

Minutes of a Meeting of Bergh Apton Parish Council on Wednesday 1st December 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Members Present

Parish Members Present Matt Price (chair), Karen Myhill, Theresa Parfitt, Richard Herring
In attendance: Clerk and 15 members of the public
Apologies Elizabeth Robinson, Suzanne Mayes, Cllr John Fuller, Cllr Adrian Gunson, Derek Blake

1 Apologies For Absence and Declarations of Interest

There were 5 apologies for absence. Due to a conflict of interest Matt Price was unable to participate in the Public Meeting.

2 Minutes of Meeting Held On 27th October 2010

Karen Myhill proposed and Theresa Parfitt seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th October 2010 were a true account. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

3 Matters Arising - There were no matters arising

4 Public Consultation - There was no public consultation.

5 District & County Councillors' Reports – There were no reports

6 Finance

- 6.1 Precept – this was agreed unanimously at £3,635 the same as last year
- 6.2 Clerks Salary and Expenses – 9 months April – end December Salary £997.95 expenses £66.03 stamps and mileage Total £1,063.98
- 6.3 Further Expenses – Stamps for APM £4.86, laminating pouches £8.99, Drawing Pins £1.15, - Clerk Total £15 Grand Total £1078.98
- 6.4 5 large crates to archive files @ £12.99 total £64.95, 5 reams A4 paper £13.99- 20% discount plus VAT Total £77.48 – Cheque to John Fuller
- 6.5 Repairs to Parish Noticeboard – Karen Myhill to get a quote
- 6.6 Graham Harber Fencing - £35.00 – Replacement of stolen fencing in playground

7 Local Needs Affordable Housing

This is low cost housing for local people only.

Clerk reported that she and Elizabeth Robinson met Kelly Biddle from Orwell Housing to discuss the surfacing around the village sign. It was agreed unanimously at the meeting that the surface would be grassed. It may also be possible to add the date in one of the walls, as has been done in the Taylor and Green houses opposite.

8 Play Area Inspection Report

There are various rotten beams and supports. Karen will obtain 2 quotes for the next meeting. There is a reserve fund of £1500 in the bank for this purpose.

9 Planning Applications

9.1. The Old Rectory, Mr and Mrs T Hardesty 2010/1870 Alterations and extension, demolition of single storey outbuildings – APPROVED BY PARISH COUNCIL

9.2. The Old Rectory, Mr and Mrs T Hardesty 2010/1869 Conversion of Redundant stables to residential use – APPROVED BY PARISH COUNCIL SUBJECT TO ACCESS BEING CONSIDERED

10 Planning Approval - Hall Farm Barn – Mr Meynell variation of planning permission

11 Events and Correspondence

12 Items For Future Agendas

noticeboard repairs, Play area inspection report

13 Dates of Future Meetings:

19th Jan, 9th March, 27th April Annual Parish Meeting, please note change Wed 25th May post-election AGM , 22nd June, 20th July, 7th Sept (HWRC) 19th Oct, 30th Nov, 11th Jan 2011 – Meeting Closed at 9pm

A PUBLIC MEETING FOLLOWED TO DISCUSS THE HWRC – PLANNING PERMISSION EXPIRES 2012

Following a discussion please find below the Parish Council's response to the County Council

Caroline Jeffery

Principal Planning and Policy Officer

Norfolk County Council

Martineau Lane

Norwich

Dear Ms Jeffery

The Household Waste Recycling Centre, Bergh Apton

As Clerk of Bergh Apton Parish Council I have been asked to contact you regarding the expiration of the planning consent for Bergh Apton HWRC in Welbeck Road, in 2012 and to convey the views of both the Parish and Parish Council.

At a public meeting with the Parish Council on 1st December 15 people came to give their opinions. The feeling of the meeting was that the planning consent should not be renewed. Many of those attending live close to the site and made the following points

- The site is physically remote from the main road network and light vehicle traffic, especially at weekends on the village roads, reduces local residents' enjoyment of their gardens

- Heavy Traffic is then generated whilst the waste is removed in the early part of the following week. There are issues of road safety and the ability of the road to support this traffic.
- The site is well run and has high recycling rates but not all waste is accepted, which creates fly tipping.
- Those residents most affected were 'promised' some years ago that the site would close in 2012 and are now dismayed that an extension is being considered.
- The HWRC facility in the neighbourhood is welcomed but it would be better closer to the main roads.

The Parish Council has taken full account of the objections of those living nearby, recognising that it has been the source of long-standing inconvenience to immediate neighbours. But it is also considered that:

- The presence of the site in Bergh Apton is an amenity to other local residents in Bergh Apton and elsewhere, especially considering the long distance that would have to be travelled to alternative facilities if it closed.
- This might generate more flytipping if people didn't wish to travel to other sites.
- The site is now open on only 4 days per week and the hours are limited. So, in theory, the impact on local residents is now less than before.
- As a Parish Council we are very concerned about what alternative use there might be for this site if it were to close.
- The site is well run and gives local residents the chance to recycle their household waste. The site is consistently the highest performing site in Norfolk for recycling. If it were to close, recycling rates would fall.

The Council feels that it should place both sides of the argument in front of the District & County Council so that it might make a fully informed decision about renewal in due course.

The Parish Council is mindful that the immediate neighbours are seriously inconvenienced but that residents further away consider the site to be an amenity which they would miss if it closed.