

# Minutes of a Meeting of Bergh Apton Parish Council on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

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## **Members Present**

Parish Members Present	Derek Blake (Chair), Bob Kerry, Karen Myhill, Jacqueline Byford Richard Herring
In attendance:	Clerk, Cllr Adrian Gunson, Cllr John Fuller and 1 member of the public
Apologies	There were no apologies

## **1 Apologies For Absence and Declarations of Interest**

There were no apologies for absence. Derek Blake declared an interest in planning as he is a member of the planning committee.

## **2 Minutes of Meeting Held On 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

The minutes of the last meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> November were approved and signed.

## **3 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising that are not covered elsewhere in the minutes.

## **4 Public Consultation**

The Chairman closed the meeting. There was no public consultation.

### **4.1 District & County Councillors' Reports**

County Councillor – Adrian Gunson reported that £83 million had been secured from the Government (as part of the Government infrastructure project,) for the Northern Distributor Road, the County Council will need to put in £20 million – if all goes according to plan work could start in 2015. Work has started on the access roads in advance of the dualling of the A11 at Elveden – main construction work will begin in January 2013 and take 18 months to 2 years. There is no council tax increase this year which has been helped by a Government grant for one year. Money will be needed for more surface dressing on the roads and for the care of the elderly and young people in care. The white lines on the Trowse bypass need refreshing. The drainage on Mill Road is poor and more gullies are needed. The missing arm on the signpost at Lower Kiln Lane pointing to Bergh Apton is missing – this has been reported. The fire hydrant cover has sunk badly near the concrete block works – this has been reported. On the Bungay Lane at the junction with Loddon Road on the Red Lion side of the road the sign saying Unsuitable for Heavy Goods Vehicles has been stolen for the second time from land belonging to Highways - despite being concreted in it was taken within days – highways are not keen to replace this due to the cost. Brooke Street will be closed at the end of January for 6 weeks then Welbeck will follow this is as a result of the replacement of water pipes.

District Councillor – John Fuller reported that 1500 development sites had been put forward to South Norfolk Council, it is expected that by early March this will be whittled down to about 100. The brown bins are proving to be very popular; the rates of recycling in South Norfolk are 43%. There are to be small grants of around £200 given to community projects for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, Bob Kerry will pass this information back to the Local History Group – details will be announced soon. It is hoped that the Long Stratton Bypass will eventually happen as part of a proposal for new housing in the area.

#### 4.2 Tree Warden's Report

Linda Davey has volunteered to be the new tree warden. New hedging was planted in Bussey Bridge in December.

#### 4.3 Police Report

In December there were 5 reported crimes 1 burglary in a dwelling, 2 criminal damage, 1 theft and 1 violence against another person. PCSO Kevin Nightingale, who attended the meeting, also reported that there would be more Police coverage in this area at night and that mobile laptops are now provided for use in the police cars. A new Policing model has been introduced: All policing for our district will now come under the command of our District Commander, Chief Inspector Tracey Prowting – South Norfolk will be split into 2 hubs, Hub 1 based at Wymondham will be managed by Inspector James Brown who will have 5 sergeants (one per shift) and will manage Costessey, Wymondham, Hethersett/Mulbarton, Poringland and Loddon Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT). Hub 2 is based in Diss. Each SNT will have a beat manager supported by PCSO's, the beat manager will now be the local point of contact. All Police Officers will be working from the 2 hubs and will have also been allocated responsibility for an SNT area to boost local staff. There will now be 2 response cars attached to each SNT.

The Chairman re-opened the Parish Council Meeting.

### 5 Finance

5.1 It was agreed unanimously to freeze the precept at £3635

5.2 Additional Insurance cost for playpark £57.57

5.3 Grant Request to fund 1,500 maps 'Bergh Apton Walk No 1 – A Green Way' £270 – John Ling, this was agreed last meeting clerk re-wrote the cheque on the new Barclays account.

5.4 Norfolk Association of Local Councils – after discussion a vote was taken whether to join the Association it was decided not to join - vote was 3 to 2. Derek Blake to ask whether it would be possible to have Councillor training at South Norfolk Council as has happened in the past.

5.5 Hire of Village Hall 3 sessions @£14 per session - £42.00. Discussion took place about the proposed price rise from £14 a session to £30 a session. Clerk was asked to contact the village hall management committee to ask them to reconsider as it means a 10% rise in the precept. Alternative venues in which to hold the meeting will be investigated as the price rise makes the village hall unaffordable.

5.6 War Memorial – Fairhaven, carving of 3 additional names £149 plus VAT £168. The PCC will pay the Parish Council back for this work and the Parish Council will reclaim the VAT

### 6 Play Area

Swings will follow hopefully in the first half of next year subject to funding. Clerk waiting for quotes for the work.

### 7 Removal of Dog Bin

Derek Blake is organising its removal.

### 8 Grit Bin – Church Road

Clerk has spoken to Duncan Edwards at the County Council the grit bin is to be filled next week.

### 9 Sewage Smell, Church Road

Derek Blake will report to Anglian Water

## **10 Standing Orders**

Derek Blake will put together the new Standing Orders for the next meeting.

## **11 Scop Hill**

Clerk has contacted Andy Soanes to obtain a price for mending the damaged sculpture on Scop Hill, the right arm of one of the dancers is missing – the price indicated is around £300. Action: Richard Herring to contact Andy Soanes.

## **12 Planning Applications –**

The Old Rectory – Mr T Hardesty 2011/1985 – Removal of paint from brickwork to external elevations – APPROVED, but it was noted that work had already started prior to planning permission being given.

## **13 Planning Approval – none**

## **14 Village Hall Management Committee**

£5,372 was raised from the auction of promises event towards the refurbishment of the village hall – which will cost around £150,000. A grant of £20,000 was given by BACAT. Please see above point 5.5 Re: discussion about the price rise for hire of Village Hall from £14 to £30 – it will necessitate the Parish Council finding another venue for meetings, or reducing the number of meetings per year, or the precept will have to rise by 10%

## **15 Phone Box – Hellington Corner**

Clerk to find out the paint details and pass on to Karen Myhill.

## **16 Events and Correspondence**

## **17 Items For Future Agendas**

Dates of Future Meetings: 22<sup>nd</sup> February HWRC special meeting to discuss the proposed planning permission. 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2<sup>nd</sup> May APM, 9<sup>th</sup> May AGM, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 1<sup>st</sup> August?? 12<sup>th</sup> September, 24<sup>th</sup> October, 12<sup>th</sup> December. Meeting Closed at 10pm