

ALPINGTON WITH YELVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting

held on Monday 5 March 2012 at 7.30pm at Alington Village Hall

Present : Jack Taylor (Chairman), Jerry Davies (Vice Chairman), Chris Black, John Lain, Kevin Gotts and David Whitehead

Also Present: Linda Gray (Clerk), Adrian Gunson, County Councillor, and 1 members of the public.

1. Apologies:

Apologies of absence were received from Jeremy McNulty and Sue Thomson District Councillor.

2. Declaration of Interest

Jack Taylor Item 10- Planning and LDF

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2012 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

Finance – The Clerk confirmed the amount Councillors had agreed to keep as reserve in the bank account was £4000.00. This had been decided when the precept amount was discussed at the November meeting.

Garrick Field – The Clerk had written to the neighbouring property with an overhanging dead tree branch confirming the branch was a Health and Safety Risk to the Garrick Field and should be removed at the cost of the resident.

5. Police and Parking at the School

The Clerk had written to Chief Constable Gormley detailing the parking problems on Wheel Road, close to the school and the impact this has on residents and road users. Although a Police Officer was unable to attend the meeting PC Gary Hoadley had contacted the Clerk with details of Norfolk County Council Parking enforcement along with guidelines for the Police. The matter would be brought to the Neighbourhood meeting due to be held on 6 March at Poringland. Councillors were convinced the parking at times is dangerous and covered by the Road Traffic Act which the Police should be enforcing. Councillors request that a member of the Police either a PC or a dedicated Road Safety Officer attends the Annual Parish Meeting on 26 March 2012.

Police Reports

Metal Theft - Scrap metal prices remain high and there have been reports of metal items being taken from fields, gardens, yards and houses.

Security Marking - Norfolk Police are offering security marking to farmers and landowners in a bid to combat rising rural thefts. Thieves had targeted rural locations for batteries used to power electric fencing in order to sell for scrap.

Crime trends – The theft of domestic heating oil and diesel continues to be an issue. Crime prevention tips as follows appropriate lighting, secure access to your house or yard, use good quality padlocks and fit an alarm which makes you aware if anybody is tampering with your fuel tanks.

For further information contact Poringland Police Station on telephone number 101 between 10am and 2pm Monday-Friday or email sntporingland@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

6. Dog Bins

The Clerk had researched the cost involved to install a new dog bin in the Wheel Road area and the annual service charge for emptying. The Fido Dog bin from Gladstons would cost £ 90.24 and the annual service charge £56.01. The total of £146.25 plus VAT. After a discussion and the views from a resident taken into consideration it was decided the installation of another dog bin in the village would not change the bad habits of some dog owners who would continue to throw bags containing dog foul in hedges and fields. The funds would be better spent at the Play Area and the Pond. Jack Taylor proposed this item be removed from the agenda, seconded Jerry Davies and agreed unanimously.

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

Swing set Maintenance – Kevin Gotts presented two quotes to Councillors regarding the replacement items for the swing set. These items had been highlighted for replacement on the recent Annual Inspection. Wicksteed £654.40 and Sutcliffe £200.00. There was a discussion about the fitting of the items. Wicksteed would fit the items for £160.00 but the Sutcliffe quote was for supply only.

Play Area Surface - Sue Thomson had given details of a grass mat system being an acceptable surface to replace the bark and for The Parish Council to contact Gary Howard at South Norfolk.

Decision – It was agreed for Kevin Gotts to contact Gary Howard to discuss the replacement play surface under the swings and to find a local contractor who could fit the replacement parts to the Swing Set. The Quotes for the replacement items would be honoured up to the 23 May 2012, it was therefore decided to defer the decision to purchase until the May meeting when Kevin Gotts would have more information.

8. Village Pond Maintenance Work - Monthly Inspection Report

Work to prune the trees and hedges at the pond had been completed. The work to reinforce the bank close to the seat and litter bin would be finished shortly. Councillors were very pleased with the work and agreed it had been completed to a very high standard. The invoice for the work would be received shortly and in order to claim the funds back through the Grant from Norfolk County Council a cheque would be required before the next meeting. The invoice was expected to be £2,930.00 excluding VAT. Councillors agreed for the Clerk to issue a cheque to pay the invoice before the next meeting. Jack Taylor would take the invoice to Norfolk County Council in order to claim the 75% grant before 16 March 2012.

Concerns regarding access to the island in the centre of the pond had been raised but since the heavy rain the island was no longer accessible from the pond edge.

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

Sue Thomson, District Councillor was not present at the meeting but had sent a report that was read out covering the following points,

Budget – Council tax had been frozen and the budget had been agreed by Council on 22 February 2012. Council Tax bills now sent out indicate the increases were due to the Police 3% and the Parish Council precept increase both of which do not add considerably to the final figure.

IT – Some IT equipment in the Council provided some years ago under PFI was now proving to be very expensive. This equipment would be replaced and one system to be more efficient and cheaper to run.

Planning – The Special Council Meeting to consider the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging Schedule had been approved. The Broadland part of the Norwich Policy required a fundamental review of the housing distribution. South Norfolk remains on track and the Site specific land would be announced shortly.

Jubilee Events – The Grant date had now passed and decisions will be taken shortly.

Localism agenda – The next meeting of the local neighbourhood board will be on 6 March Poringland Community Centre 7pm

Adrian Gunson, County Councillor reported

GNDP – After a judicial review Broadland Council would need to review its housing distribution which would set their plans back. South Norfolk and Norfolk County Council remain on track and land for housing would be announced shortly.

Bergh Apton Waste Site – An application from the Waste Department at County Hall had submitted an application to be validated by the County Council Planning Dept. The application should be available for consultation soon and agreed before September 2012.

Bus Service – Ambassador Travel would provide the bus service for the village in April 2012 taking over from Anglian. The service would stay the same for week days but the Saturday service had been reduced.

Highways – Framingham Earl Road had been reported to be surface dressed. Reflector posts needed to be replaced on Burgate Lane.

Wherrymans Way Footpath – Funding had now been set aside for cutting as needed instead of automatically on a rota.

Hobart High School – The school was investigating and seeking advice on Academy Status.

Brooke Street – The work would be completed soon and the road reopened.

Thurton – A speed activated sign would be installed soon.

Engineering Training Centre – A centre for young people had been opened in Gorleston.

Loddon Farmers Market – The market had been causing problems in the town with existing shop keepers. The signage on the A146 had been removed.

10. Planning

Planning Applications

Application Ref & Date	Address and Proposal	Parish Council Decision	South Norfolk Decision
2011/2039 16/12/2011	Rose Bungalow, Back Road, Yelverton Replacement Dwelling	Approve	Approved

Stacey Cottage, Reeders Lane, Alington- Rebuild of lean-to shed for living space with access into main building 1012/0316. The Clerk had received this application on the day of the meeting. Councillors reviewed the plans at the meeting and approved the planning application.

The Water Tower, Framingham Earl Road, Yelverton. Andy Baines Enforcement Officer was trying to find the owner of the site regarding the standing of the Touring Caravan.

11. Correspondence:

Dove Lane Sign- The Clerk had been asked to complete a form to replace the sign. She also sent in reports for the three signs on the junction of Burgate Lane with Reeders Land and Wheel Road. All three signs need either repainting or replacement.

Neighbourhood Planning event – 13 March Poringland Community Centre.

Highway Rangers – The Clerk would contact the Highway Rangers and ask they look at the footpath between Mill Road, Alington to Avenue Farm and Dranes Lane to look at clearing mud off the road..

Parish Online – Councillors had looked at the email the Clerk had sent round and agreed this service would not benefit the village at present.

12. Finance

Payment table and forecast balance of accounts

Date	Detail	Cheque No	Amount	Totals
	Balances of Accounts			
14.02.12	Savings		£4,786.63	
14.02.12	Current		£1,000.00	
	Sub total of Balances	Sub total		£5,786.63
	Receipts			
	Sub Total of Receipts	Sub total		£0.00
	Payments			
23.02.12	L Gray Salary Standing Order	STO	£182.00	
23.03.12	L Gray Salary Standing Order	STO	£182.00	
	Sub Total of Payments	Sub total		£364.00
	Balance of Accounts		Balance	£5,422.63

13. Annual Parish Meeting Planning

The Clerk had invited Rik Martin from Norfolk Rural Community Council to give a presentation about setting up a bulk buying housing oil syndicate. Posters will be put up around the village and letters sent to the users of the village hall asking for annual reports of their activity during the year. The Parish Council will give a report of its activities during the year along with a financial statement.

14. Village Emergency Plan Update and Winter Warmer Packs

The plan was near in completion. As the Clerk did not live in the village a copy of the plan would be given to both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council. The Clerk raised an issue that had been highlighted at the last Annual Parish Meeting. If in the winter the electric was off in the village the Village Hall would be unusable as a collection point because the heating oil pump was electric. It had been suggested an outlet point for a generator be installed at the Village hall. After a discussion it was agreed Chris Black would research the type of outlet and isolator switch that could be installed and the Clerk would contact the Emergency Planning Team to find out if any funding for this type of instalment was available.

Winter Warmer Packs

The Winter Warmer Packs had been delivered to Jack Taylor and he brought one along to the meeting for Councillors to see. Each one contains the following, Snuggle blanket, Hot water bottle, Thermos flask, bed socks, room thermometer, woolly hat, chair-based exercises Dvd and fingerless gloves. The packs were designed for the elderly and individuals or families who are in receipt of an income related benefit or have a long term illness. The packs are free but do require a short questionnaire to be completed. The Parish has 15 packs that can be given out and some will be stored for next winter.

15. Garrick Field - Monthly Inspection Report

John Lain reported he had completed tasks identified on the Annual Inspection Report. There were no areas of concern the Parish Council were not already aware.

A Japanese Knotweed- The treatment was on going.

b Dug Out – The football club had not submitted their planning application for changing facilities on the Garrick Field.

16. Other Matters for consideration for future agendas

Play Area - Replacement swing component quotes, fitting information, Play area surface findings

Emergency Plan – Information regarding funding for and installation of an isolator switch and generator outlet point.

17. Next Meeting to be held 26 March Annual Parish Meeting 2012

The meeting closed at 9.15 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