

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 2nd September 2008 held in the Parish Rooms, Townhouse Road, Old Costessey at which the following were present:-

Mr J Amis – Vice Chairman

Mr R Piesse Mr B Mackie Mrs V Bell Mrs D Bates Mr A Bedford Mr T East
Mr J Denby Mrs R Jackson – Parish Clerk Miss A Starkings – Assistant Clerk
44 members of the public

APOLOGIES 321/08: Apologies were accepted from Mr P Cockaday, Mrs L Glover, Miss M Doggett, Mr R Smith, Mr A Todd, Mr G Watt, Mr S Watt and Mr W Dinneen.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

322/08: Mr J Denby, Mrs V Bell and Mr T East declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning applications as they are, or maybe, a member of the South Norfolk Council Planning Committee. They made it clear that although a view may be taken by this Council, they remain open to further information or views, which might be presented at the South Norfolk Council Planning Meeting.

COMMUNITY CENTRE PROPOSALS FOR QUEENS HILLS DEVELOPMENT

323/08: Mrs Bell gave a detailed history to date explaining that the Queens Hill Development had a long process of planning and the money originally allocated for the Community building, despite being index –link, would not provide two facilities. In order to ensure the development had the best facility possible within the limits of the funding the Parish Council had suggested in 2002 that the originally planned Sports Pavilion to be sited on the playing fields and the Community Centre to be built in the developments centre, should be amalgamated into one building constructed on the edge of the playing field. That remains the Parish Councils view. The Parish Council answered resident’s questions and heard comments on the Community Centre, the bus lane, bus shelters and the proposed bus service, the condition of the roads and severity of the speed humps, lack of street lighting and no Parish Council notice-board on the development. The Parish Council assured the residents that they were very much part of Costessey and the Parish Council would lobby and support them where they could and where appropriate in their efforts to secure improvements in these areas. It was noted the Headmistress at the school was actively working to make the school very much part of the community and had already organised several community activities at the school. The school caretaker, who was present, said he felt sure a notice-board could be erected adjacent to the school. It was suggested the residents form a ‘Residents Association’ so they can lobby as a group. The Parish Council was thanked for its help and all but one resident left the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 29TH JULY 2008

324/08: After two small amendments the minutes were approved and duly signed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 29TH JULY 2008

325/08: Min 304/08 **Draft Proposal For Unitary Government in Norfolk.** After some discussion it was RESOLVED that this Council can see no obvious gain for the people of Norfolk in any of the three options put forward. The ‘wedge’ idea in particular has no sense of identity and would not

therefore generate a sense of community. However, regardless of whether the County is re-organised or not, Parish and Town Councils should have increased empowerment with the appropriate resourcing.

326/08: Min 309/08: **SN Housing Waiting List.** There are currently 272 applicants (3200 people altogether) 1 of which is 'emergency' category and 174 classified as 'low need'.

327/08: Min 311/08: Clerks are not permitted to be members of the **South Norfolk Scrutiny Committee** but may be called in to advise if required in the future.

328/08: Min 317/08: An update was given **on threat of closure of the Norwich Road Post Office.** At present everything that can be done has been done. The campaign has been very successful and has brought together many members of the community. The Post Office representative made it clear that if the decision is to keep Norwich Road Post Office open no other Post Office would be nominated for closure as a result.

329/08: Min E11/08: Details of the **agreement from Norfolk County Council regarding the proposed bus shelters on the Queens Hills Development.** Council RESOLVED to accept the proposals subject to, if the bus shelter proposed proves to be impractical the County Council replacing it at its expense.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

330/08: RESOLVED to comment on the planning applications as follows:-

- **6643 – 14 CROWN ROAD** – Retention of single storey extension – Approved subject to no neighbour objection.
- **6644 – PHASE 3, SW QUARTER, QUEENS HILLS, RINGLAND LANE** – Reserved matters application for the creation of 100 2,3 & 4 bedroom houses, plus garages, drives, car parking, roads and paths – Refused. No application should be permitted beyond Phase 1 until full assessment of the infrastructure and community benefits which will accrue as a result of the additional dwellings which is appears will be built in Phase II and above.
- **6645 – 50 WEST END** – New internal walls and roof light - Approved subject to no neighbour objection.
- **6646 – 41 ASHTREE ROAD** – Proposed annexe and garden room to rear of existing dwelling - Approved subject to no neighbour objection.
- **6647 – LAND TO THE NORTH OF THE RIVER TUD, COSTESSEY QUARRY, LONGWATER BUSINESS PARK** – Sand and gravel extraction from 3 areas of land to the north of the River Tud as an extension to Costessey Quarry, including construction of haul route and Bailey bridge with restoration to mixed deciduous woodland and acid grassland to lower level. Approve subject to measures being put in place to deal with dust emissions both at the point of extraction and on the access roads, and noise controls to prevent nuisance to nearby residents. Also the restoration must be conditioned as detailed including the planting and aftercare of 37,000 trees.

331/08: Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 – High Hedges. RESOLVED to comment the fee of £350 will be prohibitive to many people and that, if a fee is levied, it should be no more that £50.

332/08: Joint Core Strategy for Broadland, Norwich & South Norfolk – Council noted that Costessey had been earmarked for more housing.

CORRESPONDENCE

333/08: Buildings Opportunities Conference – 26th September 2008 involving promotion, management and sustainable development of Norfolk's historic church buildings. Mr Piesse to attend.

334/08: Norfolk Waste Partnership Conference and AGM 2008 to be held on 23rd October 2008. Mr Amis and the Clerk to attend.

335/08: Mr A Bedford presented his report on the **Summer Conference** he had attended. Noted.

336/08: Norfolk Annual Emergency Preparedness Study Day - 7th October. Mr Amis and the clerk to attend.

TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS MATTERS

337/08: Work on **re-lining the bus stops in Costessey** will begin on 1st September 2008 - Noted

POLICE MATTERS

338/08: Information regarding **20mph speed enforcement** – Noted. Council were concerned there was no police enforcement of 20mph zones as they felt many did not have sufficient physical measures in place to ensure drivers do not exceed this speed.

339/08: **'Policing our Communities Together** – Noted

340/08: Policing Plan – 2008/11 – report ending 31st March 2008 – Noted.

FINANCE MATTERS

341/08: Accounts for June & July 2008 – RESOLVED to approve in the balance sums of £301,169.16 and £374905.70 respectively

342/08: Gardwell revised annual contract – RESOLVED to accept the revised contract

343/08: Receipt on Agency grass cutting fee – Noted.

344/08: Norwich Door to Door – Request for donation – RESOLVED to donate £50.

345/08: Clearance of ponds in the Gunton Lane Recreation Area. RESOLVED to accept the quotation of £300 to bring in the equipment and £300 per day to a maximum of £3000.

346/08: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY FOR CONSIDERATION – RESOLVED to adopt.

347/08: STAFF MATTERS The Clerks verbal *confidential* report was noted. Council RESOLVED the Clerk should proceed under the advice of the Solicitor.

348/08: COUNCILLORS QUESTION TIME – There were no matters raised.

The meeting closed at 10pm.