

SWANTON MORLEY PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Swanton Morley Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on Monday 8th September 2008. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr R. Atterwill, Mr C. Perry, Mrs L Vyse, Mrs M Thomas, District Councillor Mrs K Millbank, county councillor Mrs Ingrid Floering-Blackman and four members of the public. Also in attendance Mrs F. LeBon (clerk)

Matters Raised Under Time Allocated to the Public

- The clerk is to speak to Breckland District Council about the postal address of Merryfield Close being assigned to 'Greengate' and Harkers Lane being assigned to 'Town Street', both of which are causing confusion.
- The Parish Council agreed to put pressure on Norfolk County Council to resolve the problem of a waste recycling site in closer proximity to the village as it is currently a 25 mile round trip. The Parish Council had no objections to a site at North Tuddenham but has heard nothing since.
- More vandalism was reported in the village. The clerk is to write to the police asking for the presence of a mobile police unit.

The Meeting Went Into Session.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mr Northall

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Atterwill declared a personal interest in item 17 (District Councillors Report)

Mr Perry declared a personal interest in item 6c (the LDF).

Mrs Vyse declared a prejudicial interest in item 6b (affordable housing).

Mrs Thomas declared a personal interest in item 7b.

3. Minutes from Parish Council Meeting of 11th August 2008 to be accepted, initialled and signed.

After an amendment to item 14 clarifying that the permissive pathway on Mr Carrick's land had been 'waymarked', Mrs Vyse proposed that the minutes be accepted as true record. Seconded by Mr Perry and carried.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of 11th August 2008.

None

5. Finance

a) Accounts to approve for payment:

The clerk reported an amendment to the amount published for Eastern Office Equipment and also advised that the amount published as payable to the Under 5's Group would not be paid as a result of the invoice for fencing work not being received. Mrs Thomas proposed that the below payments be made, seconded by Mrs Vyse. Carried

Payee	Detail	Cheque Number	Amount
Faye LeBon	Clerk's Salary	101483	£332.82
Faye LeBon	Clerk's Expenses	101483	£44.81
Norfolk Pensions	Local Government Pension Scheme	101484	£102.39
HMRC	Clerk's PAYE	101485	£83.40
EON	Street Lighting Electricity (August)	DD	£140.58
Swanton Morley VH	Room Hire (July)	101486	£24.00
British Legion	Donation for Wreath (s137)	101487	£50.00
Bretts	Village Hall Commemorative Stone	101488	£273.78
N O'Brien	Community Car Expenses	101489	£29.90
M Newland	Community Car Expenses	101490	£95.80
G Northall	Community Car Expenses	101491	£19.10
G Thorpe	Community Car Expenses	101492	£18.86
J Spauls	Community Car Expenses	101493	£39.70
A Sadler`	Community Car Expenses	101494	£34.60

Eastern Office Equip	Envelopes/Labels Copying LDF Consultation	101495	£399.91
Post Office Counters	Stamps for LDF Consultation	101482	£200.00
Bank of England	Loan repayment	101496	£8094.35
Staples	Black Ink	101497	£32.69
JP's Maintenance	Grass Cutting (July and August)	101498	£611.00
MHB Services	Replace street lights	101499	£3543.15
TOTAL			£14912.52

Mr Atterwill reported that he had met a representative from EDF Energy onsite to give an accurate quotation for the energy transfer of phase two of the street light replacement project. This quotation had been received and was £22,850 which was £2868 less than the previous quotation. It was agreed that this should be paid as the quote was only valid for 30 days.

b) Income

Income from the following was reported:

Received From	Detail	Amount
RPA	ELS and HLS Payment	£575.90
Breckland District Council	Community Car Payment	£114.48
TOTAL		£690.38

c) To receive a report on review of budget

The clerk provided councillors with an updated budget summary to include items of income from Gooseberry Hill grants, the RPA and the old village hall funds. Councillors are to review the new budget prior to adopting it.

6. Planning

a) To consider responses for the following planning applications

i) 3PL/2008/1026/F – Mr J Keith, Hill House Farm Buildings, Mill Street – Change of use – conversation of redundant farm buildings to four dwellings

Mr Atterwill proposed that there be no objections to the development of this site subject to the Mill Street widening scheme being in place prior to approval. Seconded by Mrs Vyse and carried. The clerk is to send details of the scheme to Breckland District Council.

ii) 3PL/2008/1227/F – Mr Martins, Louvain, 37 Greengate – Erection of white PVCu conservatory to front of property.

Mr Atterwill proposed that there should be no objections to this application, seconded by Mrs Thomas. Carried.

b) To receive an update on potential affordable housing for Swanton Morley

The clerk reported that she had been unable to get an update on this project from Breckland District Council. The council raised concerns that the land transfer was going to go through prior to the public consultation and strongly opposed this order of priorities. This was escalated to District Councillor Millbank to obtain clarification from Breckland District Council.

c) To receive a report on results of Local Development Framework Survey

Mr Atterwill reported that 200 survey had been returned which represented a response rate of 34.7%. Of these responses 78.5% were in favour of the Parish Council's preferred option of site 007 being developed with 50 houses only under the LDF and 21.5% being against. The clerk is to send these results to Andrea Long at Breckland District Council and create an A5 flyer for attendees of the public meeting listing these results. It was agreed that a three minute time limit should be placed on all questions and comments at this meeting so all attendees have the opportunity to speak.

7. Grant Funding

a) To consider any applications for small grant funding requests

There had been no further applications for small grant funding.

b) To acknowledge receipt of and to discuss application from Swanton Morley Cricket Club

Council acknowledged receipt of the application from Swanton Morley Cricket Club for an application for £30,000 for new changing facilities which represented 40% of the project total which was £74,720. Council is to make a decision on the grant on their meeting on 10th November.

8. Allotments

a) To receive an update on parishioner responses for potential allotments and agree further action

Mr Atterwill reported that further discussions are being had with a local landowner as to the possibility of using some of his land for the purpose of allotments. The clerk is to write to all parties interested in allotments to update them on the process.

9. Street Lighting

a) To receive fault reports / matters for attention

Mr Atterwill reported faults on lights on the traffic island near the new pedestrian crossing on Greengate and also on the junction between Middleton Avenue and Gray Drive.

b) To receive an update on street light replacement project

Mr Atterwill reported that MHB services have replaced all the street lighting columns as part of phase two of the street light replacement project. He had also met with a representative from EDF Energy who had provided an updated quotation for the energy transfer works and advised of permissions required for work to go ahead. Mr Atterwill is to visit the houses of affected residents to explain the work that needs doing and the clerk is to write an official letter to the same effect.

The clerk is to follow up with EDF Energy as to the outstanding electricity transfers for phase one of the project.

10. Highways

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

Mr Atterwill reported that the Highways department has cleared the drains around Town Street and some minor remedial work is required. All trees have been cut on Rectory Road and the owner of the Rectory will be approached to cut back vegetation on his land. The clerk is to follow up with Highways to cut the vegetation on Rectory Road.

Mrs Thomas reported that there is still flooding opposite her house and that the developers at 80 Greengate are still leaving mud on the pavement causing an obstruction for pedestrians.

b) To discuss suggestion of extension to 30mph speed limit in the Woodgate area.

Mr Atterwill reported that the Highways department has approached the council to ask their opinion of extending the 30mph speed limit down Woodgate Lane and into the Woodgate area. This would mean more signage in the area. The clerk is to write to Norfolk County Council requesting a plan of the proposed increased signage.

11. To Agree Next Edition of The Mardler

As a result of the draft edition being circulated, amendments were given to the clerk. The clerk is to send out the final article on the LDF after the public meeting on 15th September,

12. To receive a report on co-option of new councillor/s

There had been no progress to date. The clerk is to do some promotional literature on the back of the A5 leaflet to be distributed at the LDF meeting.

13. Churchyard & Burial Ground

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

Mr Atterwill reported that a request had been received from the Wensum Valley Project to discuss a conservation area in the churchyard. The clerk is to respond requesting further information.

14. Youth & Playground Equipment

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

Mr Atterwill reported that the clerk has sent letters to all local sports groups to find out the potential usage of an all weather sports pitch in the village.

15. Commons, Open Spaces & Environmental

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

Mr Atterwill reported that the new gate had been installed at Mill Common. The clerk reported that the planning application for the access boardwalks on Burgh Common is soon to be submitted. There will also be an associated notice in the newspaper as the Parish Council is not the registered owner of the land at Land Registry.

16. Local Government Review

a) To receive a report from Mr R. Atterwill on the Norfolk County Council parish & town council workshop

Mr Atterwill reported that he had attended a steering group on how community partnership boards would work under a unitary council. He quoted that at present 80% of local authority spend is managed by 30% of the overhead (Norfolk County Council), 15% of spend is managed by 70% of the overhead (District and City Councils) and the remaining 5% is managed by the parish and town councils. The steering group is to forward Mr Atterwill a copy of the draft proposals when they are completed.

b) To agree Parish Council's response to Boundary Commission's draft proposal for unitary status

The council agreed that as there was insufficient information on costs and implications on Parish Councils an informed decision could not be made.

17. Correspondence

The clerk reported that a disappointing response had been received from HMRC over the VAT implications of the all weather sports pitch, in that they were unwilling to respond on hypothetical scenarios. The clerk is to obtain a quotation from Larking Gowen for this work.

The Meeting was Suspended

District Councillor's Report

Mrs Millbank reported that it was important to change public perception to ensure that everyone realises that a new unitary council would mean a whole new council and not just a larger Norfolk County Council. She also promoted the Brekfest festival and clarified that all costs of putting on the concert were covered by ticket sales.

County Councillor's Report

Mrs Floering-Blackman reported that the Highways department would be working on a new sewer connection in the Woodgate area resulting in temporary road closures. She also urged caution with extra speed signage in this area. Discussions were also had as to the standard of service given by adult social services

The following items were raised by the public:

- Caution was urged over the use of agencies being hired for council services.
- The fact that both Norfolk County Council and Breckland District Council have used tax payers money in their own promotional literature to promote their own agendas over the local government review.
- Confirmation was given that the new budget figures would be put in the Mardler in December after being agreed by the external auditor.
- That a condition of landowners being considered for the LDF should be that part of the plot should be sold at agricultural value so as to make housing affordable.
- That a public consultation on the affordable housing scheme should happen prior to any transfer of land at Middleton Avenue.

The Meeting Resumed

16. Any item to be reported for the next agenda

None requested

17. To confirm the date & time of next meeting to be held on Monday 13th October 2008 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Carried

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

_____ (Chairman) _____ Date