

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 7pm on Tuesday 29th January 2008 in the Parish Rooms, Townhouse Rd, Old Costessey at which the following were present:-

Mr W Dinneen – Chairman
Mr J Amis – Vice Chairman Mrs D Bates Mr Bedford Mr J Denby Mr T East
Mrs L Glover Mr B Mackie Mr Piesse Mr G Watt Mrs Jackson – Parish Clerk
PC Barker Mr I Parkes - Norfolk CC Mr E Tyrer – Mott MacDonald 5 Public

Apologies

25/08: RESOLVED to accept apologies from Mrs V Bell, Mr P Cockaday, Miss Doggett, Mr Smith, Mr A Todd, Mr S Watt and Miss Starkings – Parish Clerk's Assistant

Declarations of interest

26/08: Mr East, Mr Watt and Mr Denby declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning applications as listed as they are, or may be, a member of the SN 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 SN Council planning meeting.

Presentation by Mr I Parkes and Mr E Tyrer on the Transport Innovation Fund

27/08: Mr Parkes said a range of measures are being considered to address the traffic congestion in and around Norwich City. One of those under consideration is road/congestion charging. He felt that if this was introduced it was likely the charge would only be levied at peak times so as not to harm the commercial viability of the City Centre. The range of measures is currently being considered and assessed and no preferences or decisions have yet been reached. The key issue is public acceptability. Whatever is decided it has to make Norwich a better place and be an alternative to the car.

28/08: Norwich is among 10 authorities who are undertaking such a study and it is being supported by the government as they want a better understanding of what can be done and what might be the pitfalls. In Cambridgeshire and Manchester the authorities have already applied for funding for "extensive and imaginative" packages they want to introduce.

29/08: The plan was for 33,000 homes and 35,000 more jobs to be provided by 2021 so the potential traffic growth associated with that had to be accommodated. (It was pointed out that Mr Gunson had assured this Council, when it expressed concerns about the volume of traffic which would emerge from the west end of the Northern Distributor when built, that there would be no more than there it is today although Costessey Parish Council and many others remain very sceptical about that reassurance).

30/08: Mr Parkes said that lots of ideas were being considered in order to attract more people to use the bus service rather than their cars.

31/08: Mr Parkes and Mr Tyrer took several questions. The Chairman sincerely thanked them for an interesting presentation and both gentlemen left the meeting.

Police Matters

32/08: Council RESOLVED to take Police matters next to allow PC Barker to leave the meeting.

33/08: PC Barker detailed the recent crimes and incidents in Costessey and said there had been an increase since Christmas which “was concerning”. However, the Police were following up leads relating to some of the crimes reported.

34/08: He reported a speed camera had now been purchased and funding allocated for the high-visibility jackets. They would need to designate a keeper who could make it available for calibration as required. In the next few weeks it is hoped to start training volunteers in the use of the speed gun. Two volunteers have come forward but more are needed.

35/08: PC Barker emphasised the need for people to be security conscious, for example, not leaving valuables on view in your car, securely locking all premises including sheds and garages, etc.

36/08: PC Barker was thanked for his attendance and for keeping Council well informed and he left the meeting.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th January 2008

37/08: Those present – remove ‘Mr B Mackie’. Apologies add ‘Mr B Mackie’. Subject to this amendment it was RESOLVED to accept the minutes as a true record and they were duly signed.

Matters arising from the Parish Council minutes 8th January 2008

38/08: Min 4/08; Those who had attended the exhibition on the **Greater Norwich Development Partnership** found it disappointingly vague and uninformative. Concerns were expressed about the ability of the infrastructure to support the proposed expansion. Also, how are the jobs to be attracted? The Clerk would formulate a response to the document.

39/08: Min 21/08 **Cricket Square**. Mr Denby expressed concern that the wickets on the ends of the Cricket Square had not been used last season. He said it was essential to use the whole square. He also said the Sport Club had either not repaired or not adequately repaired the wickets which were used immediately after the game as in the agreement drawn up before last season. He also asked whether the Sports Club carried the necessary insurance for the use of the motorised roller and whether those who drive it are suitably qualified to do so. It was RESOLVED a further maintenance agreement should be drawn up with the Cricket section of Costessey Sports Club before the beginning of the season.

Planning - applications, appeals & other planning matters

40/08: It was RESOLVED to comment on the planning applications for consideration as follows: _

- ◆ 6558 – **Greenhow, Folgate Lane** – Extension to dwelling. *Approve subject to no neighbour objections.*
- ◆ 6559 – **Land at Ernest Gage Av/William Frost Way, Longwater Business Park** – Erection of garden buildings and conservatories, ancillary administration/wc accommodation for display and sales together with related products. *Approve.*
- ◆ 6560 – **90 Longwater Lane** – Permanent change of use from residential to carpet fitting business. *Refuse. Inappropriate commercial development in a residential area. Loss of*

residential amenity. Undesirable precedent. The nature of the business requires large delivery vehicles visiting the premises on a very regular basis. These are not suitable in a residential area and obstruct the road, footway and neighbours driveways. The applicant has had twelve months to find a suitable commercial location for this business.

◆ 6561 – **39 Upper Breckland Road** – Ground floor side and rear extensions. *Approve subject to no neighbour objections.*

◆ 6562 – **20 Lime Tree Avenue** – Extension to rear of dwelling. *Approve subject to no neighbour objections.*

41/08: Naming of residential development off Norwich Road – RESOLVED to agree to naming this development Ottaway Close.

42/08: Naming of residential development off East Hills Road. RESOLVED to suggest 'Alice Baker Close' for this development.

43/08: Premises Licence for Exhibition Hall, Costessey Showground 23/24 February – No objections.

Correspondence

44/08: Reply from T-Mobile re mast provision locally and Briefing Newsletter for Drayton residents and others re proliferation of masts – Noted.

45/08: Consultation Document on Orders and Regulations Relating to the Conduct of Local Authority Members in England – Noted. No comment.

46/08: Local Authority (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 (SI No 1159) – Adoption of paragraph 12(2) specifically. RESOLVED to adopt para 12(2).

47/08: Northern River Valleys Neighbourhood Forum – Next meeting, Wednesday 19th March at 7.30pm in Owen Barnes Room. Noted.

48/08: Attlebridge Landfill Site meeting – 31 January – Noted.

49/08: Wind Chimes in the Cemetery – The contents of the letter were noted. Council felt it had to introduce measures which are on balance the best for the majority. RESOLVED not to change decision to refuse to allow wind chimes from Costessey Parish Cemetery.

50/08: Donation of a gift to mark 70 years of Old Costessey WI. Council asked if consideration could be given to donating an attractive bench to replace the plain one on the grass verge outside Freshstore as Council would like to see this area enhanced.

Alternatively, the offer of a bench to be erected on the verge outside Greenhills Wood has not yet materialised. The Clerk was asked to check with the person who was proposing to give a bench for this location to see if he still intends to do so. If he does not, this might be another location the WI could consider.

51/08: Request for Longwater Recreation Ground Skate/BMX Park. At present Council could not immediately identify a location where such a facility might go. However, the area was under review as part of the Costessey Centre project so the request would be kept in mind. However, it should be noted there is a ramp at Breckland Hall Recreation Ground.

52/08: Alfred Munnings Plaque – Mr Mackie reported Mr Cowley is in the process of making three plaques so the best can be chosen for erection.

53/08: Greenhills Wood – Further letter re decision on tree-felling. Noted.

Traffic & Highways Matters

54/08: Closure of A1067 at Taverham – For information re local impact. Noted.

55/08: Highway Furniture – Dog Faeces Bins, Litter Bins and Grit Bins – Letters etc. Report deferred to the next Parish Council meeting.

Finance Matters

56/08: Revised Accounts and Audit Regulations for Costessey Parish Council. Amendments to item 11 as per standard format recommendations. Consideration of wording and amounts. RESOLVED to approve as presented.

57/08: Resignation of member of staff. Noted. Council expressed thanks for the good work and best wishes for the future. RESOLVED Mr Dinneen and Mr Amis should interview the prospective replacement.

58/08: Old Friends – Request for concessionary hire. RESOLVED to suggest they seek a grant from the Norfolk Community Foundation and if that is unsuccessful approach the Parish Council again.

59/08 Norfolk Community Foundation – Increase in grant funding for 2008. Noted.

Councillors Question Time

60/08: Items raised were:

- a. **Barbed wire fencing at the Old Cricket Ground.** (It is believed this belongs to AWA who own the adjacent land.
- b. **NEWS**, which has been a Local Authority Waste Disposal Company since it was formed in 1993 and wholly-owned by Norfolk County Council is now to **be transferred to the NORSE Group**, which is again a wholly-owned company of the County Council, which also holds the shares in the two other County Council companies, **Norfolk County Services (NCS) and Norfolk Property Services (NPS)**. NEWS will continue as a freestanding company within the Group. (It was asked whether this is a Public Limited Company and whether it could be taken over.)
- c. Mr Mackie reported on the progress with the construction with the **new school on Queens Hills**. There is some concern as there are very few children on the site at the moment.
- d. Mr Piesse said he would present a written report on the work of the **South Norfolk Alliance Partnership** to the next meeting. The next SNAP meeting is 6th May.
- e. Concern about a **Kite Board** being used on Longwater Lane Recreation Ground.
- f. **Potholes** at junction of Longwater Lane/West End, East Hills Rd/Roundwell Rd and Folgate Lane/Sidney Rd.
- g. **Larger Parish Councils** meeting to be held at North Walsham on 19th February.
- h. Mr Denby reported on meetings at South Norfolk.
 - i. He had made a plea for **more facilities at Costessey** following the latest local deprivation report.
 - ii The **Travellers Liaison Group** is well on the way to making firm proposals for new sites.

iii **Enforcement** action has been approved for the removal of development **at The Squirrels, Ringland Lane.**

i It is understood **works are to start in Richmond Road** shortly on the water/drains. The works should be completed in March.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm.

After the conclusion of the meeting the Parish Council took **Public Participation**

Items raised:-

- a. **Road collapsing between 19 and 21 West Road.**
- b. **Garden waste being dumped in Bunkers Hill.**
- c. **The bank has collapsed outside 8 Breydon Drive** and there is a crack in the road.