

# SALHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Salhouse Parish Council meeting, held in Jubilee Hall on December 7<sup>th</sup> 2011 at. 7.30pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllr. R. Cooper (Chairman), Cllrs J. Rose, C.McCormick, N.Taylor  
P. Peck, S.Piper, D.Hastings, S.Simpson, P. Jefford and the Clerk. D.R.Wyatt.  
Four residents were present and also District Cllr. S. Buckle and County Cllr. J. Carswell.

Chairman welcomed those present and advised them of vicinity of fire exits, should they be needed.  
Reminded residents that the meeting was being recorded and that they should inform the Clerk now if they wished to be excluded from the minutes.

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Vice Chairman Cllr. Robbins and Cllr. Moralee.

## 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (Agenda items only) –Members are invited to declare a personal or prejudicial Interest in items on the Agenda, requirement of revised Parish Council Model Code of Conduct Order 2008 s8 Form.

Declarations were declared by:-

Cllr. Cooper as member of Salhouse United Charities and Salhouse Village Fete

Cllr. Jefford as member of Salhouse United Charities.

Cllr. Piper as a member of Broads Authority.

Cllr. Hastings as a member of S.N.U.B.

Cllr. Taylor as a member of Team Salhouse.

## 3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

Well, here we are in December and it is hard to believe that another year is almost over, but it is. These last few weeks have been very busy and I am pleased to say that the consultations are almost complete. The Parish Council has risen to the challenge and I must say a big thank you to those Councillors who, in order to complete this important task, have regularly attended the many working party meetings and also to our advisory panel member who has worked equally as hard as our Councillors.

I cannot underline how important it is to respond as fully as possible to each and every consultation we are presented with. If Parish Councils do not take the opportunity to get involved and have their say then I have no sympathy with those that later complain that they do not know what is happening in their own area.

We have too many complaints about lack of democracy and transparency and when the opportunity to comment is presented as it has been throughout the Local Development Framework process, now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year, it is the responsibility of Parish Councils to ensure that they represent all their residents to the best of their ability. This Parish Council can be proud that it has met that responsibility in full throughout the process and will continue to do so.

As we know, Parish Councillors are all unpaid volunteers, many of whom give up a large portion of their week to work for their parishioners, and I would like to thank everyone for their commitment and support throughout the year. It would be nice to be able to say that the pressure will be off in the coming months but this will not be the case as there are other consultations to follow and the outcome of the legal challenge to the Joint Core Strategy could also impact on that. To date Salhouse Parish has been protected from over development on the back of the Parish Plan. Let us hope that the situation will not change for the worse but we shall see. We shall certainly continue to resist any unwelcome increase!

In the meantime, my thanks to you all and to our Clerk and I wish you a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

## 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. -consider adjournment of meeting for Public Participation inc: Norfolk Constabulary, Norfolk County Councillor, District Councillor and other members of public

Suspend Standing Orders.

Ms. P. Gallanders addressed her concerns to those present regarding the housing proposed for the old Salhouse Petrol Station Site.

- Many of the houses are well in front of the building line.
- Significant loss of residential area would be lost due to the smallness of the gardens which are also nearer to the road.
- The differentials between affordable and marketing housing are not to be desired, such as gates and garages.

Norfolk County Councillor James Carswell updated Council on County affairs.

- Interesting item in today's EDP referring to the Judge's view on the Joint Core Strategy hearing.
- Salhouse has no large scale development planned, housing impact will come from surrounding villages.
- Concerns are places for additional children at local schools, which have only a few places left.
- Still awaiting news about NDR funding. Government seem mostly occupied with the National Birmingham to London railway line. Confirmation should be known by end of January 2012
- Judge's view on the Kings Lynn Incinerator, will be known later this week and the Joint Core Strategy Inspector's hearing has been deferred for three weeks.
- I have concerns about the ice rink that occurs at the Vicarage Road junction, having had first hand experience last year.
- Christmas greetings offered to all.

Nichollette Richards also expressed concerns about the icy approach to both Station Road and Stonehouse Road bridges when the weather is bad.

Enquired about information regarding the Vanguard scheme. Chairman replied that the village would be called together in the New Year for a Public Information Day.

Broadland District Councillor Steve Buckle updated Council regarding the potential building in Rackheath.

Full planning for the 200 houses by level crossing will be in by end of January. Both myself and Ben have objected to this and called it in. Will now be dealt with at Full Council.

The fire at Charles Close, Wroxham, reminds us all to take fire precautions at this time of year. Happy Christmas wished for everyone.

Clerk enquired about fire hydrants available. Where are they and are they regularly inspected? Council will enquire.

Standing Orders resumed.

## **5. MINUTES OF MEETING 2.11.2011**

Cllr. Jefford enquired about two items that were not fully explained, being from previous minutes. Council had agreed to go back to the original system of numbering minutes to make this tracking easier.

Minutes were agreed as a true record, proposed by Cllr. McCormick, seconded by Cllr. Peck and duly signed by the Chairman.

## **6. CLERKS REPORT.-Previous meetings.**

9.5 Parking problems at Upper / Lower St. Junction.

Situation being monitored.

10.1 Notice board has been erected opposite the Post Office.

13.6 Overhanging trees at Mill Close. Clerk to check with authorities again.

13.7. Mr. H. Cator had requested that he meet with the Clerk and together they would locate these potholes.

Clerk declined referring him to other residents.

Cllr. Taylor updated the Council to the fact that a meeting had been arranged with Mr. Cator and it was suggested that we tried to make this an annual event.

Finance 10.3. Playtower repair has been carried out.

11. Committee reports

**Planning (a)** Conservation area review. Letter has been forwarded to Broadland District Council as requested by Cllr. Robbins

**Playing Field (b)** Plumbing and electrical works have now been completed.

**Norse Commercial** have forwarded their price for grass cutting Year 3 of Contract.

**Highways department** – playground sign at Children’s Playground

To be inspected by Highways.

Clerk reported that Highways have stated that there is a second sign by the Oak tree. Chairman and Clerk will check later this evening.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**7.1 Broads Authority – Broads Plan 2011.** Available for view from Clerk.  
Copy passed to Cllr McCormick to view.

**Broads Authority Development Management Policies DPD**

Received copy of confirmation of adoption statement 25<sup>th</sup> November 2011. Copied to all.

**7.2 Beyond the Green.**

E-mail received, newsletter update, forwarded to all councilors.

**7.3 Eversheds LLP.**

Clerks regular chasing letter produced the response this quarter of “ Until we are released from our undertaking by Radcliffes Le Brasseur, we cannot release the monies we currently hold to Salhouse Parish Council.”

**7.4 Broadland District Council**

E-mail received from Democratic Services asking for feedback on events planned for the Queens Jubilee

**7.5 Vitalise.**

Thank you letters received from Clare Ellison ( Statutory Fundraiser) and also Chris Symonds (Chief Executive.)

**7.6 Broadland District Council**

Precept Form received for completion by January 27<sup>th</sup> 2012.

**7.7 Broadland District Council**

Request for “Full register of electors” completed and returned.

**8. DELIVERING LOCAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS. (FROM LAST MEETING)**

Owing to operating a Speedwatch group a V.A.S.sign was awarded as part of this fund. Location being surveyed, further info within one month.

**9. CONSULTATIONS.**

**BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL – LOCAL FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS.**

Progress from Working Parties – ongoing, reply required by 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

All are in hand and will be completed very shortly.

Consultation on changes to Bus services had been completed and returned as requested.

**10. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT- Progress report.-Summary.**

Cllrs had spoken to Clerk and Chairman of Alington and Coltishall Parish Councils in their search of experience of how other Councils work. Clerk had requested a new updated computer in September and Council agreed to purchase one plus an external hard drive to save work on daily and remove to a safer place at the end of the day. They would arrange a service contract and training of new systems and requirements in current I. T, thus lessening the workload for the Clerk.

Three quotations would now be sought.

**11. DIAMOND JUBILEE 2012**

Cllr. McCormick had the idea of making a short film of current day Salhouse. Excellent idea.

Chairman stated that we should start having talks with others as June will be upon us very quickly.

**12. POND – BEHIND BELL CORNER.**

Report after inspection by Mr.Ed.Stoker Norfolk County Council.and ecologist David White, Broadland District Council. See Appendix 1.

**12.1** Bell Pond –confirmation of spray use on invasive weed.

Clerk had contacted Mr. Garner and given permission to go ahead as soon as possible.

### **13. FINANCE**

**13.1.** It was agreed that £50 donation would be forwarded to the Royal British Legion.

13.2 Cheques in the sum of £3448.06 were agreed for payment.  
Cllr.Jefford confirmed that Mr.Mitchell had indeed done the work to the Thieves Lane fence twice.

13.3 Co-operative Bank – To agree continuance of Guaranteed Investment Bond.  
It was agreed that the Council would continue until economic conditions improved.

### **14. TO RECEIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

a Planning –Read by Cllr. Cooper.

On 10<sup>th</sup> November 2011 the Planning Committee held a meeting which included Planning Application No.20101590, Former Garage Site, Mill Road, Salhouse.

At the meeting, there was much discussion involving parishioners, councillors, Mrs Cator (the owner) and Mr Reynolds (the Architect). Several concerns were raised.

There has been an extension of time granted by Broadland District Council to enable further objections to be raised.

The Planning Committee were agreed that they were in favour of the development in principle but have the following objections:

- (a) The proposed density of building on the site is too great;
- (b) The buildings on the Mill Road frontage are much closer to the road than the existing adjacent buildings, therefore the building line is not being maintained;
- (c) The road is too narrow and does not give enough room for emergency vehicles, visitor parking, deliveries, etc and not sufficient turning space;
- (d) There appears to be inadequate provision of pavement or pedestrian space alongside the estate road;
- (e) There does not appear to be sufficient off-road parking spaces for residents;
- (f) There does not seem sufficient space for bins or access for bin lorries;
- (g) Particularly around the old peoples' bungalows, the siting of the dwellings very close to the road and 1.8m brick walls elsewhere would create blind spots for drivers reversing out, which would prove extremely hazardous;
- (h) The two-storey houses at the back of the site would seriously overshadow adjacent properties in Topcliffe Avenue;
- (i) In mitigation of the last two points, it was suggested that the single storey properties for older people would be better located at the back of the site;
- (j) Disappointment regarding the withdrawal of a shop from the plans;
- (k) The Developers are reminded that the site lies within the village Conservation Area and this must be borne in mind when finalising the designs.

#### **b Playing Field**

At the last Playing Field Committee meeting it was reported that the necessary repairs had been completed to the toilets and a satisfactory result obtained.

We have been advised by the Football Club that the problem with the moles has now returned and it was considered necessary to once again obtain the services of the contractor to attempt to eradicate this problem. The Committee has heard nothing from the contractors regarding an estimate of costs to upgrade the car park. As expenditure for improvements will be limited in the coming year, the Committee will investigate the possibility of additional funding through grants.

Work to the hedge along Thieves Lane to prevent unauthorized access will be deferred for the time being to look for alternative ways to strengthen the hedge.

- Approve Inspection Report Worksheet.

List read by Cllr. Jefford, slight amendments to be made and Mr. Green to be consulted.

#### **c.Footpaths**

Cllr Piper had received a call about the Southermost gate on FP8 and produced photographs as evidence of problems.His feeling was that the gates are a restriction to access and should be removed.

After discussion about taking over footpath maintenance, clerk was asked to enquire for further clarification from Norfolk County Council.

d.Risk Assessment. – Physical risks around village.

Inspection had been carried out on December 2<sup>nd</sup> . Report to be filed with minutes.

Neighbourhood Plan –meeting of 24/11/11.

After discussion it was agreed that this would be commenced early in 2012.

**15. ANGLIAN WATER.- PUMPING STATION, LOWER STREET**

Letter received from Mr. Halliday, regarding overflow from the Pumping Station.

Council agreed that a notice would be placed on the noticeboard opposite the Post Office asking all residents to report problems with overflow from this pumping station. Therefore a list of dates and times would be available to us to approach Anglian Water again. Cllr. McCormick to attend to this notice.

**16. AFFORDABLE HOMES FOR LOCAL PEOPLE IN SALHOUSE.**

Council had agreed to take this forward.

**17. BUDGET PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDED PRECEPT FOR 2012/2013.**

After much discussion it was agreed to increase the precept by 5%. This is £2 per applicable dwelling, making a total increase of £1244. Votes were taken resulting in 6 for and 1 against. Motion carried.

**18. COUNCILLORS INPUT**

Cllr Simpson asked that 'Brown Tourist signs' be placed on the January agenda.

Cllr Hastings called for speed checks along Thieves Lane as vehicles are still travelling too fast.

Cllr Piper – Speedwatch explained that random checks can only be carried out in certain areas Recommended Contacting Bob Hall of the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Also reported parking on Footpaths, warning letters required and also "Cars for Sale"

Cllr. Cooper reported ,in connection with Anglian Water problem, that the manholes had 1970 rubber seals.

**19. PARKED ITEMS (on-going items, awaiting response)**

DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE FROM SALHOUSE BROAD

ALLOTMENTS

BI- MONTHLY NEWSLETTER – Footways, Dog Fouling.

JUBILEE HALL.

CONTAINERS – RECREATION GROUND..

**20. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.**

Date of next meeting will be 11<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

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**STAFFING MATTERS**

**Appraisal Meeting** took place in the Jubilee Hall 7.00pm, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November, between Cllr. Cooper, Cllr Taylor, (standing in for Cllr. Robbins) and the Clerk. Next meeting arranged for October 2012.

Appendix 1. Bell Corner Pond.