

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF HAPPISBURGH HELD AT THE WENN
EVANS CENTRE ON 12th MAY 2014 AT 7.30PM**

19 parishioners present

**Chairman: Glenn Berry
Clerk: Jo Beardshaw**

A member of the public said that they were troubled by the school bus, which was regularly being driven down Beach Road. The Clerk had written to Marret's Chariots and Sanders in 2013, and had spoken to them on the telephone. Mr Love wondered if it would be disadvantageous to the village to prevent the busses going down Beach Road. He said that he wondered if perhaps the geography lessons that are taught on the beach at Happisburgh are not integral to the future of the popularity of the village. He wondered what the feeling of the people living on Beach Road was. It was agreed that it was a good idea to put flyers through the letterboxes of those villagers living on Beach Road to ask their opinions. It was felt that those people living on Beach Road may feel that they would prefer one bus to drive down the road rather than 30 children or teenagers to walk down the road, with the associated problems of that. A member of the public asked if the hedge on Beach Road could be cut. The **Clerk** would speak with Highways about that.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 7.50pm

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE WENN EVANS CENTRE ON 12th MAY 2014 AT 7.30PM**

Present:

**Cllr Glenn Berry (Chairman), Cllr David Mole, Cllr George Siely, Cllr Kirsty Ritchie, Cllr
Thomas Love**

**Jo Beardshaw (Clerk)
28 members of the public**

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Glenn Berry was voted unanimously as Chairman of the Parish Council, as was David Mole as Vice-Chairman

- 1. To consider apologies for absence.** Apologies were accepted from Cubitt Siely, Robert Fleming and Clive Stockton
- 2. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items.** None
- 3. To agree the minutes of the meetings of Happisburgh Parish Council held on 10th March and matters arising** (for information only). The minutes were agreed.

4. Reports

The Chairman's report.

The Chairman noted that NNDC plan to move the rock back (on the beach) as soon as they could, and that this was budgeted for. In addition, the Chairman said that NNDC would be dealing with the signage for the footpath through the caravan park. Thomas Love noted that on

June the 20th the path would be adopted as the 'Coastal Path' and would be maintained by Norfolk County Council.

The Chairman said that the flood report was still being worked on

4.2 District and County Councillor reports:

District Councillor Lee Walker reported that the planning application for the caravan park had been refused by North Norfolk District Council. She said that there was a chance that Mr Lomax would appeal, but that he had not done so far. She said that Mr Lomax would be having a meeting with Gary Linder (Planning Dept, NNDC) on Wednesday. She said that she would keep the Council updated on any changes

Lee Walker explained that NCC were currently spending a lot of money on the Coastal Footpath and saw it as a huge tourist attraction for the area.

County Councillor Eric Seward informed the Council that a programme of signage had been agreed and would be completed within 4 – 6 weeks. He went on to explain the history of the issues with the incinerator, which would be costing the County Council approximately £30.3 million. He said that, whilst £19 million had already been earmarked, the rest needed to be found. He explained that the County Council had made many changes to the ways that they worked in order to be more accountable. They had removed the cabinet altogether and had changed the decision-making system to a majority vote from a wider number of Councillors at committees.

Thomas Love asked the County Councillor if, when the Coastal Footpath is up and running, whether the area will have a similar bus system to the coast hopper of the North coast. Eric Seward said he would check on this.

It was also requested of the **County Councillor** that he could speak to Highways regarding road closures and diversion signs. Highways needed to be more informative so as not to affect businesses in the village when they close a road.

4.3 Police report.

The Clerk read the report from the PCSO, who had been unable to attend the meeting. Since the last meeting there had been 2 crime reports from the area. 28th March – common assault, which is under investigation. 3rd May – public order offence, which is under investigation. Esther had also informed the Clerk that the current police priorities were to tackle speeding in Sutton and Tunstead and to tackle vehicle anti-social behaviour in East Ruston – reports had been received that off road motorbikes are being ridden around the area. The next Police surgeries will be on the 19th May at 10am, the 2nd June at 1pm and the 7th July at 1pm, all at the Beach Road car park

4.4 Car Park report.

Mr Love, Mr Fleming and Mr Mole had not had a chance to work together on the ground work at the car park, but planned to do so during the month. The Chairman said that the car park was doing well. During the month he had received a complaint regarding noise from the car park but when he had arrived there was only one car in the car park. He explained that there was some difficulty with Jason being unable to lock the car park if there are still cars in it. The Chairman noted that there were some trees which had been attacked by rabbits behind the toilet block and that they may need to be replaced. He also said that Kier had kindly been cutting the grass at the car park instead of cutting the old car park grass. Unfortunately they had discovered their mistake. The Council agreed that they had been doing a good job and, if they stopped cutting the grass, the **clerk** should find out how much they would charge to continue the job

4.5 Pavilion and Playingfield report.

Mike Trivett said that the cricket club was £360 in credit. They would not have the available funds to pay for the insurance fee. This would be added to the **agenda** for the next meeting.

4.6 Allotments report

Mr G Siely explained that Gilbert and himself had spent many many hours working on tidying the allotments. In addition, Bert Farrow had helped with the use of his tractors. Councillors asked the **Clerk** to write to those involved to thank them very much for their help, time and resources

4.7 Wenn Evans Centre report

Mr Mole noted that the volunteers had done some wonderful work cleaning the windows, the kitchen, the lobby etc. In addition they had done some painting and various items had been replaced. He said that the kitchen / outside door would be sealed for Environmental Health purposes. Although the kitchen would be fitted with no charge, the electrical work would require a qualified electrician. Mr Mole said that the Wenn Evans currently had £3000 in the current account. He recorded his gratitude to all those people who had helped.

4.8 Playspace and beach cleaning report (by Rosemary Munday)

- The fence and gates have now been installed and the feedback Darren received from passers-by when he was installing it was all positive.
- We would like to thank all members of the community and Parish Councillors for their help with:
 - stone picking, which had to be done at short notice because of the grass growing
 - dismantling the original boundary fence adjacent to the car park, which Cllr Mole is currently storing
 - storing the fencing panels and gates and allowing Darren access during installation
- A big thank you to Jan Newall for the £150 donation from the Jan-Mar bingo.
- Councillors are asked to agree payment of the final invoice of £4,740 from the grant funds held **(The Parish Council agreed this)**
- After payment of the invoice above the remaining funds will be £2,464.11 towards equipment.
- The grass is now well established and needs to be cut. A ride-on lawn mower (depending on size) can access via the gated section or via a removable panel that has been incorporated - two screws need to be undone to remove the panel (behind the black trade bin) and the bottom board removed at an angle. Does anyone have a ride-on mower that could be used?
- Prior to mowing the remaining large weeds need to be removed – they pulled out easily today after the rain so any volunteers to help with the area that is left would be appreciated.
- The end of grant forms will be completed this week and need to be signed off by Cllr Berry or Cllr G Siely as they signed the original grant documentation. The Parish Council is asked to give delegated authority for these forms to be signed. **(The Parish Council granted this authority)**
- When the decision is made regarding allocation of funds from the car park we would ask Councillors to take into account that there are many clubs and facilities for slightly older members of the community i.e. football, cricket, bowls, heritage, mardles, sewing and lunch clubs but that with the exception of the one small piece of equipment outside the Wenn Evans Centre there is no provision within the village for the younger members of our community.
- At the last meeting 63 Letters, emails and drawings demonstrating community support for the Play Space were presented to the Parish Council with a summary of quotes for Councillors' information and we would ask that these are considered again along with the many quotes from children.

- A meeting of the Play Space Steering Group will need to be held very soon to move forward with grant applications towards the cost of the equipment – there is at least one grant fund that closes near the end of this month. The Parish Council is asked to give delegated authority to the Chair and Councillors on the sub-committee to sign any grant applications. **(The Parish Council granted this authority)**

5. Adjourn the meeting for public session / comments on planning applications and any other matters

Stephen Burke addressed the meeting and asked Parish Councillors and the public if they would like to consider drawing up a neighbourhood plan. He had prepared a short paper on the subject, and explained how the plans work.

District Councillor Lee Walker said that she knew that there was always a cost implication to a neighbourhood plan. Thomas Love said that a neighbourhood plan was an interesting idea as it may mean people think about the village and its future. In particular, he said that he was concerned that the holiday trade was being destroyed. He said that if the village no longer has a caravan park it will simply become a 'day stop' for tourists. He said that he felt it was critical to address the issue of the caravan park.

George Siely said that he felt that people needed to become interested in a neighbourhood plan for it to be a success and for it to 'take off'. Dave Mole said that he had once been on a course regarding village plans and he had come away thinking that they seemed like a huge amount of work.

Jim Whiteside said that he felt that a neighbourhood plans was a fantastic idea as it would provide a unified vision for Happisburgh. He said that he felt that a village plan could shape all decisions and that it was a wonderful idea. Nevertheless, he said, it was a huge amount of work and the value of that work needed to be seen.

Two members of the public said that they had been involved in a village plan on the Isle of Wight and had found it to be a huge amount of work.

The Chairman suggested that there could be a public meeting to put this suggestion to the village and to set a direction for it. He suggested that **Robert Fleming** could speak with Stephen and propose a meeting to see if there is the desire within the village to have a neighbourhood plan. The Chairman said that although Robert Fleming wasn't at the meeting because he was on holiday, he had previously noted that he was interested in the idea. The **Clerk** said that she would ask Bacton and Horning (who have village plans) if they found them worthwhile.

On another subject, a member of the public said that there were some issues with notices being removed from the noticeboard. Nobody was able to shed any light on the matter.

Reconvene the meeting

6. Agenda items

- 6.1. Decisions regarding car park fund donations. Requests received from Happisburgh Lighthouse Trust (£2,500), The Wenn Evans Centre, Happisburgh Playspace and Happisburgh Heritage Group (£1500). The Parish Council reviewed the car park bank account, and discussed how much money should be invested in the village. They decided that around £14,000 would be a figure which would allow the car park to run smoothly without affecting the finances for the forthcoming 12 months. The Chairman suggested that the subject should be returned to on a six-monthly basis. Thomas Love said that he would like to hear more about the request from the Lighthouse. Jim Whiteside explained the current issue at the Lighthouse. He also said that if the Lighthouse Trust was able to demonstrate a contribution from the local community, this

would stand them in good stead to receive grants from other areas. The Chairman noted that two Parish Councillors are on the Lighthouse Trust. The Parish Council agreed to donate £5,000 to the Wenn Evans Centre, £2,500 to the Lighthouse, £5,000 to the Playspace, £1,500 to the Heritage Trust, and £500 to the Pavilion and Playingfield. It was agreed that these donations would not be made immediately, but on receipt of invoices or other forms of financial request

- 6.2. Confirmation of accounts for external audit. Councillors agreed the figures for the end of year accounts

7. Financial Matters

The following cheques were authorised and signed:

- 7.1. PC Account. Chq no 569. Happisburgh Fundraisers (Jan Newall). £25
- 7.2. PC Account. Chq no 570. CAB donation. £200
- 7.3. PC Account. Chq no 571. St Mary's Church Newsheet. £150
- 7.4. PC Account. Chq no 572. St Mary's Churchyard. £50
- 7.5. PC Account. Chq no 573. Donation. Friends of Happisburgh Lighthouse. £100
- 7.6. PC Account. Chq no 574. Donation. Happisburgh Cricket Club. £500
- 7.7. PC Account. Chq no 575. Donation. North Walsham Area Transport. £100
- 7.8. PC Account. Chq no 576. Donation. Norfolk and Suffolk 4x4 response. £50
- 7.9. PC Account. Chq no 577. Jo Beardshaw. Reimbursement for Cilca registration. Half amount (two councils). £75
- 7.10. PC Account. Chq no 578. Zurich Municipal. £1,515.27
- 7.11. PC Account. Chq no 579. Norfolk Association of Local Councils. £159.39
- 7.12. PC Account. Chq no 580. Jo Beardshaw. £418.06
- 7.13. CP Account. Chq no 37. Jason Langford back pay for April £25
- 7.14. CP Account. Chq no 38. NNDC. Bin collections for 2014/15 £596.70 (no VAT)
- 7.15. CP Account. Chq no 39. Jason Langford May salary. £800.50
- 7.16. CP Account. Chq no 40. Jason Langford June salary. £775

8. Planning applications

- 8.1. PF/14/0200. Briar Cottage, School Common Road. Erection of single-storey side extensions and installation of dormer windows and retention of garage/store. Responded: no objection

9. Planning decisions noted

- 9.1. PF/14/0084. Land at Beach Road, Cart Gap. Siting of portable building for use as a coastal surveillance station. Permitted

10. Items for the Parish News

None

11. Correspondence and Circulars for information and action

None

12. Any other business

None

13. Date of next meeting – Monday 7th July 2014

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm