

Minutes of a Meeting of Bergh Apton Parish Council on Wednesday 21st May 2008 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

1 Members Present

Parish Members present: Elizabeth Robinson (chair), Theresa Parfitt, Karen Myhill, Graham Harber, Derek Blake,
Apologies: Cllr Adrian Gunson, Matt Price and Richard Herring

In attendance Philippa Fuller (clerk), Cllr John Fuller and 0 members of the public

2 Apologies For Absence & Declarations Of Interest

There were 3 apologies for absence.

3 Minutes Of Meeting Held On 7th May

Theresa Parfitt proposed and Graham Harber seconded that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th May 2008 are a true account. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

4 Matters Arising

Derek Blake reported that the landfill site, now known as Scop Hill, did not need any permission from the District Council to be known by this name. He also reported that the Waste Recycling Centre was required to have a key for the landfill site but they were not aware that anyone else was in possession of a key.

5 Public Consultation

There was no public consultation

6 Local Needs Affordable Housing

Abi Dennington-Price – Housing Strategy & Enabling Officer from South Norfolk Council and Peter Ramsdale from Saffron Housing Trust attended the Parish Council meeting to discuss Local Needs Affordable Housing.

In the past Bergh Apton had not been considered to be a sustainable community for affordable housing but since the change in administration last May villages like Bergh Apton can now be considered for a small number of affordable homes for local people only. Anyone who thinks they have a need should apply to join the housing register at the council. Saffron Housing Trust has been appointed to work with the District Council.

The first step is to identify local housing need: There are 2 options -

- 1) Abi Dennington-Price would undertake a combined analysis of data from South Norfolk Housing Register, the district-wide housing needs survey undertaken in 2006 and local knowledge and understanding of housing need in the area from housing officers in both South Norfolk Council and Saffron Housing Trust. She will also take into consideration the Parish Council's information and knowledge on local affordable housing needs. A proposed mix/number of homes would be based on the combined data collected.
- 2) Or a local housing needs survey could be undertaken in the village. This is an effective way of being able to uncover 'hidden' housing need – ie. Households in affordable housing need who – for whatever reasons are not on the housing register. This can often include households in need of adapted housing.

Following on from the above the next step is for the Parish Council to identify sites which may potentially be suitable for a small affordable housing development, (there would need to be about ¼ acre per dwelling which is about 150 square metres) The planners would then give their informal

comments as to whether the sites may be suitable, in principle, for affordable housing. A notice could also be put in the Bergh Apton magazine.

7 Finance

Clerk to send off a VAT request for £469.03

Authorisation of payments:

Renewal of Village Insurance – Zurich Municipal - £605.10

Audit Commission £141.00

8 District and County Councillors' Reports

Cllr John Fuller reported that there was grant money available (about £1,000) for small community projects.

9 Police Report

PCSO Kevin Nightingale attended the meeting – he reported that there had been very little crime in the Village, there was a theft of chemicals, a burglary from a non-dwelling and a theft of a vehicle. Loddon and Chedgrave are areas of concern and a mobile camera will be used shortly in known hotspots.

10 Items for Future Agendas

Bergh Apton Magazine, request for funding £65.00

J&H Bunn for virtual hosting of berghapton.org.uk £76.38

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Dates Of Future Meetings: 2/7/08, 3/9/08, 8/10/08, 26/11/08