

Minutes of a Meeting of Bergh Apton Parish Council On Wednesday, 15th January 2014 at 7.30pm At The Village Hall

Members Present

Parish Members Present
In attendance:
Apologies

Derek Blake (Chair), Richard Herring, Bob Kerry, Jacqueline Byford, Karen Myhill
Clerk, County Councillor Adrian Gunson, and 1 member of the public
There was 1 apology for absence – John Fuller

1 Apologies For Absence and Declarations of Interest

There was 1 apology for absence. Derek Blake declared an interest in the planning section as he is a member of the Planning Committee at South Norfolk

2 Minutes of Meeting Held on 20th November 2013

The minutes of the last meeting on 20th November were approved.

3 Matters Arising

4 Public Consultation

Action: The Clerk will forward the response from David Edleston, the senior conservation and design architect at the Council to David Skedge who will contact him about the proposal regarding the possible designation of a new Conservation Area for the parkland bordering the north side of Threadneedle Street and Cookes Road and including land to the south of Cookes Road and north of Dodgers Lane to Pond Farm.

4.1 District Councillor's Report

4.2 County Councillor's Report

The Northern Distributor Road – Decision will be given by the Minister in 1 year. Postwick hub has got permission to start immediately. There is to be some improvement to broadband in Bergh Apton in the last half of this year. The Trowse bypass is to be resurfaced this year.

The Chairman re-opened the Parish Council Meeting.

5 Finance

5.1 There is no fee to be paid to the audit commission

5.2 Hire of Church for meeting 11th September £20

5.3 Hire of Village Hall 4 meetings @ £14 per hire £56

5.4 Precept - The precept was discussed and was agreed as follows,

Precept £3,595, Grant from South Norfolk Council £170, Total payable to Parish £3,765

2014/15 Band D Council Tax Charge £19.97

Therefore there is no increase in the precept again this year and this will be shown on Council Tax bills as 0.0%

Proposed by Derek Blake, seconded by Karen Myhill – Agreed unanimously

5.5 Playground Safety Inspection - £78 cheque was reissued as previous cheque had failed to arrive.

6 Ideas for use of phone boxes

Karen Myhill has researched containers suitable for holding leaflets containing village information. It was unanimously agreed to go ahead with this proposal. Action: Karen Myhill

7 Proposed re-siting of phone box – Mill Road

Ms Vivien Castleton who owns the land between Bilcar and Millers Cottage on Mill Road had previously reported her concern that the phone box represents a visibility hazard for her. The Parish Council rejected the idea that the phone box be relocated – it was agreed unanimously.

Ms Castleton inferred that when the Parish Council took over the 2 boxes in the village that this represented a change of ownership therefore the new owner should have a street furniture licence. The clerk was asked to contact Helen Mellors Development Manager at South Norfolk who in turn suggested she contact Adrian Jacklin at the County Highways Department. UPDATE: Since the last meeting Bob Edwards from the County Highway Department has confirmed the following: 'This piece of Street Furniture has existed for a number of decades. The fact that it has changed ownership (from BT to the Parish Council) makes no difference. It is an established piece of Street Furniture and does not require a retrospective licence.'

8 Scop Hill

Nothing to report

9 Planning Applications

- 9.1 Planning Appeal – Land East of Millers Cottage, Mill Road appeal by Ms Vivien Castleton – No additional comments for the inspector
- 9.2 The Manor Threadneedle Street – garage and storage above – withdrawn
- 9.3 HWRC - Variation to condition 2 of planning permission ref. C/7/2012/7009 to allow amendment of infiltration basin layout

10 Planning Approval

11 Events and Correspondence

A letter has been received from Saffron Housing Trust following a survey carried out at Tenwinter Pightle it was highlighted that the open ditches are a cause for concern as far as falling between levels. It's an all year round concern as in the winter the ditch may be full of water up to 1100mm deep and in the summer the vegetation will have grown up to hide the ditch. Another area of concern is the lack of street lighting at this junction. South Norfolk Council would not need planning permission for a fence up to 1 metre high, but they would prefer not to see it in situ. Clerk has responded saying the Parish Council would prefer a hedge with an appropriate shrub ie. Hawthorn. Saffron Housing are in the process of obtaining costs to plant Hawthorn along the internal edge of the ditch and they will maintain it.

Post Office – Clerk has liaised with Green Pastures about their plans for a new post office. Planning permission has been granted and a meeting has been arranged with Wendy Hamilton from the Post Office. James Debbage told the Clerk that they intend to complete all the necessary work on costings and funding between now and the Spring and commence the building work in the Summer. They hope to apply for some grants to assist. There is a new noticeboard on the gable end of the farm shop.

12 Items for Future Agendas

Dates of future Meetings: 26th February, 16th April, 14th May AGM/APM, 18th June, 30th July, 3rd September, 26th November, 7/8th January 2015

Meeting closed at 9.00pm