

BERGH APTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 7th June 2004 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Present: Alison Freeman (Chairman) John Ling, Sally Leigh, Jean Bobbin and David Skedge

Also present: the Clerk (Lorie Lain-Rogers) Adrian Gunson (County Councillor,) and eight members of the public. John Fuller (District Councillor) sent his apologies.

1. **Apologies:** Derek Blake and Chris Johnson
2. **Declaration of Interest:** none
3. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting** and the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 12th May 2004 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters arising:**
 - a. The Bergh Apton Web site is now running and Sally Leigh again expressed her thanks to John Fuller for his assistance in setting up the site. Sally said that the site would be further developed and constructive comments welcomed. The Chairman thanked Sally for her work in establishing the site and undertaking to be web master.
5. **Public consultation** including reports from County and District Councillors: Sally Leigh proposed the closure of the meeting this was seconded by John Ling and agreed unanimously. **County Councillor's report:** Adrian Gunson said the second cut on the grass verges was now underway and this village will be done in the next fortnight. Speed limits will be investigated on Cookes Road, The Street and Church Meadow Lane. The First Bus company have cut some services and this has led to a need for increased subsidy from the County Council. Here Anglian are continuing to provide a good service. There will be traffic lights to control the traffic at the Thickthorn Roundabout when the new road to Cringleford is built this will link into Colney Lane and help to serve the hospital. The Watton Road is to have a third lane built to enable better access for emergency vehicles. Some of the land in the area is zoned for development and hopes to attract new business. There were 21,000 replies to the consultative document on Northern Distributor Road around Norwich, a majority favoured more education on road behaviour, a greater priority for pedestrians in the centre of Norwich. New routes were also put forward and so further consultation will be needed. The ultimate go-ahead for the road will be from the Eastern Regional Authority and since they have recommended 74,000 houses to be built in Norfolk by 2025 (40,000 in the Norwich area) this will help to make a strong case for the road to be built. Drainage schemes are needed in Church Meadow Lane and Upper Kiln Lane and Nicolls Corner and will be put in hand when finance is available. Trowse bypass is due to be surface dressed this year as is Loddon bypass George Lane to High Bungay Road. Adrian hopes to be able to create a right turning lane into High Bungay Road at the time of the surface dressing. Speed cameras are under review and the one at Thurton could be under review Thurton Parish Council were writing in support of its retention as it had reduced accidents. Hobart High School PFI is progressing with the provision of eight new classrooms, together with remodelling the canteen and the hall etc. it is hoped the building will be completed by August 2005 to enable all children in the area to move at age eleven. Thurton will have a new school built in the grounds of the old as will Seething. The existing schools may be sold as housing Hobart High School will be seeking specialist status probably in science. John Ling asked about the composition and electoral basis of the Eastern Regional Authority – Adrian said half of the members are appointed, half elected from the District Councils and one representative of the County Council. John also asked if provision could be made for the footpaths in Bergh Apton to be cut in the week before the Sculpture Trail Adrian agreed to ask for this. Jill Harvey said the new recycling signs were not well understood and wondered if some words could be added.

There has been fly tipping opposite RMC for a couple of weeks – the Clerk said she would report it the next day to Brian Bowler. Michael Hubbard wondered if an item could be put in Eleven Says drawing attention to the recycling sign and explaining it. Evy Sayer said it would be helpful if the article could also explain what is and is not acceptable at the recycling centre. Adrian will see if something can be written into “Your Norfolk” and John Ling will contact the EDP. Michael Hubbard felt it was inappropriate for the article on footpath walking published in the Newsletter to suggest avoiding path No. 12 as it passed close to a house. David Skedge proposed re-opening the meeting this was seconded by Jean Bobbin and agreed unanimously.

6. Finance:

- a. Statement of accounts the RFO report £823.00 in the current account and £717.34 in the No.2 Parish Plan account. It was agreed to wait for approving the Statement of Accounts to go to the external auditor until the internal auditor (Bob Kerry) had approved them.
- b. Village Sign: no invoices for further expenses had been received to date.
The following cheques were then approved for payment and signed:
- c. Audit Commission for audit 2002/03 £58.75 (cheque no. 700377)
- d. Parish Plan – petty cash - £120 from No. 2 account (cheque nos. 000005 and 000006)
- e. One Step Beyond - Norton Anti-virus 2004 £39.99 (cheque no. 700378)
- f. Contribution to all weather surface at Loddon: there was considerable discussion on this but it was felt that insufficient information was to hand as to the benefits for residents of the village before supporting this with a donation towards the running costs from the rates. It will be raised at the Parish Plan meeting and be on the agenda for the July meeting of the Parish Council.
- g. Mothers and Toddlers Group donation of £50.00 (cheque no. 700379)
- h. Statement of Assurance: this will also await the internal auditors report
- i. Asset Register: this was agreed with the removal of the item for printing included on the Village Sign value and the addition of the cost of the bus shelter.

7. Correspondence:

1. Taking it On Sustainable Development
2. CPRE Countryside Voice Summer 2004
3. NPFA The Playing Field Spring 2004
4. NCAPTC Norfolk Link 3/04
5. NCAPTC Standards Seminar Easton College 28th June 12.45 to 2.45pm
6. NCAPTC Association Area Meeting June 15th 7pm for 7.30pm at South Norfolk House, Long Stratton – can include information on Quality Status – no one able to attend
7. NCAPTC Initial Training for Clerks and Councillors
8. Norfolk Parish Training Partnership – questionnaire – returned by Clerk
9. NCAPTC resolutions for AGM 2004
10. NCC Live and Gigging Extra Saturday, 17th July youth celebration
11. Norfolk Waste Partnership – still places available at Waste Conference on 1st July – Sally Leigh will attend and was given the timetable
12. Wymondham Music Festival 2nd July to 11th July – Alston asked if this could be returned to her after it had circulated
13. Appeals for help from Citizens Advice Bureau and details of move, Quidenham Childrens hospice, Victim Support Norfolk, and Winged Fellowship Trust
14. Wicksteed Leisure – play equipment
15. Norfolk Matters Spring 2004 – copy for each Councillor
16. NWT Wise up to Wildlife – poster for display of a variety of activities
17. Shaw & Sons publications
18. CPRE South Norfolk District AGM at Wymondham Thursday, 1st July at 6.30pm followed by illustrated talk by John Sansby on work of CPRE in Norfolk – no one able to attend
19. CPRE Fieldwork new publication

20. SNC 2004/05 year book
21. SNC Planning responses to Jay's Cottage and Lodge Cottage – both approved with conditions
8. **Planning applications:** Street Farm, The Street, Bergh Apton Ref. no: E07/04/0924/H proposed erection of single storey conservatory to front of dwelling – the plans have been amended and returned for comment by 9th June. The Clerk reported that all that had changed was the definition of the domestic curtilage, this did not alter the Council's previously agreed statement of recommendation for approval
9. **Parish Plan:** John Ling said the next meeting of the Steering Committee is arranged for Wednesday 9th June and there will be a public meeting on 21st June to show progress and include any further issues. Five people were writing up different sections of the Plan and the first draft is in preparation
10. **Village Sign:** Ivan Soanes the designer and pattern maker now has the sign for painting. John Ling requested help with the oak post and Lorie Lain-Rogers agreed to look at it and recommend surface treatment and preservative if necessary. The unveiling is proposed for September and discussion followed on who should be asked to do the unveiling – a number of names were mentioned as was the idea of a competition at the Fete, or the oldest resident and youngest resident.
11. **Footpaths:** Graham Harber had requested clarity on which footpaths were his responsibility and which were Richard and Stephanie Cromes. The Clerk suggested a natural division could be made along Whiteheath Road with the Cromes looking after the northern paths (nos. 1,2,3,4,6, 9,11,13 and 15) and Graham looking after the southern paths (nos. 7,8,10 and 12.) This was agreed by the Council and Graham Harber who was present. He further requested that the footpaths have the numbers clearly indicated on the posts. The best method of doing this in keeping with their rural position will be investigated by the Clerk.
12. **Parish Clerk:** the post has been advertised in the Newsletter and one enquiry received. The deadline for receipt of applications is Wednesday, 16th June.
13. **EDP Village of the Year** – notice boards: it was felt that these let the Parish down last year so an attempt will be made to improve them in time for the competition. John Ling will paint the noticeboard in Mill Road and Lorie Lain-Rogers the Parish Council notice board. John Ling will also contact the owner of the notice board in Sunnyside to see if that can be painted too.
14. **HWRC representatives for meeting** on 7th July: Adrian Gunson asked for the meeting date to be changed and it will be Tuesday, 6th July or Tuesday 13th July which is Adrian's preferred date. Alison Freeman will attend and Sally Leigh if she is available.
15. **Other matters for future agendas** and items for information: John Ling said there were a few dates for diaries, A Taste of India on 16th June at the Village Hall and opportunity to hear of Chris Johnson's recent visit to India and enjoy a curry supper. 21st June the public meeting for the Parish Plan at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Saturday, 3rd July the village Fete at the Manor which will this year be held in the courtyard area.
16. **Date of next meeting:** Monday, 12th July 2004 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Janet Skedge was thanked for the very welcome refreshments.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm