

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10th June 2014 at 7:30pm in The Mill Centre

ACTION

Present

Chairman Mr Geoffrey Moulton, Vice Chairman Mr David Hook, Mrs Liz Allen, Mr Kevin Cunningham, Mr Richard Delf, Mr David Pointer, Mr Mike Turner, Mr Peter Workman and the Clerk Mr Ian Nelson.

Members of the public present

Mr Roger Parker, Mrs Yvonne Davy.

Apologies

Apologies were received from, District Councillor Windridge.

Declarations of Interest

Mr Moulton declared an interest in the wind turbine matter.

Mrs Allen declared an interest in the wind turbine and the Swan Meadow matters.

Mr Pointer declared an interest in the village hall matter.

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 13th May 2014 were approved and signed.

Public Participation

Village Hall Car Park

Mrs Davy confirmed that she was not aware of any external grants available.

She also reported that the village hall committee had received three quotes, one of which is to be updated to ensure it is comparable, so the final cost is as yet unknown.

The clerk advised that the VAT on the parish council's share of the cost would be recoverable, however, the rules did not allow it to be recovered on the Village Hall's share.

A site meeting with Village Hall committee representatives had been held on 31 May.

Mr Workman proposed, Mr Delf seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the best contract be selected by the village hall committee and that the winning contract to be circulated to parish councillors prior to the meeting at which it is to be considered in July.

IN

Planning Applications

New applications since the last meeting:

Mr Alan Walls, 6 Old Market Way Hempnall Norfolk NR15 2LZ - Proposed single storey rear extension, extending 5m from the rear wall of the original dwelling house, with a maximum height of 3.5m and an eaves height of 2.5m – Recommended approval.

IN

Applications approved since the last meeting:

Mr P Ellis, Land West Of Queens Head Mill Road Hempnall Norfolk - Erection of 2 cottage style houses with garages and ancillary works.

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Applications refused since the last meeting:

Mr D Beckett, Old Mill Cottage, Field Lane, Hempnall - Proposed subdivision of garden and erection of new dwelling.

It was reported that a planning application for a car sales facility at The Grove, Morningthorpe had been received by SNC. Mr Hook proposed, Mr Delf seconded and it was agreed with 1 abstention that the clerk ask that SNC consult the parish council on all planning applications close to the village boundaries.

IN

Hempnall PROW

Mr Moulton commented that recent wind farm issues had caused a deterioration of relationships between the community and land owners but felt that the time was now right to seek to build bridges and restore a good working relationship with them.

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Pointer seconded and it was agreed with 1 abstention that a letter be written in response to Mr R Allen covering the following points:

1. Re the permissive path planned to link Swan Meadow to the Property Charity meadow thanking Rob for his support for this path, which arose from the original proposal by the Property Charity in its application for grant aid from the National Lottery Fund.
2. That he should be reassured that there is no hidden agenda and that the parish council takes an interest in all the footpaths in and around the parish in an even handed manner and that all landowners are treated equally. As GH Allen (Farms) Ltd own most of the land in the village it follows that there are more footpaths on their land than that belonging to other people.
3. NCC funding to maintain access on paths has been cut and at this time of year vegetation growth is prolific, therefore many of the village paths are overgrown. We recognise that landowners have a statutory responsibility to maintain access to certain section of path, however we would welcome the opportunity to liaise with the landowners about the most cost efficient way of cutting other sections of path.

IN

Wind Turbines - Application 2013/0105 – revised

Mr Hook took the chair.

Mrs Allen left the meeting.

General Update

Mr Hook reported that Leanne Palmer, the case officer from PINS had written formally to request the parish council's noise condition.

Mr Delf proposed, Mr Pointer seconded and it was agreed with one abstention that Mr Hook should consult with Zack Simons for advice on how to respond and to ask for his view as to whether it is appropriate and correct for the parish council to respond to PINS request by stating:

- 1) That HPC did not actually formulate or agree a noise condition - discussion of noise conditions was in relation to an MAS report commissioned by a group of local residents;
- 2) That HPC is however concerned about the potential for noise problems associated with wind turbine developments and has an agreed separation distance policy (we could attach that policy - which pre-dates the appeal);
- 3) That discussions on conditions were conducted in open session at the Inquiry and

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should be "on the record".

Upon receipt of this advice the clerk is to write to PINS accordingly.

IN

Mr Hook reported that good progress has been made summarising the nature of objections as recorded in the hundreds of letters of objections to the wind turbines.

Mr Moulton re took the chair.

Swan Meadows

A site meeting took place to consider the construction of a footpath that is usable by all. This will involve some cost to create a good rural surface and to widen the bridge.

Mr Moulton proposed, Mr Delf seconded and it was unanimously agreed that it is worth further investigation. The possibility of grants will also be looked into. Mr Moulton volunteered to investigate further.

GM

It was further agreed that the parish council would provide written details to G H Allen Farms Ltd of its proposals re the path across Swan Meadows for its comments as soon as they have been formulated.

GM/IN

Items for next meeting

It was noted that some of the equipment on the playing field is damaged and a sign has been placed to warn people of potential dangers. Mr Delf to ask Mr Ellis to repair.

RD

Mr Windridge had made Mr Hook aware that each District Councillor has £1,000 to be given towards a deserving cause and that the decision will be made within the next two months. Mr Hook suggested that play equipment provision should be proposed for consideration at the next parish council meeting.

IN

Mr Pointer expressed disappointment that Mr Beckett's planning application had been refused by SNC because it was outside the village development boundary. Mr Moulton and Mr Hook agreed to research whether minor changes to the development boundary could be facilitated to accommodate small infill developments of the kind proposed by Mr Beckett. They are to report at the September parish council meeting.

DH/GM

Date of next meeting

7:30pm on 8th July 2014

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 09:33pm.

Signed _____ Date 8th July 2014