on 25th June and had created criteria for site specific areas for affordable housing. All landowners should be made aware that they are able to offer their land for affordable housing, a housing association should then be appointed. Suitable applicants should then be identified prior to any building commencing.

The village was unlikely to get any funding for sheltered housing, so alternatives had been looked into, such as personal alarms.

7. Code of Conduct

a) To consider the adoption of the Revised Code of Conduct including Paragraph 12(2)

Mr Atterwill proposed that the revised code of conduct be adopted in its entirety. Mr Clegg seconded, all in favour.

b) To consider a revision of Standing Orders to include Paragraph 12(2) of the Revised Code of Conduct.

The clerk read out a suggested amendment to section 22 of the standing orders to incorporate the revision of the code of conduct. Mr Atterwill proposed that the Standing Orders be amended as such, Mrs Walden seconded. All in favour.

8.Old Village Hall & Car Park

a) To receive an update on submission of planning application

Mr Atterwill reported that Outline Planning Permission had been granted for the Old Village Hall site subject to a walkover survey to ensure no contamination of land has occurred. Mr Atterwill is to obtain quotes from estate agents and an extraordinary meeting will be called on 30th July to discuss these prices and appoint an agent to act on behalf of the Council. Having taken advice from NCAPTC, the public will be invited to attend, but will be excluded from any confidential information, such as site valuation.

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

Mr Atterwill reported that a response is awaited from the cottage owners on the Parish Council's offer.

9. Street Lighting

a) To receive fault reports / matters for attention

Mr Atterwill requested the clerk report light 21 on Rectory Road to the contractor as faulty.

b) To receive an update on the proposed new streetlight for Middleton Avenue

A quote had been received from the contractors for £3040.00 to erect and connect the new street light on Middleton Avenue. Mr Atterwill proposed that the contractor be instructed to proceed with this light during the forthcoming school holidays. Mr Clegg seconded, all in favour.

c) To receive update on replacement street lighting project

Mr Atterwill reported that a quotation from TT Jones had been received for the replacement of street lights in the village. He advised that a survey had gone out to all residents of Woodgate asking their opinion about the necessity of street lights in this area of the village. He also questioned the necessity to replace lighting on Elsing Road and on the grass area of Thompson Close.

Mr Atterwill proposed that the Council proceed with a loan of £57,000 to replace the street lights, over a period of four years. The £20,000 shortfall would be made up from the sale of the Old Village Hall land. Mrs Evans seconded. The vote was 3:2 in favour with Mr Clegg and Mrs Walden providing objections.

10.Highways

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

Mr Atterwill reported that the flooding on Frogs Hall Lane had been reported and the work on the vegetation on Rectory Road had been programmed in.

11. Churchyard & Burial Ground

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

There was no report as Mrs Thomas had given her apologies.

b) To update on Disabled Access Project

Mr Atterwill reported that work was soon to begin on the disabled ramp and the papers for the transfer of land were being drafted.

Mr Atterwill proposed that the meeting be extended, Mr Clegg seconded. All in favour

c) To consider funding for Notice Board in Burial Ground

The clerk reported that £500 had been allocated in the budget for a notice board, and a quote had been obtained for £470. Mr Atterwill proposed that the clerk order this notice board, Mr Clegg seconded. All in favour.

d) To consider funding for removal of ivy on church wall and appoint contractor

The clerk reported that £200 had been allocated in the budget for removal of ivy from the church wall, and a quote had been obtained for £175. Mr Atterwill proposed that the clerk instruct that the ivy be removed, Mr Clegg seconded. All in favour.

e) To consider funding for safety fencing beside church wall and appoint contractor

Tenders had been sent for fencing in the churchyard. Mr Atterwill proposed that the Council accept the cheapest quote of £640. Mr Clegg seconded, all in favour.

f) To agree response to PCC with reference to interments in open part of churchyard

It was agreed that the clerk should write to the PCC to give the Parish Council's agreement to place ash interments in the open part of the churchyard.

12. Youth & Playground Equipment

a) To receive an update report from Mr R. Atterwill on progress of the Sub Committee

Mr Atterwill reported that a total of £27,000 was now allocated to Phase II of the playing fields project and he and Miss Woolnough are to meet with the contractor on 12th July. There had been no response from the gardening club to date.

b) To consider funding for painting of village seats and varnishing of village sign

A quote for £475 had been received from Mr Woolnough to treat the village picnic benches, seating and the village sign. Mr Atterwill proposed that the Council accept this quote, Mr Clegg seconded. All in favour.

13. Commons, Open Spaces & Environmental

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

Mr Northall reported that concerns had been raised by the angling club about the fencing around Mill Common. The clerk is to obtain a copy of the letter sent to Mr Carrick from Cemex confirming that they give authority for the fencing on their side of the land.

Mr Atterwill reported that the application had been sent to Land Registry to register all the common lands and the village green.

14. To Consider Funding and Delegates for Forthcoming N.R.C.C Training Courses

It was agreed that the most important courses were those run by NCAPTC and that these should be investigated prior to any courses run by NRCC.

15. Correspondence

Mr Atterwill reported that Mrs Millbank has arranged for Alastair Rusholme to attend the meeting in September to discuss street cleaning and litter. He also had copies of correspondence from Dr Kaushal and the s106 agreement attached to the Lincoln House development.

16. Chairman's report from N.C.A.P.T.C.

Mr Atterwill reported that he had stepped down from the NCAPTC executive committee.

The meeting was suspended for the District Councillors report and Public Participation

17. Any item to be reported for the next agenda

The Parish Council's response to Dr Kaushal

18. To confirm the date & time of next meeting to be held on Monday 13th August 2007 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. – All in Favour
The meeting closed at 10.25 pm

_____ (Chairman) _____ Date

Report by Mrs Northall on the Community Car Scheme

Mrs Northall provided apologies for Anne Sadler. She reported that the Community Car Scheme was up and running and had been used by 12 passengers in 5 weeks. A presentation had been given to the Friendship Club and all at the meeting were encouraged to spread the word about this scheme. Seven drivers had volunteered for the scheme, but more were required. The Parish Council and Breckland District Council were subsidising the scheme.

Presentation by Colin Hodge on the Homewatch Scheme

Colin Hodge introduced himself as a retired police officer and now the Homewatch Co-ordinator for the Breckland area. His role is to start, support and promote Homewatch in Community. Homewatch is a police funded project where a group of neighbours (usually 20-25 houses) work together to help prevent crime in their area. Mr Hodge also co-ordinates School Watch and Church Watch.

Mr Hodge emphasised that there is support for Homewatch and that should anyone want more information to contact him. There is also a meeting of the Community Action Group on 17th July at 7.30 at the Scout HQ in Dereham.

Presentation by P.C Craig Maxwell on Policing in the Community

P.C Maxwell introduced himself as the parish liaison for Swanton Morley and Hoe. He reported that there had been 39 reported crimes between September 2006 to date, several of which were vehicle crimes caused by the same group who had been apprehended. He also explained the difficulty of decisions that have to be made by the police with regards to resources and acting upon crimes.

County Councillor's Report

Mrs Floering-Blackman offered her full support to the village after the recent flooding and agreed to follow up the areas on Mill Hill and the 'Z' bends when entering the village. She was given clarification that the Parish Council had not objected to the planning application for Beetley Quarry, even though this included some of the land belonging to Mr Keith. She is also going to follow up on the Mill Street widening feasibility study and see if the work can be placed on the forward plan.

Public Comments

Mr Peachment raised concerns that crime had increased in the local area.

Mr Marsham felt that the police could use their resources differently in the event of an accident.

Mrs Eames introduced herself as the new bookings clerk for the village hall.

Mr Ellis had spoken with Breckland Council about the necessity of planning permission for solar panels on houses. He reported that should the panels not protrude more than 150mm from the roof, then planning permission is not required.

He urged the Council to think about the needs of the Community rather the financial gain of selling the Old Village Hall site. He also questioned the status of the Community Emergency plan. Mr Atterwill replied that he would request a written report from Mr Carrick.

Mr Ellis also queried whether the Standing Orders can be changed and applied that same meeting, and he also queried the ownership of the village hall.

Mrs Northall questioned whether Councillors on the Village Hall Management Committee had a personal or prejudicial interest in the any matter relating to the village hall. Mr Atterwill replied that it was personal.