

***Somerton Parish Council – Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
on Wednesday, 6th May, 2009, at the Village Hall, Cottage Road, West Somerton at 19.00 hrs.***

Present: R. Starling (Chairman);); T. Jones (Vice-Chairman);); C. Clutterham; B. Barker;
M. Humphries; D. Van de Bulk and N. Grayling (Clerk)

J. Shrimplin (Boro & County Councillor); S. Weymouth (Borough Councillor)

There were also three Members of the Public present.

1 Apologies: All Members were present – hence no apologies for absence.

2 Declarations: R. Starling declared an interest in connection with Item 14 – Broads Authority matters.

3 a. Election of The Parish Clerk took the Chair and asked for nominations for Chairman.

Chairman:

B. Barker proposed R. Starling and C. Clutterham seconded this, and as there were no other nominations **R. Starling was duly re-elected** and R. Starling resumed the Chair.

3 b. Election of The Chairman asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Vice-Chairman:

D. Van de Bulk proposed T. Jones, which was **seconded by M. Humphries**, and, in the absence of any other nomination **T. Jones was duly re-elected**.

4 Appointment of Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer: **N. Grayling** said he was happy to continue as Parish Clerk, and as the Responsible Financial Officer **for the ensuing year**.
proposed by T. Jones and seconded by M. Humphries.

5 Appointment of Internal Auditor: **B. Sharrock** had been appointed for the year ended 31st March, 2008, and was prepared to continue.
proposed by T. Jones and seconded by C. Clutterham.

6 Co-option of a further Councillor: There had been no response to date – to be considered at our next Meeting on the 1st July, 2009.

7 Minutes of previous Meetings: The Minutes of the **AGM of the 7th May, 2008**, had been agreed and signed by the Chairman at our earlier Meeting on the 2nd July, 2008.

The Minutes of the previous **Parish Council Meeting**, held on the **4th March, 2009**, were declared to be a true and accurate record.

proposed: T. Jones **seconded:** B. Barker - unanimous

8 Matters Arising: It was noted that, in connection with the possible re-siting of the ‘Bottle Bank’ - No suitable place had been found.

9 Public Discussion: The Members of the Public present were asked if they wished to say anything, but answered no.

9 *Public Discussion (cont'd)*

This provided opportunity for the Borough Councillors and the County Councillor to comment, viz:-

S. Weymouth referred to 'The Coastal Villages Practice' Meetings, and of arrangements for 'out-of-hours' medical attention. She also reminded us of 24 hour '**NHS Direct**' service on '**0845 4647**'.

J Shrimplin referred to our request for a 'permissive footpath' around Chapel Field (along Horsey Road, from 'The Lion PH' to the junction with Common Road). He said that this was 79th in a list of 413 projects, so that there would be a considerable wait before funding was available..

JS enquired as to what the current situation is as to the proposed cycle path between Winterton and Martham. The Clerk was asked to check with Gary Burckitt.

JS referred to the collapse of The Icelandic Bank, recording that the NCC had investments with it of £ 32 million, and that Gt.Yarmouth had an investment of £ 2 million with it. They were only likely to recover 80p in the pound.

JS also referred to the 15th July, 2009, which is the latest date for submissions to the Minister regarding the Boundary Commission's options for creating new 'all purpose' Unitary Councils for Norfolk.

10 Speed Limit Extension: T. Jones spoke of local concern about the speed of vehicles along the Winterton Road, between 'School Hill' and 'Burnley Hall'. He spoke of the hazard of the several roads leading into the Winterton Road, between these two points, i.e: The Street, Church Road, and Low Road adjacent to Burnley, in addition to Burnley Hall itself and also Collis Lane at the South end of 'Dark Lane'. There are also connections with Somerton Hall (2 nr.) and 'Three Acres'. In that there are no footpaths on either side, it creates a hazard for all pedestrians, especially school children.

The Clerk was asked to write to NCC Highways to request that the speed limit over this stretch be reduced to 30 mph.

proposed: T. Jones **seconded:** C. Clutterham - unanimous

11 North-East Coastal Parishes Group:

a. **Natural England Report.**

R. Starling read out the relevant parts of the Report

b. **Update on next Group Meeting (NECPG) at Sea Palling.**

This is to take place on Tuesday, 16th June, 2009, at Sea Palling. Details are awaited in respect of this Meeting.

c. **Any Agenda Items for Group Meeting.**

It was decided to leave this until nearer the time, pending receipt of awaited information.

12 North Norfolk Coast AONB Management Plan: Estelle Hook had e-mailed to say that she had had a recent conversation with R.Starling, who requested that we (North Norfolk Coast AONB Management) send he updated version of the Management Plan to our Parish Council for review and further comment. She said that, after some thought, that they had decided that they could not make an exception to their formal consultation process, as this would be the equivalent of entering into a second round of consultations. However, she

said,

that they would be very happy to meet with us to explain their ethos, approach and drivers, and to discuss our issues. She suggested that they could attend either one of our Parish Council Meetings, or join in with the Group Meeting that we were

planning

with Natural England and a number of other Parish Councils. Alternatively, she said, that we were very welcome to visit them at their office in Fakenham.

The foregoing followed a letter we wrote to Estelle Hook, asking for an update on progress/developments.

following

After discussion it was decided to write to the North Norfolk Coast Management at Fakenham, requesting, under the 'Freedom of Information Act, copies of the

documents, viz:-

- (a) One copy of the draft Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan, that incorporates the comments received and/or the changes made following the recent public consultation.
- (b) Copies of all e-mail communications and letters sent and received by Norfolk Coast Partnership Staff, and copies of any Minutes of Meetings all relating to the recent Norfolk Coast Management Plan Consultation, with or from Staff Members and/or Representatives from:
 - (i) Natural England;
 - (ii) The Environment Agency;
 - (iii) The Broads Authority.
- (c) Also, further to our letter of the 29th January, 2009, and your subsequent replies, including the abridged summary of your Accounts, we do not consider that the latter adequately explains the apparent anomalies in the Accounts, as outlined in our aforementioned letter, and wish to receive a copy of your Audited Accounts, please.

proposed: T. Jones **seconded:** B. Barker - unanimous

13 Broads Authority – Vision for Future of The Broads: The purpose was to report on the response from the article in the Somerton Newsletter.

Authority – Vision for Future of The Broads: It was addressed to all Somerton Parishioners, but none responded.

The Broads: The Clerk was therefore asked to write to Simon Hooton to report this, indicating that we must therefore conclude that there is no interest in Somerton in proceeding with his proposals, and to seek his response to this outcome.

proposed: D. Van de Bulk **seconded:** B. Barker - unanimous

14 Correspondence: Various Minutes from NCC and GYBC Meetings, sales brochures and other Items were noted. The Chairman reminded everyone that all Correspondence was available prior to the Meeting from 18.30 18.50 hours.

14 Correspondence: (cont'd)

date rec'd	subject
	Glasdon – Latest products for Local Councils. 'Norfolk Matters' – Spring Issue. Clerks & Councils 'Direct' – May issue.
9 th March, 2009.	SPC – e-mail to Sarah Slade (GYBC)
10 th	SPC – R.Starling News Letter item, etc.,
11 th	Norfolk Association of Local Councils - salary scales
	Broads Authority – Changes to the procedure for determining householder appeals.
	GYBC – Somerton Parish Council – Casual Vacancy
	Alzheimer's Society – request for financial assistance
	SPC – letter of thanks to Shirley Weymouth.
	SPC – e-mail re: Forthcoming Highway Inspection.
14 th	Society of Local Council Clerks. the benefits of Membership membership Application Form CPD courses
15 th	SPC – Notice of 'Spring Litter Pick'
	Norfolk Police – e-mail from Inspector Eagleton re: 'First' Buses.
16 th	SPC – response to Sarah Slade – re: GYBC Local Development Framework
	SPC – letter to 'First' Bus Depot – Gt. Yarmouth
17 th	SPC – letter to Rachel Evitt – Upper Thurne Working Group
20 th	Voluntary Norfolk Advocacy Service – information letter + mini-poster
	Sea Palling & Waxham Parish Council – e-mail.
21 st	GYBC – Agenda for Special Meeting of Council
23 rd	The Boundary Committee – structural review of Norfolk – further draft proposals. letter + disc.
	'First' Bus – letter from Gt. Yarmouth Depot.
26 th	GYBC – Agenda for Development Control Training Session
	Planning Portal – Government changes to rural planning policy.
	Communities – Government sets out plans to safeguard future of rural communities.
	Norfolk Association of Local Councils – 'The Power of Well Being'
27 th	GYBC – Financial Services – concurrent functions grant and Parish Precept 2009/10
	NRCC – Request for Membership.
30 th	Campaign to Protect Rural England. letter + mini-poster
2 nd April, 2009.	Allianz Insurance plc – renewal premium £ 448-49
	NCC – Communications & Customer Services – County Hall
	Natural England – responding to Impacts of Climate Change – on The Broads letter + booklet
	GYBC – Planning Permission for White House Nursery School.
	GYBC – Planning Permission for 7, Collis Lane.
3 rd	Norfolk Constabulary – letter + 'Changing Times' leaflet
4 th	North Norfolk – Site Specific Proposals Draft Plan – Public Consultation 15 th June-31 st July.
	Norfolk Accident Rescue Service – request for donation
	NCC – Local List Validation Requirements – Consultation
	'Norfolk Link' leaflet.
	NCC – Boundary Committee NCC covering letter; Boundary Committee letter; Norwich Union – Insurance leaflet.
6 th	Broads Authority – Engagement on Climate Change Issues letter draft minute of the Broads Forum discussion Broads Forum – Ideas to Develop
6 th	AONB – North Coast Partnership - Accounts
7 th	NCC – Planning & Transportation – Caring about Rural Speeds (CARS) Campaign.
	Norfolk Association of Local Councils – letter + subscription form.

	“	ICO – Freedom of Information – letter + disc.
	“	Norfolk Parent Partnership – information and support.
8 th	“	Adventure Playgrounds Ltd – Making Life an Adventure
9 th	“	GYBC – recharge of Election Expenses – 1 st May, 2008 (£ 65-88)
11 th	“	EDF – Rental payment (£10-13) – for Somerton Drainage Pump on Staithe land.

14 Correspondence: (cont'd)

	date rec'd	subject
	11 th April, 2009.	North Norfolk – Local Development Framework.
	16 th “	‘Queensbury’ Shelters – letter + leaflet.
	16 th “	GYBC – Agenda for Development Control Committee
	17 th “	Equality and Human Rights – letter + leaflet.
	“	GYBC – Agenda for Council Meeting
	“	GYBC – Minutes of previous Meeting.
	20 th “	Broads Authority – Dismissal of Appeal re: Mr & Mrs D Grimmer.
	“	Broads Authority – Application for ‘tree works’ at The Grange.
	24 th “	GYBC – European Parliamentary & NCC Elections – 4 th June, 2009.
	25 th “	East Anglia’s Children’s Hospices (EACH) letter re: funds.
	“	‘The Playing Field’ Newsletter + sundry leaflets.
	1 st May, 2009.	Norfolk Police Authority – letter + Policing Plan.
	“	NCC – Area Committee for Great Yarmouth
	“	GYBC – Council and Other Meeting Minutes.
	“	GYBC – Letter for info. re: silver birch at ‘The Gables’, The Street.
	2 nd “	Response from Lord Smith (Environment Agency)
	“	Sea Palling & Waxham Parish Council – AONB review

15 Accounts: Presentation of Bank Statements / Approval for Cheques / Bank Balances / Audit Submission / Renewal of Insurance (wef: 1st June, 2009)

Notwithstanding reference in the Minutes of our Meeting in March, 2009, following the approval given for the following payments, the actual payments were as follows:-

to T. Jones for paint to Bus Shelters – (approval max.£ 15) actual payment **£ 12-98**
to N. Grayling for 2 nr. ‘litter picks’ – (approval max.£30) actual payment **£ 7-98**
to R. Bird for a further grass cutting, - actual payment on invoice submitted **£ 85-00**

and to N. Grayling for a replacement Minute Book – (approval max. £ 75) actual payment **£ 6-99**

Approval was given for the issue of the following cheques:

		£
N. Grayling	Clerk’s Salary cheque 100535	131-00
N. Grayling	Clerk’s Exps cheque 100536	33-00
Also for	R.Bird	170-00
	Village Hall Hire	100-00
	New Minute Book (as noted above)	6-99
	NCAPTC subscription	89-64
	Staithe Charity (EDF rental)	10-13

The foregoing 5 nr. amounts will be allocated a cheque nr. when the documents are returned by the Internal Auditor

Approval was given for the External Audit Return, subject to the Internal Auditor’s findings.

Notwithstanding approval for the payment of £ 448-49 to Allianz Insurance plc, it was suggested that the Clerk approach Norwich Union for a quotation. This will be recorded in the Minutes of our Meeting of the 1st July, 2009.

Bank Balances:	Community A/C	1,270-18	
	Business Premium A/C	<u>783-08</u>	
	Total – per Bank Balances	£ 2,053-26	total prior to the

issue of

the cheques for 1st July, 2009.

proposed: D. Van de Bulk **seconded:** C. Clutterham - unanimous

**16 Village
Maintenance
and Items for
next Agenda:**

Replacement of Public Rights of Way notices.

Letter to Mr Woolacott, re: 'permissive path'

Staithe seats.

**17 Dates of
Future
Meetings:**

*1st July, 2009; 2nd September, 2009; 4th November, 2009; 6th January, 2010;
3rd March, 2010 and 5th May, 2010 (Annual Parish Meeting + AGM)*

The Meeting expressed thanks to the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman for their work over the past year,

and the Chairman thanked all those who attended,

and closed the Meeting at 20-48 hours.

Signed:*R O Starling*.....(Chairman)

Date:*1st July*,2009