

STOW BEDON & BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council on Monday, 15 July 2013 at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Phil Childs (Vice-Chairman), Paul Howe, Lee Pilkington, Sue Tanner.
Julian Gibson (Clerk)

Following the resignation of Mr Mills at the end of the last meeting, the Vice-Chairman took the Chair.

- 1 **Election of Chairman.** The Council felt that as not all members were present, it would be best to put this item off until the next meeting, in the hope that all would then be present.
- 2 **Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.** See item 1.
- 3 **Election of Vice Chairman.** See item 1.
- 4 **Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to accept the reasons for absence provided by Mrs Garrod and Mr Morfoot.
- 5 **Declarations of interest.** None.
- 6 **Dispensations.** None.
- 7 **Public participation session.**
 - 7.1 PCSO Rob Coote introduced himself to the meeting as the new police Safer Neighbourhood Team (Watton) contact for Stow Bedon and Breckles. (Lower Stow Bedon is covered by the Attleborough Safer Neighbourhood team.) He was immediately informed about a problem which impacts this and other neighbouring parishes, namely heavy farm vehicles, driven by youngsters too young to be permitted to drive a car, towing trailers frequently overloaded, far too fast, down narrow country lanes. It was felt that the police were failing to protect local people because they were unable or unwilling to do anything about this. Rob explained that this was principally a matter for the Traffic police, but agreed to take the points raised back to his team.
 - 7.2 Norfolk County Councillor Ian Monson gave an update on how the County Council was running under the "rainbow" coalition. In 2014-16 county would face a further £180m reduction in central government funding, and especially if the decision regarding the incinerator were to be reversed things would be difficult. He said the first faster broadband site had gone live in Croxton, and also that grass cutting on the highway was only being done twice a year now. The matter of the junction of the B1111 and A1075 was raised, and he said he would talk to the Highways officers about improving safety at this spot.
 - 7.3 Breckland District Councillor Phil Cowen spoke about the TNP site in Woodcock Road, where the now active enforcement order required them to move off the site by 24 August, saying that Breckland had been told that TNP intended to withdraw the three existing planning applications and resubmit them with a further four to cover the units on skids. The Clerk asked whether this would effectively cause the enforcement action to be suspended again and also whether Breckland would be courageous enough to use its new power under the Localism act to refuse to accept these applications. Mr Cowen said he would be speaking to the officers about this. Finally he gave an update on the Breckland Boundary Review.
 - 7.4 The Clerk advised the meeting that he had recently been awarded the title of Norfolk Clerk of the Year by the Norfolk Association of Local Councils, and thanked the previous Chairman (as well as some of his other three council chairmen) for

proposing him for the award in such flattering terms. This was, apparently, the first time this award had been made to the Clerk of a small parish. He was warmly congratulated by all present.

8 Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 17 June 2013 were **confirmed** and **signed**.

9 Matters arising.

9.1 [8.1] **Land near Breckles Heath, Stow Bedon.** As reported by Mr Cowen, Breckland Council has been advised that TNP are intending to withdraw the current three planning applications and resubmit them with an additional four applications for retrospective permission for the smaller units.

9.2 [10.1 Meeting on 20 May 2013] **Watering Farm.** Breckland Council's Senior Planner has spoken to the company undertaking the Environmental Impact Assessment. Apparently the surveys completed have identified that further detailed survey work is required and this is now progressing. It was noted that the vast majority of the pigs had been moved off the site while these reports were compiled, and that the land had temporarily reverted to arable.

10 Correspondence. The following correspondence was **received**:

10.1 Norfolk Constabulary: *Parish Ward Crime Statistics* – 1-31 May 2013.

10.2 Norfolk County Council: *Managing flood risk*.

10.3 Norfolk Parish Training Partnership: *Initial Training for Clerks and Councillors*.

10.4 Norfolk Parish Training Partnership: *CiLCA Skills Courses*.

10.5 Vitalise: *Please support people with disabilities and their carers near you*.

10.6 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *AGM 2013 – Resolutions for Debate*.

10.7 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *Norfolk Link* – June 2013.

10.8 *Clerks & Councils Direct* - July 2013.

10.9 Barclays Bank Plc: *Community Account Statement* – 1-28 June 2013.

10.10 Barclays Bank Plc: *Active Saver Account Statement* – 1-28 June 2013.

11 Planning. 3PL/2013/0567/CU: Land adjacent Mere House, Mere Road, Stow Bedon. Change of use from Agricultural to mixed use of agriculture and recreation. It was **resolved** that the Council objected on the grounds that (a) the site is part of Caston Common County Wildlife Site, and that a change of use as proposed would put this important environment at risk, and (b) change to recreation use would have an adverse impact on the neighbours (there were many complaints when a wedding function was held there once). It is also understood that the site is subject to a covenant restricting the use to agriculture.

12 Barclays Bank account. In view of item 1 this will be considered again at the next meeting.

13 Breckles Village Sign. The Clerk reported that although the suggestion of a sign had been reported in *Waylander* and on the Parish website nobody had expressed any interest. It was therefore **agreed** not to proceed with this idea.

14 Village Charities. Mr Childs reported that he had been approached by Norfolk Rural Community Council which was running a project with the University of East Anglia looking at local village charities, including how they were formed and how they function today. He had given them information about the Stow Bedon Fuel Allotment.

15 Office Equipment. A suggestion from the Clerk relating to sharing of the cost of office equipment between the councils he worked for was **accepted**. It was **agreed** that the Council would pay 1/5 of the cost of recent repairs to the Clerk's computer.

16 Publications. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should purchase a copy of *The Parish Councillor's Guide* (8th Edition), by Paul Claydon for his use working for this Council.

17 Finance.

17.1 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 30 June 2013 was received.

18 Matters for consideration at next meeting. None.

19 Next meeting. The next meeting of the Parish Council, was **confirmed** as **Monday, 19 August 2013** (or if there is no urgent business to discuss, on **Monday, 16 September 2013**) at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Confirmed:

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Phil Childs, Chairman

19 August 2013

Scheduled future Meeting dates:

Monday, 16 September 2013	Monday, 16 December 2013	Monday, 17 February 2014
Monday, 14 October 2013	Monday, 20 January 2014*	Monday, 17 March 2014
Monday, 18 November 2013		

*If needed