

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10th January 2012 at 7.30pm in The Mill Centre

ACTION

Present

Chairman Geoffrey Moulton, Vice Chairman David Hook, Liz Allen, Kevin Cunningham (up to items for next agenda), Richard Delf, Mike Turner, Peter Workman and the Clerk Ian Nelson.

Members of the public present

County Councillor Alison Thomas, Mr Ian Cundy (for all the meeting)

Mr Peter Fell, Mrs Pauline Fell, Mrs Lesley Mitchenall, Mrs Pat Westley (from the beginning of the meeting to matters arising awaiting others)

Apologies

Apologies were received from District Councillor Windridge, Debbie Ashford and David Pointer.

Declarations of Interest

Mrs Allen declared a prejudicial interest and Mr Moulton declared an interest in the Wind Turbine matter.

Mrs Allen declared an interest in the school entrance matter.

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 29th November 2011 were approved and signed.

Public Participation

Planning Application from Mr B A Page re Sub division of garden at 2 Bay Cottages, Bungay Road

Mr Peter Fell put the following points forward to support his opposition of the above planning application:

- It is in the conservation area.
- Architects state one of the reasons for the application is that the garden is under used; this is only because the house has been empty for some time.
- Access & sight lines - The access is on a dangerous bend and with application for two vehicles per property, the risk of accidents will be far greater than at present. The house would restrict the view of vehicles approaching from both directions. The boundary is not where the fence is, it is approximately 2.4 metres in front, towards the road. Due to continued parking of various trade vehicles on this land, it is intended to reinstate the front fence back to its original position on the boundary. When this is done there will not be sufficient splay visibility looking east towards Woodton. Several years ago Roy Ladbroke was denied planning permission to convert the barn at the rear of the butchers on Mill Road due to extra vehicles coming out between the butchers and The Poplars. Since then the level of traffic through the village has increased greatly.
- Design & scale - It is not in keeping with Bay Cottages in scale as Bay Cottages are two dwellings and this is only one. First & second floor bedroom windows overlook 27, Roland Drive, and Rose Cottage, Morning Cottage & Medway on Bungay Road and the third bedroom window overlooks the amenity area of 34 Roland Drive.
- There is a power line pole next to the pavement and the access. There is no mention of where this is going.
- There is a six inch surface water drain which takes the rain water from Roland Drive and Bungay Road. The line of this is directly under the proposed dwelling

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and the garages.

ACTION

- The proposed house and garages will take a significant amount of daylight from the SW aspect of our property, particularly in the winter months.

Mrs Pat Westley of 27 Roland Drive opposite the site. She is not allowed to use her drive way that exits onto Bungay Rd as it was considered too dangerous by the council back in the 1960s when traffic was comparatively light. Her garden wall has been demolished by traffic coming around that corner as have several walls/fences of the neighbouring properties on the same side of the road as the site. She said that vision splays were very poor from the side of the road the property is on.

Mrs Lesley Mitchenall seconded the above comments, and reemphasised the difficulty of exiting on to Bungay Road from her property. She had written to the County Council re the inappropriateness of the road for heavy vehicles.

Mr Ian Cundy suggested that there should be sufficient space left on the property to turn a vehicle round to enter and exit the property by driving forward rather than reversing.

County/District Councillor updates

County Councillor Thomas reported the following:

Her personal view on the above planning application was that she felt that as the land is open, it gives visibility across the corner which if built upon could make it more dangerous.

Hempnall School entrance has not yet been submitted for planning so it is still open to amendment.

County Council had budgeted to keep council tax at same level and had now received extra funding to allow this and have £8.5m more funds than expected. Three projects were being considered for priority to make use of this extra funding: 1. increased funds to road maintenance; 2. help young people gain employment in Norfolk; 3. Providing more facilities for children in care in Norfolk.

Planning Applications

New applications since the last meeting:

Mr B A Page, Sub division of garden at 2 Bay Cottages, Bungay Road, Hempnall, Norfolk, NR15 2NG - Proposed Erection of new dwelling and garage. Erection of new garage to existing cottage. – Mr Delf proposed, Mrs Allen seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the application be recommended for refusal, reflecting the concerns raised by the public. Specifically, the following matters need to be addressed:

- Vision splay
- Access
- Flooding
- Vision blocked across the corner
- Storm water drain
- Room to turn vehicles round entering/exit
- Overlooking windows

IN

It was agreed that those responsible for the design should consider if these issues are adequately dealt with in the current plans. Mr Hook said that if neighbours' concerns could be properly addressed then he would support this application as the design of the house was good and in keeping with the conservation area and in his view infill development of this kind (as a means of supplying the 20 houses allocated to Hempnall as a Service Village in the Joint Core Strategy) was preferable to estate development.

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Countess Margaret Attlee, Wodehouse Farm, Silver Green, Hempnall, Norfolk, NR15 2NW - Construction of new garden pavilion – Recommended approval. **ACTION**
IN

Mr & Mrs Adam Buck, Colreen, Mill Road, Hempnall, Norfolk, NR15 2LP - Proposed single storey rear extension – Recommended approval IN

Mrs Allen declared an interest in the next item.

Mr Hook had established via SNC that TCI Renewables Limited had not required planning permission for the erection of the meteorological mast as it was to be up for 28 days or less. It was noted that it had now been up more than 28 days. Mr Moulton proposed, Mr Cunningham seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the clerk should request that SNC write to TCI and ask them to submit a retrospective planning application. IN

Applications approved since the last meeting:

TCI Renewables Limited, Bussey's Loke, Hempnall - Request for Scoping Opinion for 4 wind turbines approved with no conditions at all.

Church & Town Estates Property Charity, Krons Meadow, The Krons, Hempnall - Scheme to allow public access to water meadow, including pond dipping activities, erection of entrance gate, excavation of small pond, construction of footbridge and short walkway and provision of seat. Mr Hook reported that lottery funding was held and a contractor appointed. The project should be completed in April 2012.

Community Right to Buy vis a vis Queen's Head

Mr Hook had liaised with NALC and confirmed that the detailed secondary legislation re community right to buy will not be enacted until May 2012. The initial requirement is for the parish council to identify community assets and ask them to be placed on the community asset list. If a redundant pub can be placed on the list Mr Hook proposed, Mr Delf seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the Queens Head should be added to give the ability to enable parishioners to buy if they wished. Mr Hook to investigate further. DH

Lighting at Roadtechs, Barondale Road

Mr Hook and the clerk had written to SNC who had responded to say that the owner of the land has been requested to submit an application for planning permission for the unauthorised lighting. Hempnall PC to monitor the situation. DH

Hempnall School

The site meeting had taken place and Mr Hook attended. He had agreed with the engineer the solution was to open the jaws of the entrance back to cover the ground where tyre tracks showed vehicles needed extra space to enter the access road. Mr Hook stressed the importance of retaining the multi stemmed chestnut tree and the engineer said he thought this was possible.

Community Infrastructure Levy

The clerk reported that SNC will be considering this in open council meeting on 23 January 2012 and draft charging schedules will be available for public consultation between 6th February and 5th March 2012.

SNC Revised Scheme of Officer Delegation for determining Planning Applications

The clerk had distributed details of the revised scheme prior to the meeting. W.e.f. 1st January 2012 many more planning applications would be determined at Officer level.

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Matters arising from previous parish council meetings – completed

ACTION

Revised draft minutes

These were now being circulated.

Fair Fares campaign

The petition had been signed.

Claim for public rights over Back Lane

NCC confirmed that Back Lane is now officially adopted.

Youth Club

The clerk had written to Mrs Franks and Richard Bacon MP and received a supportive response from Richard Bacon.

D Cracknell

The clerk had written a letter of gratitude to the Mr Cracknell and paid the gratuity.

Budget/Precept 2012/13

The clerk had informed SNC and issued the revised budgets to councillors.

Dates and venue of HPC meetings

The clerk had booked the Mill centre and published the dates on the website.

Matters arising from previous parish council meetings – awaiting others

Change of use of Queens Head

There had been no movement since the last meeting. The clerk to monitor.

IN

Re-turf swing area

Mr Ellis is awaiting Spring in order to start work on this project.

RD

Adoption of BT phone box at the Three Horseshoes

The clerk has submitted documents and awaits BT's response.

IN

Hempnall Playing Field and Village Hall car park

The independent expert's opinion is awaited. The clerk to monitor.

IN

Memorial seat for Mr Tweeddale maintenance

Mr Delf is to steam clean, bolt down and varnish the seat.

RD

Matters arising from previous parish council meetings – for discussion

Back Lane Willow Trees & Fencing

Now that Back Lane had been successfully adopted the clerk will contact NCC regarding maintenance.

IN

Churchyard boundary

The clerk had written to Mrs Sutton to inform her that we continue to try and resolve the situation and also contacted the church wardens who were unfortunately unable to shed light on the ownership of the boundary fences.

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Cunningham seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the clerk should write to Mrs Sutton to explain that following extensive enquiries with the vicar, church wardens, the Diocese of Norwich and research into the parish council records the ownership of the fence between Mrs Sutton's property (northern boundary) and the churchyard had not been established. Being a public body, the council is restricted by statute as to what it is allowed to spend its funds on and the fence would need to be proven to be an asset of the council before the council was able to incur costs regarding its maintenance.

IN

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ACTION

MUGA

Mr Pointer was not present so this matter was carried forward.

DP

Queens Diamond Jubilee – Fund Priming

The clerk had advertised the celebration in the parish council newsletter. Mrs Allen reported that the first Jubilee meeting had been held last week and ideas will be published shortly in the newsletter. A level of funding will be required to start the process and the committee had requested that the parish council support the project by funding a float of £250 which would be returned following the events.

Mrs Allen proposed, Mr Delf seconded and it was unanimously agreed that a £250 interest free loan should be made to the Jubilee committee.

IN

PUA rep on village hall committee

The clerk had advertised the vacancy in the parish council newsletter but had not received any responses. The clerk was asked to repeat the request.

IN

Children's play area fence

The clerk to send the spec to Mr Delf who would arrange for 3 quotes on a revised spec.

IN/RD

Notice Boards

The ownership of the public notice board was to be investigated. Mr Cundy suggested speaking to the WI. The clerk to make enquiries.

IN

Alburgh Rd Pavement

The clerk had written to Highways who were unable to assist with a pavement. The clerk to write to the landowner to request that they cut back their hedge.

IN

Youth Shelter on playing field

Mr Moulton had liaised with Mr Lincoln regarding maintenance of the shelter. Mr Moulton to ask Mr Lincoln to arrange the necessary maintenance.

GM

Correspondence

Information Pack

The items placed in the information pack envelope circulated to all Councillors on 10th January are:

Countryside Voice Winter 2011

CPRE Norfolk Voice Dec 2011

CPRE Field Work Winter 2011

Clerks & Councils Direct issue 70

Signpost Norfolk NRCC Dec 2011

No further matters were raised from the above.

Items given directly to Councillors or representatives since the last main meeting were:

Norfolk Public Rights of Way service

NALC re Localism Act

Long Stratton SNAP update

Parish Crime Statistics for November 2011

SNDC re Speeding in South Norfolk

Queens Diamond Jubilee Beacons

SNC re lighting at Roadtechs Europe Ltd

SNC Revised Scheme of Officer Delegation for determining Planning Applications

No further matters were raised from the above.

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ACTION

Items placed directly onto the parish notice boards were:

Notice/Agenda for 29th November 2011 meeting.
Notice/Agenda for 9th January 2012 meeting.
Notice/Agenda for 10th January 2012 meeting.
Autumn HPC Newsletter
Heating Grants Information
Christmas and new year waste collections

No further matters were raised from the above.

Website

The following changes had been made since the last main meeting:

Made Parish Council minutes of 11th October 2011 final.
Added Parish Council draft minutes of 15th November 2011.
Made Parish Council minutes of 15th November 2011 final.
Added Parish Council draft minutes of 29th November 2011.
Added Notice/Agenda for 29th November 2011 meeting.
Added Notice/Agenda for 9th January 2012 meeting.
Added Notice/Agenda for 10th January 2012 meeting.
Added various planning application details
Added Diary dates for 2012
Added Heating Grants Information

No further matters were raised from the above.

Norfolk Public Rights of Way (“PROW”) service

Parish and Town Councils have the opportunity to play a more active role in maintaining PROW. NCC stated that Parish councils have the local knowledge to identify problems early and contact the relevant landowner or the County Council. In many cases parish councils know who owns what land and how to reach them, so a fallen branch for example blocking a footpath would be the Landowners responsibility to remove and a Parish Council could bring it to the attention of the local landowner to get it removed far quicker. Some Parishes and Town Councils may also want to take on vegetation cutting for PROW, perhaps working with voluntary groups. It was agreed that the clerk should make further enquiries of NCC regarding its suggestions on this matter.

IN

Glass bank inspections

SNC have reminded the parish council of its obligation to inspect the sites on a regular basis and report when the bank is full or the site is untidy. The clerk had established that the regular site collections took place. It was unanimously agreed that all councillors would monitor both the Three Horse Shoes site and the Queen’s Head site, and report any issues to SNC. The clerk to provide councillors with the relevant telephone number.

ALL
IN

Financial Statements

Movements since last meeting

The clerk presented the financial statement attached to these minutes showing the movements from 16th November 2011 to 10th January 2012. The statement was in line with the annual budget. It was unanimously agreed that the statement be approved.

Playing field Users Association Report

Mr Delf reported that the back hedge of the playing field needed cutting and Mrs Allen had attended to this. Mr Hook is to make enquiries as to when the tree guards can be removed.

DH

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Play Area Report

Mr Delf had liaised with Mr Ellis and reported that all was in order.

ACTION

Mr Delf reported that the rubbish bin on the children's play area had not been emptied for a month. The clerk to contact SNC.

IN

Parish Meeting

The clerk reminded councillors that it was the parish meeting on 6th March starting at 7pm. The clerk to make appropriate arrangements for the usual reports etc.

ALL
IN

Items for Winter Newsletter

- Back Lane
- Results of public meeting
- PUA rep on village hall committee

The Clerk to draft and arrange copies.

IN

Mrs Ashford to assist with distribution and folding.

DA

Items for next main meeting agenda

- Parish meeting

IN

Wind Turbines

Scoping request

Mr Hook reported that SNC had agreed TCI's scoping request without any modifications, i.e. they had not taken into account any of the issues raised by Hempnall Parish Council. The clerk to write a letter to SNC stating that councillors were very disappointed that none of the issues in their letter had been added to the scoping request and ask that they be added at this stage if possible. In particular it was noted that HPC's suggestions for additional viewpoints from Saxlingham Green and Fritton Common had not been accepted. The potential impact of wind turbines on these important conservation areas should be assessed.

IN

Bat Survey

Mr Moulton had spoken to Mr Vine four times since the end of October, each time a promise was made to deliver the report. Mr Moulton reported that a deadline of 13th January had been given to the bat expert to produce his report or not get paid. Mr Moulton proposed that the contract be cancelled after the 13th if a report had not been received and another expert be appointed. Mr Hook expressed concerns that a new survey might not be completed before SNC had received a planning application from TCI and that HPC should not commission a further survey unless assurances were given by SNC that consideration of the planning application would be delayed until after the survey had been completed.

Mr Delf proposed, Mr Workman seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the clerk write to Mr Vine with a deadline for the report of 31/01/12 if he wished to be paid.

IN

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Public meeting

ACTION

Mr Hook thanked the clerk for the organisation and the minutes of the meeting. Mr Hook was struck by the large public turnout which reflected the strength of feeling on this important issue. He emphasised that the meeting was an important and valid part of HPC's consultation regarding the wind turbines' proposal and that the exercise was a success. Every household in the village had received an invitation to attend and everyone was given an opportunity to have their say. Those who attended were free to vote as they wished and there was no doubt as to the validity and significance of the poll.

The clerk had already circulated draft minutes to councillors to review. Councillors to report back to the clerk with any amendments by 17/01/12.

ALL

Mr Hook proposed that if a planning application is submitted then as part of the council's continuing consultation process a parish poll be held. It was agreed that Mr Hook should explore the rules and regulations relating to this with SNC.

DH

Councillors are to read the minutes of the public meeting carefully and pull out items which need to be discussed at the next parish council meeting.

ALL

The clerk had counted the ballot slips from the public meeting and the results of the vote are as follows:

	For	Against	Don't know
Hempnall	4	163	1
Brooke		8	
Fritton		4	
Morningthorpe		1	
Saxlingham		21	
Shotesham		13	
Topcroft		6	1
Unknown	1	5	
Woodton	2	6	
Overall	<u>7</u>	<u>227</u>	<u>2</u>

Percentage

Hempnall	2.5%	97%	0.5%
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Percentage

overall	3%	96%	1%
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There were also 5 spoilt or incomplete voting slips.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.45pm.

Signed _____ Date 6^h March 2012

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Presented to meeting on 10th January 2012

Current Account

(Payments)/Receipts since last meeting :		£
15/11/2011	Eon – street lighting electricity	(10.31)
19/11/2011	tr BPA to c/a	1,500.00
19/11/2011	D Cracknell	(565.00)
20/11/2011	Hempnall Village Hall - Room Hire	(25.00)
29/11/2011	Ian Smith Services - Grass cutting	(118.62)
	MHB Services Ltd - Streetlight	
31/12/2011	maintenance	(14.23)
13/12/2011	Eon – street lighting electricity	(10.31)
	MHB Services Ltd - Streetlight	
15/11/2011	maintenance	(14.23)
05/12/2011	NSIB Interest	5.95
	MHB Services Ltd - Streetlight	
06/01/2012	maintenance	(14.23)
09/01/2012	Eon – street lighting electricity	(10.31)
		<hr/>
		723.71
		<hr/>
Closing Balance		1,074.34

Business Premium Account

(Payments)/Receipts since last meeting :		£
19/11/2011	tr BPA to c/a	(1,500.00)
05/12/2011	Interest Business saver	2.70
		<hr/>
		(1,497.30)
		<hr/>
Closing Balance		22,878.71