

Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council
Parish Council meeting on Thursday 21st July 2017 at 7.30pm

Gordon Burrows Chairman (GB)
Helen Dye (HD)
John Barley (JB)

Kalvin McLeod Vice Chairman (KM)
Jacqui Howard (SC)
Sue Clark (SC)

Ed Colman NCC
Elizabeth Durrant (Acting Clerk)

Peter Wilkinson BDC

Public Present: Mr and Mrs Gent: Mr and Mrs Soame

1. **Apologies:** Helen Bartley. The Parish Council send condolences to Helen and the family following the death last night of Michael.
2. **To approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on the 11th August 2017.** The minutes were proposed by KM and seconded by JB. Minutes were accepted unanimously.
3. **To record any declarations of interest in any items discussed.** Nil

4. **To adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public and councillors with a prejudicial interest to speak on agenda items.**

GB declared the meeting open for 15 minutes. Mr and Mrs gent and Mr and Mrs Soame were present to discuss the ongoing issues with Number 4 Hill View. GB advised them that as the matter was currently under appeal there was nothing that the Parish Council could do and that the final decision was not in the hands of the Parish Council but with the District Council. Councillor Wilkinson said due to the complaints received the independent site inspectors had been called in and would be visiting the site and would give a report which would be acted on. Mrs Gent stated she had in fact today received a call from the inspectors confirming their attendance at the site in the near future.

GB announced that the open meeting was now closed and that the meeting would continue with the rest of the agenda and that members of the public were welcome to stay but would not be permitted to speak for the rest of the meeting. Mr and Mrs Gent and Mr and Mrs Soame then left the meeting.

5. **To receive updates from County and District Councillors.**
Ed Colman NCC

Highways – following concerns that the markings in relation to pot holes to be repaired had been washed away by rain Councillor Colman stated that they were also recorded on an electronic map and were due to be repaired within next two weeks. HD informed Councillor Colman that new pot holes had appeared in South Acre Rd. Councillor Colman requested that HD send him the details and he would follow it up.

Clearing mud and debris – following complaints made re mud and debris at the crossroads from a resident Councillor Colman has requested that the drains be cleaned.

Bunkers Hill – Councillor Colman stated that there appeared to be a pattern of the Road Rangers not attending the jobs they are past. He requested a copy of all the jobs passed to the rangers so that this could be followed up and hopefully get actioned. KM advised that the Parish Council was now paying someone to do some of the work to ensure that the area did not become cluttered and unkempt.

Peter Wilkinson BDC

New Sporle Rd footpath – A new owner had blocked part of the path on his land. Swaffham Town Council were collecting evidence regarding the closure of the footpath by the new owner to submit to Norfolk County Council. Swaffham Town Council had written to the new owner requesting that the obstruction be removed as this was a public path. However it was imperative that the footpath was recorded on official maps before the closing date of 2026 otherwise it could be lost.

Foster Carers – Adverts had been placed for foster carers for 13-16yr old children as there was now a shortage of these.

Market Town Surveys - Councillor Wilkinson reported that due to the poor air quality in Swaffham, which had proved to be worse than thought, that Swaffham had been brought forward in the time scale for the traffic survey to be undertaken.

16+ - it had been shown that the level of accommodation and care were inadequate so the license had been suspended. Improvement measures had been given to the company and if complied with could see the placement being licensed again, however this would be under more frequent scrutiny from the Norfolk County Council to ensure that standards and care do not lapse.

New Homes Bonus would be paid to areas in Breckland that agree to the building of new homes.

The Home Management Scheme which is a government Grant was once more coming back and hopefully this would give help to residents before they became homeless.

Restore Scheme – is aimed at bringing empty houses back on line. In 2015 it was recorded that Breckland had 1100 houses lying empty.

Events Grants - this is available for those offering arts Programmes for careers and vulnerable people.

Councillor Wilkinson stated that the reduction of business rates in Market Towns should bring more businesses and therefore further employment back into the Market Towns.

NALC – Data Protection in respect of Parish councils will now fall under the new Transparency Regulations and NALC have organised two training courses. 17th October at Sprowston and 1st November at Swaffham.

6. Matters Arising from last minutes

None

7. Planning:

4 Hill View – This is now under appeal and awaiting the result of the appeal. It was noted that in the original plans that a turning head had been included to allow large delivery lorries access. KM stated this had not happened and was concerned that there would be further damage caused to the light, which has only just been repaired, by oil deliveries etc as they would now have to back out of the road. This needs to be brought up with the planning department to enquire if this turning head had been removed from the plans and if so had it been agreed to.

No other planning applications received prior to the meeting.

KM stated that there had been a lot of new development within the village and initially when planning was applied for this included low cost homes then once planning had been granted a variation was put in which removed the low cost housing. KM enquired whether or not this variation could be turned down in future to ensure that low cost housing was included and that if a variation request was put in which removed the housing then the application should be refused and further that the planning application would have to be initiated again.

Clerk to check the re progress of appeal for Mr Howell.

Councillor Wilkinson reported that BT had a duty to put new fibre optic cabling in to new developments of 15+ houses with no extra cost to the developers. This was not always happening and they need to be reminded of that duty.

8. To approve payments shown at Appendix A

Proposed by KM seconded by HD. Passed unanimously.

CGM – This is the final payment that will be made as CGM were made aware that the contract had ceased. Letter will be written by the **Clerk** to advise them of this and to request the return of the keys they hold for the churchyard and playing field.

9. Highways:

Pot Holes – details to be sent to Councillor Colman

Mud & Debris – already reported on by Councillor Colman

Highway Rangers – list of all jobs given to Highway Rangers to be given to Councillor Colman.

Pump House next to Essex Farm – request that the kerb be painted in fluorescent paint to make more visible. Highways to ask Anglian Water to replace the three stripes – this is for Health & Safety as well as visibility.

Councillor Colman will contact Highways re the moving of the 30MPH sign.

Request that reflective strip be placed on the new fence opposite Field House as the return is very close to the road. Councillor Colman stated that if the road was adopted he would request Highways to do this otherwise it would be the developers.

SAM2 unit is in need of replacement. Consideration was given to purchasing one for the Parish Council as currently share one on a 50/50 basis with Castle Acre. It was agreed that this would be considered in the precept for 2018/19. Enquiries would be made re any possible grants towards this. Councillor Colman stated he would bring up speeding and other issues at a meeting he was attending with Lorne Green, date to be agreed. Councillor Wilkinson stated there may be some funding available from the NCC Partnership Fund however this would need to be requested by November.

10. The Pavilion Playing Fields Project

GB stated he was attending a meeting on Tuesday 26th September with Waitrose regarding funding for the Pavilion. He was also still working on possibility of funding from Tesco. Had also identified a further source of funding which the Football Club would apply to as it had to come from them. Had received £156 from Paul Rudd from the plant stall and also £103.08 from the Produce Store. Also would look at any other possible funding sources.

GB will be attending a meeting on Tuesday 26th September to decide which two pieces of play equipment will be installed into the play area to start to move this part of the project forward. Once the equipment is in place will fence off the play area and put No Dogs allowed signs on the area. Discussion regarding putting a post or something similar up outside the area where dogs could be secured while parents with younger children used the play area. KM stated he had challenged someone who had taken their dog onto the playing fields completely ignoring the NO DOG signs. This was met by a somewhat confrontational stand from the person challenged. Discussion took place regarding any penalties which could be incurred for contravention of the sign. Councillor Wilkinson stated that there was a regulation in place as long as the playing fields were completely fenced. Further discussion around this is required. KM stated he had received an e-mail from the tree surgeon in respect of the work to be undertaken on the trees. This had had to be put back a few weeks due to the amount of work from the storm damage. Also a request was made that the tree surgeon be requested to carry out the work on the Lime trees during the winter when they are dormant. GB stated that correspondence had been received from a resident in St Mary's View regarding trees overhanging into his garden blocking out the light. Costings regarding the work required should be made. Suggested that contact be made with the tree surgeon to see if this work could be done while undertaking the work on the Lime trees, **Clerk** to contact tree surgeon already engaged on work on the playing field.

11. Fire Hydrant

Councillor Colman stated he had been in touch with Charlotte Utting at Highways. Apparently the hydrant had been tarmacked over by Highways while doing some resurfacing. She would ensure that this was rectified. Will need to monitor it to ensure this is done in a timely fashion.

12. Correspondence

12 Newton Rd – Oak tree in the rear garden has been cut down. Unsure if permission had been given for this to be removed. **Clerk** to write to Hugh Coggles at BDC to enquire if Flagship Housing had been given permission for removal of the Oak Tree.

Light at Hill View had been repaired by Highways. Parish council pay for the electricity for the light but not the maintenance.

KM had received a poster regarding the parking outside the school. Posters would be put up in the area and KM would attend the school to request that they be sent home to all parents.

Norfolk Constabulary are holding a meeting on 23rd October 2017 at Sports and Social Club, Dereham Rd, Watton, IP25 6EZ, regarding the future of policing in Breckland. This will be lead by Chief Inspector Paul Wheatley who will give a presentation and then there will be an opportunity for questions at the end. GB will be attending and will be giving a report at the November meeting.

Swaffham & District Lions Club are holding a Service at 7pm at St Peter & St Pauls Church in Swaffham to celebrate 100yrs of Lions Club and also to raise funds for their charity Merle Body Centre at Swaffham. They are requesting an RSVP from anyone wishing to attend.

JB informed the meeting that he had received correspondence from CAPITA in a private capacity requesting his opinions on the appeal in respect of 4 Hill View. He advised the Parish Council that he would be responding but that he would make it very clear that these were his own private opinions and not those of the Parish Council.

13. The Facia on the refurbished bus shelter would be replaced.

Request that Village Matters be an Agenda item in all future agenda's. Agreed unanimously.

Date of Next Meeting
Thursday 12th October 2017 at 7.30pm at the Sporle Community Centre



Murdo Durrant, Clerk to Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council

4th October 2017