

# Minutes of a Meeting of Bergh Apton Parish Council held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2007 at Bergh Apton Parish Hall Commencing at 7.30pm

## Members

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Parish Members present: Mrs Alison Freeman (Chair) Mr Derek Blake; Mr John Ling ; Mr Chris Johnson, Mr David Skedge, Mrs Sally Leigh; Mrs Jean Bobbin  
Apologies Mrs Sally Leigh  
In attendance Cllr Adrian Gunson, Cllr John Fuller, and 4 members of the public

## 1 Declaration of Interest

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There were no declarations of interest.

## 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

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John Ling proposed and Chris Johnson seconded that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2006 are a true account. The Minutes were signed by The Chairman.

## 3 Matters Arising

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### 3.1 Complaint re: Clay Pigeon shooting

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- Clerk read correspondence received from Martin Burrows, the Enforcement Officer and South Norfolk District Council stating that clay pigeon shooting at Holly Lodge had occurred on 11 dates so far this year (2006) well below the permitted 28 days. The landowner is concerned about the issue and will try to change location to address this matter.

## 4 Public Consultation

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There were no members of the public wishing to speak

## 5 County & District Councillors' Reports

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### 5.1 Cllr Adrian Gunson

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reported that the bus shelter at Hellington had been damaged. John Ling investigated this - (it had been vandalised, John Ling is able to make the repairs). Rockland Street is to be closed for drainage works next month. Work on the disabled access from the car park to Loddon Library will start next month. Complaints had been received about the amount of cars parked on both sides of the single road into Loddon outside the new houses on the Loddon Road at Chedgrave. Re: Policing - Loddon is to have a Sergeant and a Constable plus 2 Special Constables and Poringland will have a Sergeant and a Constable plus 3 special Constables. Cllr Gunson also spoke about the new Local Government White Paper which invites councils to put in bids to become unitaries. That means a single council running all the services for an area ie. education, social services and highways - a letter had been sent to all parish councils asking for their views.

## 5.2 Cllr John Fuller

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spoke more on the subject of unitaries: Norwich City Council has announced it will bid to become a unitary. This means it wants to deliver to the residents who live within the city boundaries, all the large-scale services and functions that are currently delivered by the County Council. The County Council would then continue to deliver the same set of services to the rest of the population, ie. 2 councils providing all the large-scale services in Norfolk instead of one with all the extra administration and overhead costs that would incur.

The County Council's view is that they should not embark on this when public finances are tight and that the money and time needed to set up a new unitary council would be better spent on continuing to improve services for everyone. Cllr Fuller urged The Parish Council to air their views – **deadline Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January.**

## 6 Finance

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It was agreed unanimously to set the precept for 2007 at £3680.00 a modest increase on last year.

3 cheques were signed:

- £75.00 grant to Byrus , a local youth project.
- £150 to Chris Roe for mowing grass around the Village Sign from May to November
- £66.98 to South Norfolk District Council for the playground inspection.

## 7 War Memorial Restoration

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Thanks were given to John Ling and Chris Johnson for all the hard work they have given to this project.

It was unanimously agreed to add the names of Eric Barnes, Maurice Barnes, Alec Cubitt, Edward Davey, Freeman Harber, Albert Harvey, Ernest Hunt, John Preston DSM, William Starman MM, Herbert Thrower and Walter Thrower to the Bergh Apton War Memorial.

John Ling reported that English Heritage's grant £1,000 is conditional on us NOT re-cutting the names of the men on the memorial. It was unanimously agreed to negotiate with English Heritage and ask them to re-consider their decision. – **Action John Ling**

The faculty fee £186.05 that was paid for work to be done on the Memorial included VAT, John Ling has twice written to ask for a VAT invoice but has received no response so far. The Parish Council asked if John Ling could pursue the Diocesan Registrar and again ask them to provide us with a VAT invoice.

It was agreed unanimously to have a formal re-dedication church service when the work is completed followed by hospitality afterwards at the Village Hall. The date proposed is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm this is almost exactly 85 years to the day since the original dedication of the war memorial on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1922.

## 8 Household Waste Recycling Centre

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It was decided that the HWRC meetings will be replaced by a waste management representative attending 2 Parish Council meetings during the year. Adrian Gunson informed the meeting that a new contractor is about to be appointed to run the HWRC, there will be Winter hours of 8am –

4pm and Summer hours of 8am – 6pm, CCTV cameras will be present and compactor bins will be introduced so more waste can be accommodated in these skips which will mean fewer journeys and the skips will be at ground level.

## **9 May 2007 Parish Council Election**

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Clerk informed everyone that nomination papers will be sent to her on 28<sup>th</sup> February, receipt of nominations is no later than noon on 4<sup>th</sup> April. All parish councilors retire on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

## **10 Extra Memory for Clerk's Computer**

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Clerk reported that extra memory was needed for the Parish Council computer, cost is around £30. Agreed – Clerk to deal

## **11 Report from Sub-Committee for new signage and notice boards**

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The Sub-Committee informed the Parish Council that they were looking at discrete signage for a village circular walk, there would be 9 signs, 3 story –boards, 2 maps and an interactive audio/tactile unit at the village sign. Work on this project is on-going.

## **12 Planning Applications**

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There were no plans to be approved.

## **13 Planning Decisions**

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2006/2320 Cookes Road, Bergh Apton Proposed erection of greenhouse and shed and construction of pond REGISTERED 30-10-2006 Approved

2006/2328 Land Off Barras Hill estate, Sunnyside, Bergh Apton Single storey residential log home REGISTERED 31-10-2006 Refused

## **14 Play Area Inspection**

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The report had been received and new bark will be ordered in the Spring.

## **15 Correspondence**

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Community/Emergency co-ordinator for the Village – Clerk will pass on anything important information that she receives.

Nomination requested from South Norfolk Town and Parish Councillors who wish to be elected onto the South Norfolk Alliance Executive Board – Clerk to put forward Alison Freeman's name.

Norfolk Police Authority Budget Meeting – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January

## **16 Risk Assessment**

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Phone box windows on Cookes Rd. smashed – Clerk to report

## 17 Items for Future Agendas

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Bark for playground, Quality Parish Council

## 18 Forthcoming Meetings

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14/2/07; 28/3/07; 25/4/07 Annual Parish Meeting; 9/5/07 AGM; 27/6/07;12/9/07; 24/10/07;  
5/12/07

Meeting Closed at 9.45pm

Philippa Fuller, Clerk