

**Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting  
held in the School Room, Methodist Church, Repps Road, Martham  
on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009 at 19:30 hrs.**

**PUBLIC FORUM**

The Chairman opened the public forum by welcoming one member of the public, Borough Councillor Mary Coleman and PC Cook. Apologies were received from Borough Councillor Barry Coleman and Councillor Michael Carttiss.

Rob Gregory and Sarah Davis of Great Yarmouth Borough Council attended the meeting and gave a presentation on Participatory Budgeting and explained how the Council had been awarded £10,000 to give away to local community groups from Norfolk Ambition – Norfolk's County Strategic Partnership as part of its Participatory Budget scheme. They explained that the money must be allocated before 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 and spent by 30<sup>th</sup> August 2010. They asked the Council to instigate the setting up of a Steering Group to administer the project which should include invitations to representatives of the Parish Council; Local Councillor(s); the local County Councillor; GYBC Community Development Officer; the Neighbourhood & Communities Facilitator (Sarah Davis) and representative members of the public taking into account that the whole exercise is about community cohesion and so those selected should include people representing as wide a range of the community as possible including those normally excluded or hard to reach.

Mrs Coleman reported that NCC Highways had inspected the drainage ditch in Repps Road and found it was fulfilling its purpose of adequately draining the flow of water and that they were unwilling to do any further cosmetic work to clear undergrowth to make it look more presentable.

PC Cook had nothing to report but it was pointed out to him that vandalism continues to be a nuisance with further damage during the last month to the bus shelter in Repps Road and the toilets.

Mrs Dilshad Turton, the Chair of the Governors of the National Health Foundation Trust, attended the meeting to explain how the Trust monitors the work of James Paget Hospital and local medical services. The Trust is trying to forge links with parishes to gain public feedback about the quality of local health services and she indicated her willingness to attend meetings occasionally to obtain feedback. She was asked to send an information pack to the Clerk in order that members can discuss this more fully at the next meeting.

The public forum ended at 20.04 hours.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**Those Present:**

*Councillors:* J Beales; T Brookman; B Carberry; T Gates; M Horrocks; M Huke; B Huxtable, K Jordan; P Manifold; T Watson and B Wright.

***Presiding:*** M Huke.

Clerk in attendance: Peter Dawson.

**1. Apologies**

None.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Manifold and Wright declared a non prejudicial interest in item 13 as allotment holders.

Councillor Beales declared a non prejudicial interest in any decision arising from item 7.5 as she is an employee of the organisation concerned.

- 3. Minutes of previous Council meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009 and the Camera meeting of the same date.**  
These having been circulated with the agenda it was resolved to AGREE the minutes. **Proposed by T Gates, seconded by B Carberry and unanimously agreed.**
- 4. Actions arising from the minutes**
- 4.1 Councillor Huxtable reported back on a meeting he had attended on 1<sup>st</sup> October with The Clerk on potential Big Lottery Grant funding. Funding from this particular stream was restricted to one application every two years; projects that had not yet started and projects with capital costs of no more than £12,000. At present the Council had no schemes that qualified.
- 4.2 In answer to a question from a member the Clerk confirmed that one verbal complaint had been received from a resident in Somerton Road concerning the proposal by Norfolk County Council to plant hedges on the verge opposite her home. She has been given full details of the scheme organiser at NCC.
- 5. Participatory Budgeting and Community Grants**  
Following the presentation given by Rob Gregory and Sarah Davis of Great Yarmouth Borough Council during the public session consideration, was given to the organisational requirements of administering the scheme. It was agreed that a working party made up of Councillors Carberry, Huke, Huxtable, and Jordan plus the Clerk meet as soon as possible to determine who will be invited to serve on the Steering Committee.
- 6. Planning**
- 6.1 The schedule of comments on planning applications received for consultation was approved. **Proposed by B Wright, seconded by T Gates and unanimously agreed.**
- 6.2 Councillor Huke informed members that a planning application had just been received for a change of use of a domestic garage at 33 Thurne Rise for which he declared a prejudicial interest and as such would be taking no part in replying to the Borough Council. The matter would be dealt with by Councillor Huxtable in his place.
- 6.3 Councillor Beales asked if the very large Sky communal television aerial at Grove Close needed planning permission. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries of the Borough Council.
- 7. Correspondence**
- 7.1 Letter No 143/2009 - James Paget Trust Governors. It was decided to consider this at the next meeting of the Council.
- 7.2 Letter No 148/2009. It was AGREED that the new rates of pay and mileage allowances notified in the NALC 2009/2010 Final Salary Award be applied with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009. **Proposed by M Huke, seconded by J Beales and unanimously agreed.**
- 7.3** Letter No 154/2009. Councillor B Huxtable was nominated to attend the training on Land Registration being held by Norfolk ALC on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2009.
- 7.4 Letter No 161/2009. Adoption of redundant red telephone box at Somerton Road. The Clerk was asked to write to BT again asking for the red box at Somerton Road to be used to replace the one destroyed on The Green and failing that, it was AGREED to accept the offer made by BT for the Council to adopt the red kiosk at Somerton Road for £1.00 so that it could be put to alternative use in the village. **Proposed by M Huke, seconded by T Watson and unanimously agreed.**
- 7.5** Letter No 164/2009. It was AGREED that Caister & Flegg Cluster could use the Village Green for a Family Fun Day on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010 subject to completing the standard booking form. **Proposed by M Huke, seconded by T Watson and unanimously agreed.**

**8. Nursery Close to Black Street Passageway.**

Great Yarmouth Borough Council had written saying it would provide ten hours of officer time towards the cost of seeking a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) of land with the intention of reinstating this passageway. This would leave an estimated £1,500 to be found to pay for the statutory advertising that would be required to instigate the action. The Chairman invited the views of members regarding seeking a CPO and potential funding sources to pay for the advertising. Following a wide ranging discussion it was agreed that the Clerk be asked to write to Mrs A Meakin as the informal representative of residents in Bell Meadow and Nursery Close pointing out that the Parish Council was willing to pay 25% (£375) of the remaining costs of seeking a CPO and asking if the residents, who have a legal right of access over the passageway, would contribute 75% (£1,125) of the costs.

**Proposed by B Huxtable, seconded by P Manifold and unanimously agreed.**

**9. Finance**

9.1 The schedule of invoices circulated with the agenda was approved for payment.

**Proposed by K Jordan, seconded by B Carberry and unanimously agreed.**

9.2 The budget recommended by the Finance Committee for 2010-11 shown at appendix 'B' and resulting in an increase in the annual precept of 5.2% was approved for submission to the Borough Council. **Proposed by K Jordan, seconded by P Manifold.**

**Unanimously agreed.**

**10. Footways/highways**

The Clerk was asked to chase up hedge cutting on the south side of Cess Lane.

**11. Footpaths**

Members gave consideration to a suggestion to look into the possibility of providing a new in-field footpath between the junction of Sandy Lane/Cess Road and opposite the junction of Cess Road/Peartree Avenue. It was AGREED that this be investigated and the Clerk was asked to contact the County Council's Countryside Officer with a view to approaching the land owner for permission to use land for the path. **Proposed by M Huke, seconded by T Brookman.**

**Unanimously agreed.**

**12. Small Works**

The Village Sign will soon be removed for renovation work. The plinth of the sign will probably be renewed during 2010.

**13. Allotments**

Councillor Wright reported that plans are in hand to extend the water supply.

**14. Repps Road Bus Shelter**

Final detailed plans as submitted by the architect were provide for information and members were informed that Gladedale (Anglia) Ltd had kindly agreed to provide reclaimed Martham red bricks from Elmside House to build the shelter. Quotes to provide the steel bench would now be sought and a list of builders who would be invited to submit tenders to build the shelter was agreed.

**15. Common Road Sme Conservation Project**

It was AGREED to accept the quotation (letter No 163/2009) provided by Blackbriar in the sum of £178.80 to provide new hedges to replace the existing wire fence at the new conservation area in Common Road. **Proposed by M Huke, seconded by K Jordan and unanimously agreed.** It was noted that an application for grant funding towards the project had been made to the Broads Authority Sustainable Development Fund.

**16. Play Area**

The quarterly review noted the improved cleaning of the play area.

**17. Youth Club/Activities**

The Chairman reported on actions taken since the last meeting to prepare the Youth Club for re-opening on 6<sup>th</sup> November for 11 to 17 year olds. Internal painting had been completed; some external graffiti removed; calor heating was being organised; roller blinds had been installed and a TV aerial erected; furniture was in the process of being donated and/or purchased and a dart board had been installed. CRB checks were being carried out for more volunteers. The site now needed to be fenced for security reasons and further grants were being sought to pay for the work.

A fact finding visit had been made to Holt Youth Centre which had proved inspirational and had helped provide a wide range of policy and management documents needed before the centre could be opened. It was AGREED to adopt the policy and management documents as circulated. **Proposed by B Carberry, seconded by T Watson and unanimously agreed.** The Voluntary Youth Community Group would be paying a site assessment visit on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October.

**18. Christmas Fayre**

Councillors Beales and Horrocks informed members that the Fayre would take place on 5<sup>th</sup> December from 11am to 4pm and that stall bookings and other arrangements were going well. Raffles prizes were requested.

**19. Public Surgeries**

Members reported that since moving the venue of the surgeries they had been poorly attended. It was felt that holding them inside the Methodist Church was not as visually noticeable as the CLIP had been. It was AGREED to ask the Communications Working Party to discuss the matter and make recommendations for improvements.

**20. Items for the Next Agenda**

- Liaison with the National Health Foundation Trust.
- New bus shelter quotes.
- Annual review of the duties of the Finance Officer.
- Nursery Close to Black Street passageway.
- Councillor Brookman gave advance notice of his intention to resign as a Councillor after the meeting of the Council on 18<sup>th</sup> November. The Chairman expressed both his sadness at the news and gratitude for the work Councillor Brookman had done as a member and everyone endorsed his sentiments.

21. The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009. The next public surgery is on 31<sup>st</sup> October when Councillors Horrocks and Wright are scheduled to attend.

The meeting closed at 21.50 hours.

Signed.....(Chairman)

Dated.....