

ALPINGTON WITH YELVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting

held on Monday 2 July 2012 at 7.30pm at Alington Village Hall

Present : Jack Taylor (Chairman), Kevin Gotts (Vice Chairman), John Lain,
Jeremy McNulty and David Whitehead

Also Present: Linda Gray (Clerk), Adrian Gunson, County Councillor, and 75 members of the public.

MINUTES

- 1. Introductions, Tim Horspole SNC Planning and Housing Policy Manager , Tim Barker SNC, Planning Officer, Graham Bloomfield, Bidwells and Julian Wells, FW Properties and Ian Fox, FW Properties.**

Apologies of absence were received from. Chris Black, Jerry Davies and Sue Thomson District Councillor

Resignation – The Clerk had received a resignation letter from Jerry Davies. Jerry Davies had lived in the village for 30 years and was moving to Devon. Jack Taylor commented that Jerry had been an active member of the community and very supportive member of the Parish Council for 5 years. He had also been instrumental in the maintenance of the Play Area and general up keep of the village and would be greatly missed. Jack Taylor proposed the Parish Council sends a letter of thanks to his new address, Councillors agreed unanimously.

Parish Council Vacancy – There was now a Councillor Vacancy on the Parish Council. The Clerk would contact the monitoring officer and obtain the necessary forms and public notification. The vacancy would be advertised in the village shortly. Anyone interested in this vacancy should contact the clerk for an application form. The vacancy would be included on the agenda for the 17 September 2012 when the co-option would take place.

- a. Code of Conduct** – The Standards Board for England had now ceased and a new code of conduct for the Local Authority had been published. The Parish Council had to decided whether to adopt a. The Local Authority Code, b. The code published by Norfolk ALC specifically for Parish Council or, c. write a code of their own which would necessitate the appointment of a legal representative.

Jack Taylor proposed the Council adopted the Norfolk ALC code, seconded Kevin Gotts and agreed unanimously. All Councillors completed and signed a new Business Interest Document and the Clerk circulated the new code to all Councillors.

b. Declaration of Interest

Jack Taylor – Pecuniary Interest - Item 7 LDF - Wheel Road Site

David Whitehead – Non Pecuniary Interest – Item 7 LDF – Wheel Road Site

Kevin Gotts – Non Pecuniary Interest – Item 13 – Police and Parking at the school

- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2012** were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

Norfolk RCC – The cheque to join the Bulk Oil Scheme had been sent. This payment did not include General membership to the Norfolk RCC

Responsibilities – The Clerk had updated the information and the Chairman signed the update.

Bergh Apton Waste Site – The planning application remained ongoing

5. Correspondence:

Code of Conduct - New Code of Conduct to be adopted by Councillors

6. Finance

Finance Payment table and forecast balance of accounts

Date	Detail	Cheque No	Amount	Totals
	Balances of Accounts			
01.04.12	Savings		£5,751.99	
01.04.12	Current		£980.00	
	Cheques issued not processed		-£64.00	
	Sub total of Balances	Sub total		£6,667.99
	Receipts			
06.06.12	Bank Interest		0.62	
31.05.12	VAT Return		£763.17	
	Sub Total of Receipts	Sub total		£763.79
	Payments			
23.05.12	L Gray Salary Standing Order	STO	£182.00	
02.07.12	Village Hall Annual Fee 12/13	100662	£117.00	
02.07.12	Norse	100663	£483.60	
02.07.12	K Parfitt	100664	£225.00	
02.07.12	K Parfitt	100665	£405.00	
02.07.12	L Gray Expenses Inc Sal Adj	100666	£123.39	
23.06.12	L Gray Salary Standing Order	STO	£193.87	
	Sub Total of Payments	Sub total		£1,729.86
	Balance of Accounts		Balance	£5,701.92

7.40pm Jack Taylor because of his Declaration of Pecuniary Interest regarding the Wheel Road Site retired to the public galley after explaining his position to the public present.

Kevin Gotts resumed the meeting as Chair.

7. Planning including Local Development Framework (LDF)

Application Ref & Date	Address and Proposal	Parish Council Decision	South Norfolk Decision
2012/0525 20/03/12	Rose Bungalow, Back Road, Yelverton, Proposed Porch	Approve	Refused
2012/0922 15.05.12	Village Hall, Church Road, Alington, NR14 7NU Alterations to Alington Village Hall, Remove all existing asbestos tiles and replace with celotex warm roof system and re clad with synthetic grey slate.	Approve	Approved
2012/0939 17.05.2012	Garrick Field off Church Road, Yelverton, Proposed new changing rooms for Yelverton Football Club	Abstain as PC landowners	

Local Development Framework

Tim Horspole and Tim Barker From South Norfolk both gave a presentation regarding the process and progress of the Site Specific information.

Graham Bloomfield from Bidwells represented the Church Meadow Landowner and Julian Wells and Ian Fox from FW Properties represented the Wheel Road Landowner.

Each party entered into a question and answer session with those present at the meeting and the main areas of discussion included;

Tim Horspole and Tim Barker from South Norfolk highlighted the following points

- The Site specific Consultation would run from 3 September and end on 26 October 2012.
- The criteria used to select the sites had been included on the South Norfolk Web site there was a link from the Parish Councils website to look at this information.
- Categorising the village as a service village, this categorisation had previously undergone consultation by South Norfolk and been adopted after independent scrutiny. The decision had gone through the regulatory legal process and was complete.
- South Norfolk had identified that Alington and Yelverton could accommodate 20 houses under the Local Development Framework and the village boundary was under review for the development of 10 houses.
- Within the range of the Policy South Norfolk could add another site of 10 houses within the time frame of 2026.
- Affordable Housing is developed outside the development boundary of a village. There has to be a need identified for more Affordable Housing.

Alington and Yelverton Residents highlighted the following;

- The lack of infrastructure and quality roads could not sustain this type of development.
- The development of a green field site over utility land.
- The increase in car movements in the village for 10 houses and their related deliveries
- The Church Meadow site was much larger and could accommodate up to 60 dwellings. If 10 dwellings were accepted now the potential for the rest of the site to be developed in the future was of real concern.
- An old brick site at Bergh Apton would be better placed for development as was an eyesore at present.
- The Affordable housing aspect of the Church Meadow site was of concern. South Norfolk had agreed that Affordable Housing was granted planning permission outside the development boundary of a village. This site could potentially have 10 private houses and the rest of the site developed for Affordable Housing.

Graham Bloomfield from Bidwells represented the land owner of the Church Meadow site highlighted the following points;

- The site had been purchased 3 years ago by the present owner
- Historically this was the site residents had expected to be developed next.
- The site was 2 hectares and although large, the owner would build 5 to 10 houses and offer an amount of land for the Community to decide how they wanted it used.
- The Church Meadow site development would be ruled by the Core Strategy and agreed boundary of the village.

Julian Well from FW Properties the land owner of Wheel Road highlighted the following points;

- He lived in the village and although had been obliged to offer the land to South Norfolk on behalf of FW Properties did not want the design and layout of the site to be detrimental to the village.

- They would work with the Highways department regarding access to the site and Planning to undertake to provide an amount of Affordable Housing.
- The intention was for the site to have minimal impact and retain and maintain many natural features such as the hedges and public footpath as well as offer parking space for the school.
- This would offer the School a unique opportunity to address the problem of parking on Wheel Road.
- As a Governor of Alington school he could confirm the school was thriving, it had ample space for the present role of 98 pupils and the potential to accommodate 120 pupils.
- There was absolutely no intention to develop the rest of the field and once approved the site would only be developed within the agreed development boundary of the village.

District Councillor Absence - Residents highlighted the absence of the District Councillor for the discussion of the Local Development Framework and Site Specific Consultation. This was an important issue that affected the whole Village and as a representative of South Norfolk Council the District Councillor, Sue Thomson should have been present at this public discussion.

9.05pm – With the discussion regarding this matter concluded the audience left the meeting and Jack Taylor rejoined the Councillors as the Chairman.

8. Parishioners Questions and Reports from the County Councillor and District Councillor

Caravan at the Water Tower – A resident raised the concern that this Caravan remained in situ. The Parish Council confirmed they had been contacted by the Planning Enforcement Team regarding the ownership of the land and Caravan. The Parish Council had to report that although inquires regarding ownership had been made in the village no information had been received.

Adrian Gunson, County Councillor reported

Hobart High School – School Governors had opened consultation for Academy Status.

Slade Lane – The condition of the passing places had been reported

Thurton Vehicular Sign – a speed activated sign had been installed

Highway Grass Cutting – the side roads had been completed but many of the main junctions had been left until the main road grass cutting was scheduled. There had been many complaints regarding the height of the grass and safety issues.

Cherrywood – pot holes to be repaired and surface dressing undertaken.

Weeds in kerb – Seemed to be many more than usual. The weed control programme was due to start shortly.

Wherrymans way footpath – Footpath grass to be cut.

River- Work on Langley and Hardley dykes to reinforce the river bank was underway.

9. Garrick Field - Monthly Inspection Report

Japanese Knotweed – The treatment of this plant remained ongoing.

Planning Application for Changing Facilities – As a result of the submission of the planning application Robin Taylor the Landscape Officer for South Norfolk had inspected the area. He had contacted the Parish Council with the following concerns; some trees had now outgrowing their stakes and guards and the guards needed to be removed. Some guards had strimmer damage and he suggested the area around the trees no longer be cut as regularly and not so close to the tree stems. Leaving the grass longer would protect the trees and benefit wildlife.

The Clerk brought all these concerns to the attention of the Councillors and Kevin Parfitt who was the contractor employed by the Parish Council to cut the grass in that area.

10. Play Area and Village Hall Land – Monthly Inspection Report

Swing set Maintenance – The replacement parts had now been installed on the swing set.

Play Area Signs – the laminated signs for the play area had been removed. The Clerk would research the cost of replacement permanent signs.

Usage of Play Area by Hirers of Village Hall – Some village groups had been informed by the Village Hall Committee that the Play Area was not included in the hire agreement and therefore could not be used when hiring the Village Hall. The Parish Council owned and maintained the play area and considered the area to be a public area to be freely enjoyed by all.

11. Village Pond Maintenance Work - Monthly Inspection Report

The pond was now full and the trees were growing well after the pruning earlier in the year.

12. Fuel Oil Bulk Buying Scheme

Kevin Gotts was the Co-ordinator for the scheme. Membership is free and ordering of oil independently organised. Kevin had made some packs of information that could be sent to interested parties. Please contact the Clerk for Kevins details.

13. Police and Parking at the School

The parking situation at the school was ongoing.

14. Speeding in the village

Adrian Gunson had included the village on the Speedwatch schedule and they will visit the village with a speed activated sign

Residents can independently organise a speed gun through Adrian Gunson NCC

15. Other Matters for consideration for future agendas**16. Next Meeting to be held 17 September 2012**

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

16 January 2012 5 March 2012
26 March 2012 Annual Parish Meeting
 14 May 2012 2 July 2012
 17 September 2012 5 November 2012