

STOW BEDON & BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council on Monday, 19 November 2012 at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Peter Mills (Chairman), Phil Childs, Rachael Garrod, Paul Howe, John Morfoot, Lee Pilkington and Sue Tanner.
Julian Gibson (Clerk)

- 1 Apologies for absence. None.
- 2 Declarations of interest. None.
- 3 Public participation session. None.
- 4 Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 15 October 2012 were **confirmed** and **signed**.
- 5 Matters arising.
 - 5.1 [5] **Land adjacent to Gay-Dene, Lower Stow Bedon.** District Councillor Phil Cowen has contacted Breckland Council Principal Planner concerning this matter, and pointed out that what was a couple of old vehicles is now “at least half a dozen.” The officer said they would re-visit the site.
 - 5.2 [13.3] **Budget/Precept for 2013/14.** Although this was down to be discussed at this meeting, the Government’s changes to the Council Tax Support grants were still not announced, so the Precept could not yet be set. Breckland Council has extended its deadline to early January (see item 6.1). He also explained that the *Localism Act 2011* had repealed the legislation which permitted Councillors to vote on the setting of the Precept, which was obviously a matter in which they had a pecuniary interest. As a result each member would need to sign an application addressed to the Clerk, as Proper Officer of the Council, asking for a dispensation on this matter, and the Council would then need to agree to these dispensations before it could legally discuss and agree a Precept. He said he would bring the necessary paperwork to the next meeting, and make up the agenda accordingly.
- 6 **Correspondence.** The following correspondence was **received**:
 - 6.1 Breckland Council: *Parish Precept Requirement 2013-14.*
 - 6.2 Breckland Council: *Town & Parish Forum handout.*
 - 6.3 Came & Co: *Parish Matters - Autumn 2012.*
 - 6.4 Norfolk Constabulary: *Parish/Ward Crime Stats - 1-30 September 2012.*
 - 6.5 Norfolk Constabulary: *Safer Neighbourhood Team meetings.*
 - 6.6 HM Revenue & Customs: *Getting your business ready for PAYE Real Time Information.*
 - 6.7 Breckland Council: *Breckland Local Development Framework, Site Specific Policies and Proposal Development Plan Document, Copy of Published Document and DVD.*
 - 6.8 *Clerks & Council Direct.*
 - 6.9 Society of Local Council Clerks: *Councillors (In England) need DPI Dispensation to take part in Precept decisions.*
 - 6.10 Breckland Council: *Parish Precept Requirement 2013-2014.*
 - 6.11 Breckland Council: *Guidance for setting Town and Parish Precepts 2013-2014.*
 - 6.12 Norfolk ALC: *Disclosable Pecuniary Interests - a suggested policy for dealing with applications for dispensations.*
 - 6.13 Barclays Bank Plc: *Community Account Statement - 29 September - 31 October 2012.*
 - 6.14 Barclays Bank Plc: *Active Saver Account Statement - 29 September - 31 October 2012.*

- 6.15 CAF Bank: *CAF Gold Account Statement* - 31 October 2012.
- 6.16 Norfolk Rural Community Council: *Signpost* - October 2012.
- 6.17 Norfolk Police Authority: *Consultation by Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Norfolk on his 2013/14 Precept (Council Tax) proposal*.
- 6.18 Norfolk County Council: *Stow Bedon - Highway and Community Ranger Visit*.

7 **Planning.**

- 7.1 **3PL/2012/1099/F and 3PL/2012/1100/LB: Breckles Gate, Wretham Road, Breckles.** Application and Application for Listed Building Consent for Reinstatement of dwelling following fire damage, internal alterations and two storey rear extension (Resubmission). The Clerk said that apparently the previous applications have not been withdrawn, but that the applicant wants both to be determined. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objections.
- 7.2 **C/3/2012/3022: West Farm, Vicarage Road, Great Hockham.** Application for Thermophilic Anaerobic Digestion Plant comprising underground digestion tanks and feed mixer tank, electric sub-station and transformer, CHP unit, Biogas scrubber and surface mounted hopper. Refusal of Permission dated 19 October 2012 was **received**. The Council disagreed with the assessment of the Norfolk County Council planning officer that this application would not have any impact on the parish, because of the risk of pollution entering the Breckles drain and ending up in Cranberry Rough SSSI, which does extend over the parish border. According the Clerk was asked to request that, in the event of a similar application on this site coming forwards, the Council be invited to participate in the consultation process.
- 7.3 **3TL/2012/0014/TL: Sandwade, Mere Road, Stow Bedon, NR17 1HP.** Application for Extension of time on pp 3PL/2009/0880/F (Erect kitchen /breakfast room to existing dwelling & erect annexe). It was **resolved** that the Council had no objection.

- 8 **Unauthorised developments at Watering Farm and Breckles Heath.** A copy of an Enforcement Notice issued to Traditional Norfolk Poultry (TNP) requiring them to permanently remove all unauthorised structures on the site at Breckles Heath by 28 February 2013 was **received**. The Clerk reported that Norfolk County Council's Highways Engineer (Paul Groom) had written to TNP requiring them to move the barbed wire they had placed on their new fence adjacent to Peddars Way (a public highway) from the outside of the posts to the inside. He has also written to Mr Cliff Garrod at Watering Farm advising him that the unauthorised work he had carried out on Peddars Way was illegal, and saying that nothing further must be done without first obtaining permission from NCC as the highway authority. He has also sought clear confirmation that the rubble used to "repair" the highway was completely inert, and did not contain any asbestos. However, Mr Groom said that the work done had not caused any detriment to the highway, and therefore he did not intend to require that this be reversed. The Chairman had been told by District Councillor Phil Cowen that Breckland Council has asked TNP to attend a meeting next Thursday at which they would be told had they should put in a planning application, in which case enforcement action would be suspended, but not cancelled. If no application was forthcoming, then Breckland would proceed with the enforcement action. He had also received an invitation to meet with (David Garner, Director TNP), but did not think that this would be a good idea. It was **agreed** that he should respond saying that in view of the meetings taking place at Breckland, a private meeting would not be appropriate, and indeed, that until a planning application was submitted this Council had no right to involvement in the issue. It was also reported that more building work had commenced at Watering Farm, and the Clerk was asked to advise Breckland.

- 9 CAF Gold account.** In view of the poor interest rate on this account, and the small charge made each time a withdrawal was needed, it was **agreed** that it be closed, and the balance transferred to the Council's Barclays Active Saver Account.
- 10 Portaloo.** The Council considered that it would greatly benefit the parish if it were to be possible to have a portaloo which could be made available for events at the two churches, the Fete, and other events in the parish. The Clerk said he had made enquiries, and it appeared that it may be possible to obtain a grant from Awards for All. It was **agreed** that he should carry out some more investigations, and draft an application form for consideration at a future meeting.
- 11 Twitter.** The Chairman suggested that the Council should consider opening a Twitter account as an alternative method of communicating with parishioners and other interested parties. After a long discussion it was decided that the Chairman should do some more research and see if he could demonstrate ways that the Council would benefit from using this tool.
- 12 Finance.**
- 12.1 **Stationery.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100595 for £154.30 (£128.58 + VAT £25.72) to Viking Direct be signed, in settlement of invoice number 847528, for stationery items. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 111*)
- 12.2 **Training.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100596 for £8.75 to Norfolk Association of Local Councils be signed, in payment of one quarter of the fee for the Clerk attending the joint Norfolk ALC/SLCC Autumn Seminar on 7 November 2012. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 111*)
- 12.3 **Training.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100597 for £19.50 (£16.25 + VAT £3.25) to SLCC Enterprises Limited be signed, in settlement of invoice no. 110037, being one quarter of the total fee for the Clerk attending the SLCC Regional Conference on 14 November 2012. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 111*)
- 12.4 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 31 October 2012 was **received**.
- 13 Matters for consideration at next meeting.**
- 13.1 Schedule of
meetings for next year.
- 13.2 Budget/Precept 2013/14.
- 14 Next meeting.** The next meeting of the Council was **confirmed** as **Monday, 17 December 2012 at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.**

Confirmed:

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Peter Mills, Chairman

17 December 2012

Scheduled future Meeting dates:

Monday, 21 January 2013*

* If needed

Monday, 18 February 2013

Monday, 18 March 2013