

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HAPPISBURGH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE WENN EVANS CENTRE ON 12th November 2012 AT 7.30PM**

Present:

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

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

- 1. Apologies for Absence.** Apologies had been received from Cllr Kim Holt, District Councillor Lee Walker and County Councillor Paul Morse
- 2. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items.** Declarations were received from Cllr Stockton regarding item 4.5 in that he is a licensee within the village and from Cllr Love regarding item 8.1 in that he has an interest in the planning application
- 3. To agree the minutes of the meeting of Happisburgh Parish Council held on 17th September and matters arising** (for information only). The Parish Council agreed the minutes of the last meeting.

4. Reports

4.1 The Chairman's report. The Chairman thanked Cllr G Siely and Rodney Mason for building five noticeboards for the village. He noted that four were in place in Happisburgh and the last was still to be placed at Cart Gap. Cllr C Siely suggested that the board at Cart Gap be positioned in the car park. The Chairman explained that there had been a huge amount of erosion in recent weeks, and estimated that around eight metres had been lost since the start of the year. He noted that there is now a handrail on the ramp and that NNDC are working on obtaining rock for the bottom of the ramp. He also reported that there were problems with sewerage in the ditch on Grubb Street and that Environmental Health were investigating.

The Chairman suggested to the Council that they may like to support a new initiative by volunteers in the village who would be giving Christmas lunch to those people who may otherwise be on their own or unable to cook Christmas lunch. The Council agreed to support this. They were advised that numbers would be around 20 and authorised a donation of £5 per head up to a maximum of £100. The payment would be made at the January meeting

4.2 District and County Councillor reports: District Councillor Lee Walker had sent a report noting that NNDC have been criticised for not processing planning applications quickly enough by Central Government. She explained that she is still concerned over the cuts in council tax and housing benefits which will she believes will hit the poorest in the district. She noted that she expected homeless numbers to increase.

County Councillor Paul Morse had sent a report to the Council explaining that the School Governors had decided not to proceed with trialling dropping off children on the zig zags. He noted that he believed that early negotiations were taking place about the School acquiring more land.

Cty Cllr Morse assured the Council that the signs on Beach Road were on order. He also noted that he had recently seen excessive surface water on the North Walsham Road/Coast Road junction if turning left from Walcott, and had asked for the gully there to be investigated. He requested that he be alerted if the problem persists.

4.3 Police report.

There had been only one crime reported: there had been an attempt to remove the cash box from the ticket machine at the Beach Road car park. Unfortunately the police had not been able to track down any offenders for this crime.

4.4 Car Park / toilet block report.

The pay and display machine had not been working for a month but had recently been mended. The Chairman requested the Council's permission to put CCTV within the car park at a cost of approximately £1K and to purchase a spare pay and display machine at a cost of approximately £3K. He explained that the average wait time for repair is five weeks and that the lead time for a new one is three months. Cllr Love suggested that a few Parish Councils may wish to buy one together. The Chairman agreed to look into this.

The Chairman noted that Thrower and Rutland had won an award for designing the toilet block and have also been shortlisted for a national category award for England and a market sector award for car parks.

Mrs Nierop-Reading requested that the Chairman write to NNDC as soon as possible regarding her gate and access. The Chairman agreed

4.5 Pavilion and Playingfield report.

The Pavilion and Playingfield finances stood at £608.11

The Clerk explained that in order to encourage the Environmental Protection team at NNDC to give the Playing field a dog exclusion order, there needed to have been various complaints using the online reporting system or emailing ep@north-norfolk.gov.uk

It was noted that the drive way to the Pavilion and Playing field is full of holes and needs repair work. Cllr Love suggested that the Council may wish to tarmac the drive. Cllr Mole agreed to work with others to fill in the holes with hard core for the time being

The Cricket Club requested that the Council agree to a seven day license to cover all match days so that they can open the bar whenever they have a match, rather than just on Wednesdays. Cllr Stockton, whilst not commenting on the request itself (having declared an interest), advised the Cricket Club that they needed to speak to the Licensing Office. The Council agreed that, subject to agreement by the Licensing Office, the Cricket Club could open the bar on match days which are noted on their fixture card

4.6 Allotments report

Cllr G Siely noted that he expected to have another free allotment and that he would be advertising the allotments on noticeboards and within the parish news.

4.7 Wenn Evans Centre report

The Wenn Evans finances currently stood at £477. Cllr Mole explained that, whilst the Centre would benefit from more use, it was running smoothly

4.8 Playspace report

A report had been received by the Playspace Committee explaining that, following Cllr Love's generous offer of land, the committee had identified a piece of land adjacent to the Beach Road car park as the location of the new play space. This will be subject to planning permission.

The Council agreed to pay the application fee for the play space, and delegated permission to the Chairman to check and sign the application. The Council also agreed to delegate authority to the Chairman for signing the Community Construction Fund application. £107.30 had been given to the Council to be ring-fenced for the play space

The Council agreed the Play Space terms of reference

The Chairman congratulated Mrs Hughes and Mrs Munday on their recent community awards

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

The Chairman noted that he had received letters of objection (regarding the planning application in 8.1 below) from two members of the public. These had been circulated to the Council

Mr Burke congratulated Mrs Hughes, Mrs Munday, Cllr Berry and Mrs Berry for their recent recognition at the Community Hero awards.

Mr Burke made reference to the planning application in 8.1 below (9 replacement dwellings, next to the School) and noted that 36 of the 38 comments were objections to the plans. He asked that NNDC should explore alternative sites within the village. This was repeated by other members of the public. Cllr Stockton and other Councillors explained that in the Local Development Framework there are site specific proposals for each village, and that there were three sites identified within Happisburgh. One was not economical to build on and another was in two ownerships and therefore not available. The only site currently available for building EN12 homes is the site identified in 8.1.

Cllr Stockton explained that the EN12 regime meant that planning permissions were unique in that they were on agricultural land rather than building land. This was to ensure that there was a constant rollback of funds in order to give grants to people in the future whose houses are under threat from erosion

Mrs Reed explained to the Council that Happisburgh Primary School is currently very popular and she believed it would need to expand. She suggested that the traffic will become more difficult as the school becomes bigger. Cllr G Siely replied that schools tend to fluctuate in popularity and it could not be assumed that the School will increase in size.

Mr Fleming explained that he believed that the village would suffer without more properties. He noted that the 9 houses under discussion were not additional properties, but replacement properties under the EN12 regime.

Mrs Nierop-Reading requested that the Council consider having monthly meetings. The Council agreed to add this item to the January agenda

Mrs Burke requested a hand sanitiser in the baby changing cubicle within the toilet block. The Council agreed this and Jason Langford kindly agreed to organise this

The Council agreed that the new noticeboards should be kept tidy

Mrs Jan Newall requested that the mound of earth at the end of Saw Pit Road be flattened so that pedestrians could walk more safely. Cllr Love explained that with the current rate of erosion the mound would soon no longer be there at all. The Chairman agreed to speak to Highways

6. Agenda items

- 6.1. DPI. Applications for dispensation. Signed by Councillors prior to precept discussions
- 6.2. Precept confirmation. Precept was approved and authorised as £7,000. Cllr Love noted that he hoped that in future years, when the car park finances are clearer, the precept could be considerably reduced
- 6.3. Update on Councillor co-option process. Interviews were agreed as 7th January

7. Financial Matters

Bank balances were noted. The following cheques were authorised and signed:

- 7.1. Car Park Account. Chq no 4. Jason Langford. October cleaning. £465
- 7.2. Car Park Account. Chq no 5. Jason Langford. November cleaning. £450
- 7.3. Car Park Account. Chq no 6. Jason Langford. Repayment for drain rods. £41.40 including £6.90 VAT
- 7.4. Car Park Account. Chq no 7. Jason Langford. December cleaning. £465
- 7.5. PC Account. Chq no 519. Clerk salary and expenses. £449.87

- 7.6. PC Account. Chq no 520. Rosemary Munday. Reimbursement for Playspace planning application. £167.50

8. Planning applications

- 8.1. Next to the School, Happisburgh. Amended application for 9 replacement dwellings. PO/12/0423. The Council voted 'no objection' to the application, with one objection and one abstention
- 8.2. Willow Farm, Lower Street, Happisburgh. Prior notification of intention to erect agricultural building NP/12/1134. A response of 'no objection' had been sent to NNDC

9. Planning decisions

None

10. Correspondence and Circulars for information and action

- 10.1. Happisburgh Heritage Group. Request for donation. Noted
- 10.2. Norfolk and Suffolk 4x4 response. Request for donation. Noted
- 10.3. Magpas. The Emergency Medical Charity. Request for donation. Noted
- 10.4. NNDC. Coastal Issues Forum. 5th February. Noted
- 10.5. Easton College. Norfolk Village Games. Noted
- 10.6. NALC. Councillor training. Noted
- 10.7. Natural England. Draft report for improving coastal access between Sea Palling and Weybourne. Noted
- 10.8. NNDC. Extended rally to be held by the Camping and Caravanning Club May/June 2013. Noted
- 10.9. Happisburgh Primary School. Letter of thanks for contribution of £200 towards Jubilee coins. Noted
- 10.10. Mr S Burke. Email regarding development of 9 houses on North Walsham Road. This letter had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting
- 10.11. Application for Certificate of Lawfulness. Barron Lodge Farm. Grubb Street. Noted

11. Any other business

Cllr Love apologised for the mud on the road around the parish. He explained that, whilst he was working hard to constantly clear the roads, he was struggling to keep the mud under control due to the weather. A member of the public thanked Cllr Love for attempting to clear roads whereas other farmers were not perhaps so conscientious

12. Date of next meeting – Monday 14th January 2013

The meeting closed at 9.23pm