

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

Mr W Dinneen – Chairman
Mr J Amis – Vice Chairman Mrs D Bates Mr A Todd Mr J Denby Mr B Mackie
Mr R Piesse Miss M Doggett Mrs L Glover Mr G Watt Mr S Watt Mr P Cockaday
Mrs V Bell Mr A Bedford Mrs R Jackson – Parish Clerk Miss A Starkings – Asst Clerk
Mr R Rymarz – Clerk’s Assistant 27 members of the public

APOLOGIES

295/08: Apologies were accepted from Mr R Smith, Mr T East and PC Barker.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

296/08: Mr J Denby, Mr G Watt and Mrs V Bell 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.

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15TH JULY 2008

297/08: Mr B Mackie was added to the list of attendees. Min 294/08, item 4 – delete ‘are now being’ and insert ‘will be’. Subject to these amendments minutes were approved and duly and signed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 15TH JULY 2008

298/08: Min 280/08: **The Street.** Traffic concerns and issues in The Street were discussed with a large number of the public present. They were in essence concerned about the speed of traffic in The Street (the speed limit is, it was felt, ignored by the majority of drivers); the inadequacy of, and possibly even dangers created by, the traffic management scheme there; how pedestrians were intimidated and sometimes abused; and indiscriminate parking. The Clerk said that Norfolk County Council Highways were currently reviewing all traffic management schemes in Costessey and a budget had been allocated over the next two years for enhancement works. The Parish Council had also pressed once again for further footway provision in The Street and had recently been informed that monies would be allocated for some additional footway although no detail had been given as to how much that budget would be or indeed where the additional footway might be provided. The Parish Council expected to have a further meeting with the Highways Engineer undertaking the review in the next few weeks. Various suggestions were put forward including more and larger traffic cushions, a one way system with a footway all the way through and a pedestrian crossing near the mini-roundabout on West End. The Parish Council suggested residents write individually to Mike Jackson, Head of Planning & Transportation at Norfolk County Council, expressing their concerns to bring the whole issue into higher profile.

299/08: Min 281/08: The Parish Clerk thanked all Councillors and Parish Council Staff for their kind cards, flowers and thoughts following the recent death of her mother.

300/08: Min 282/08: 6632 – **Community Centre, Ringland Lane.** This matter was discussed with several of the residents of Ringland Lane present.. It was universally agreed that the position of the Community Centre was not acceptable. The public raised concerns about noise, traffic, parking and the raised level of the playing field. They did not feel a Community Centre should be built on the playing field but should be sited in the centre of the development as originally planned, there being just a Sports Pavilion on this site. The Parish Council felt it could not easily serve the community for which it was being built and the parking was totally inadequate. They question why the filtration pit had been apparently moved so the site for the Community building, identified two years ago at a meeting of all involved parties, was no longer acceptable. The Parish Council said that they had supported the Community Centre and the Sports Pavilion being incorporated into one building on this site as the funding allocated would barely build one useful building so this was the best compromise. The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to recommend this application is refused for the reasons given above.

301/08: Council **RESOLVED** to take a further item from the public present. Mr & Mrs Irving reported that their son had been riding his cycle on Longwater Lane Recreation Ground close to the cricket square and had fallen off his cycle catching his neck on the rope around the square causing a rope burn. Mr and Mrs Irving thought the rope was not visible enough. The Clerk said that in her 19 years with the Council, as far as she could recall this was the first time there had been any reported incidents concerning the rope around the square. The Parish Council also had all their premises inspected every year by a qualified health and safety officer to identify possible risks and this had never been identified as one. However, in an effort to be helpful the Clerk said she would purchase a rope of a different colour.

302/08: Change of **age range at Queenshill Primary School** to change to 3-11 years. **RESOLVED** not to change previous decision in this matter.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

303/08: **RESOLVED** to comment on the planning applications as follows:-

➤ **6641 – 46 CROWN ROAD** – Side extension and erection of dormer to facilitate loft conversion – Approved subject to no neighbour objection.

304/08: **RESOLVED** to defer until the September meeting discussion on the **Draft Proposal for Unitary Government in Norfolk** so all Council members can study the information in full.

305/08: **RESOLVED** to approve the list of **locations for litter bins in Costessey** subject to no loss of litter picking time from the District Council and the approval of the Highways Authority.

306/08: Verbal report given by Mr J Denby and Mr J Amis on the recent **Attlebridge Landfill Liaison Committee**. A suggestion was put forward to disband this group which was heartily rejected by the Committee.

307/08: The Clerk reported on a recent NCAPTC seminar she and Mr Amis had attended where one of the speakers gave a riveting talk on **light pollution**. The speaker said the desire was to direct light where it was needed and at the level needed not to switch lights off necessarily. Flat bed street lights will reflect the light down and not let it rise as the round lights do. Norfolk County Council has a

policy to use flat bed lights but is still installing round ones in some locations. With Norfolk County Council currently looking at replacing its lighting throughout the County it was felt it would be useful if as many Councils as possible could remind them of their policy. Council RESOLVED so to do.

308/08: Broadland DC Supplementary Planning Document on Affordable Housing. Noted.

309/08: Greater Norwich Housing Strategy – Key issues in the strategy and an action plan. Noted. The Clerk was asked to ascertain how many Costessey residents are currently on the housing waiting list.

CORRESPONDENCE – VERBAL AND WRITTEN

310/08: Age Concern Great Sunday Lunch – Noted.

311/08: Vacancy for a member of **South Norfolk Council Scrutiny Committee.** RESOLVED the Clerk will put herself forward for the position.

TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS MATTERS

312/08: Where recent works have been undertaken on part of the verge in Townhouse Road rain water is still collecting in puddles on the side of the road even after comparatively light rain.

POLICE MATTERS

313/08: SNAP is still very successful and if any Councillors could attend any SNAP meeting in the future it would be very beneficial for all. The SNAPS are to amalgamated

FINANCE MATTERS

314/08: It is hoped the **accounts for June** will ready by the next Parish Council Meeting.

315/08: RESOLVED to pay the **Local Council Advisory Service** renewal at a cost of £135.00.

316/08: Council were delighted to hear that confirmation had been received for an **interest payment on their VAT reclaim** of £2337.29.

PROPOSED CLOSURE OF NEW COSTESSEY POST OFFICE

317/08: An update was given after a recent **Post Office meeting** held at Breckland Hall. The next Post Office meeting is due to be held at 2pm on Tuesday 5th August in the Parish Rooms.

STAFFING MATTERS

318/08: The Clerk informed Council Mr Kevin Feavyer has been **appointed as a part time cleaner at Breckland Halls.**

319/08: Council RESOLVED to award a **one spinal point merit increase** to the Assistant Clerk in recognition of her excellent work in the maintenance of the Parish Council accounts.

COUNCILLORS QUESTION TIME

320/08: Items raised were:-

- ◆ The **'topping out ceremony'** of the opening of **Gray's Fair Court** will be happening shortly.

- ◆ The application **to build wind turbines at Lotus** has received full planning permission.
- ◆ **‘Computerised Counselling’** is not felt to be a good way to give help to many adults or children with psychological problems. Talking to someone gives better results and Mr Piesse hopes the new surgery will offer this type of counselling.
- ◆ **Drainage works have been completed underground along Gunton Lane.**
- ◆ The new **Indian Take Away** at the Harte of Costessey is not causing any problems but youths gather on the car park some evenings which can be a disturbance to local residents.
- ◆ **South Norfolk have rescinded the ‘zero-waste’** policy as this does not allow for incineration of waste. It has also rescinded the **‘no nuclear power’** policy.
- ◆ Mr Amis has been invited to attend a meeting concerning the **Harford Travellers site.**

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.