

Besthorpe Parish Council : minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 September 2015

Present : Mr Watling in the chair; Mr Dore, Mrs Watling, Mrs Hagan, Mrs Solloway- Brown; the Clerk; Karen Pettitt (Breckland District Councillor); no other members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Richardson (clash of meetings) and Mr Derbyshire (at work). There were no declarations of interest. Before the meeting began, Mrs Pettitt outlined her role at Breckland DC and the various ways in which it interacted with parish councils.

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2015 were approved and signed. Arising from them, the Clerk reported that Mrs Richardson had held a litter-picking event on Norwich Road as required by the terms of the recent grant; Mrs Hagan added that she had arranged a smaller one on Silver Street. Eighteen people had taken part.

The following payments had been made : Breckland DC £75.00 (election charge); Clerk's salary 2 @ £206.67. One cheque was signed at the meeting : HMRC £155.00 (income tax). The 2014/15 accounts had been passed by the national auditors.

The following planning permissions had been determined by Breckland DC :

- Simington, Compass Garage, four dwellings & garages, demolish workshop
- Wharton, Oaks Farm, Besthorpe Road, Carleton Rode, agricultural grain store
- Wharton, Oaks Farm, agricultural infill extension between two existing buildings
- Thompson, Silver Farm, infill building between existing agricultural sheds
- Solarcentury, land next Rookery Business Park, photovoltaic panels and associated works
- Robinson, Shire Barn, paddock to garden, garage to home office, remove stables, new garage
- Richardson, 2 Silver Street, first-floor dormer to create bathroom

Gladedale Estates had appealed against Breckland DC's refusal of their application for up to 350 dwellings on land north of Norwich Road to the east of Attleborough.

The Clerk had heard nothing further about the Breckland Local Plan. The Chairman reported on the Attleborough Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, which was looking for suitable employment land. There had been no further developments in setting up the Greater Attleborough Development Partnership.

Mrs Solloway-Brown raised concerns about a puppy farm at one of the new units at The Limes.

The Clerk had been in correspondence with Norfolk CC and the Highways Agency about the culvert under the A11 from Besthorpe Fen but neither would acknowledge responsibility for maintaining it. He had established privately that County Councils kept a register of culverts but so far NCC had side-stepped his requests for a copy of the relevant entry. Norfolk CC Highways had built a new drain on Bunwell Road to try to alleviate the flooding problem near Compass Corner. The local Highways Engineer had contacted the Clerk after a meeting with a resident complaining about speeding on Mill Lane. The Clerk had spoken to the previous Town Clerk some time ago about the possibility of Attleborough Town Council applying for flashing speed signs there; and after a three-way conversation between him, the Engineer and the new Town Clerk, the latter would arrange for this to be formally considered.

Mr Watling would re-erect the vandalised dog bin on Norwich Road. Mr Dore undertook to clear the gap in the hedge where the parish boundary footpath left Attleborough Road near the Edwards' house. He had also attended the recent police SNAP meeting : a current priority was cracking down on cars racing around the town centre.

It was agreed to meet again on 9 November 2015. The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.