

**OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL, MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD AT 7.30 P.M., ON THURSDAY 8th AUGUST, 2002,
AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET**

PRESENT: Mrs G Masdin – Chairman
Mr S Dunn Mr K Leggett Mrs A Riches
Mr B Sabberton-Coe Mr M Vincent Miss P Wilkin

APOLOGIES: Mrs P Mattocks Mr D Thompson

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

299. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 11.07.2002.

The Chairman signed the minutes, which had been confirmed and adopted by the Council.

300. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 289.4. Bowls and cricket. There was a possibility that another bowls club might consider using the green next year. The Groundsman had made some limited preparations to create another cricket wicket; the matter had not yet been discussed with the Cricket Club.

Minute 295. Post Office Closure. Mr S Dunn reported on the meeting he had attended at Age Concern; a vacancy could not be advertised until the sub-postmaster had given notice of his intention to close the Post Office. It was AGREED to write again expressing the Council's concern to the head post office and to copy the letter to Ian Gibson MP and Norman Lamb MP.

301. RECREATION GROUNDS AND CEMETERY

301.1. Fencing at Church Street Recreation Ground. The revised quotation, including barbed wire was still awaited.

301.2. Application for a fete in 2003. A charity called the Musical Keys had asked if they might hire the Recreation Ground for a fete at Spring bank Holiday in 2003. This was AGREED. Two members offered to pay the hire fee for the group.

301.2. Cemetery, siting of memorials for ashes. The Cemetery Working Group had decided on the siting of the memorials. Two memorials would be placed the next day.

301.3. Cemetery, general maintenance. It was AGREED to arrange to cut the hedge next to the road as it was high and very untidy and to plant bulbs in the bank below the hedge. Disposal of the surplus soil from graves was discussed and it was AGREED that a gate should be cut into the adjoining field and to dispose of the soil there. The field belonged to the Council and was earmarked for an extension to the Cemetery and rented to A J Ward and Son.

302. VILLAGE HALL TOILETS

The attached confidential report was accepted.

A Planning Supervisor to prepare a Health and Safety Plan and to advise on Health and Safety matters had been appointed. The tenders for the work would be opened on 19th August.

303. WAR MEMORIAL

303.1. The builder had returned to the site and was getting on with the work for Mr Buxton. The site was not square and it was AGREED that one side of the front retaining wall (which was loose) should be rebuilt to make it look even. This would be an extra to the contract cost.

303.2. The British Legion's Committee had written to Broadland District Council objecting to the removal of the old memorial; this would be dealt with when Mr P White returned from holidays on 14.8.2002. Members were surprised that the British Legion Committee should do this at such a late stage and had not mentioned it to the Council. As the relatives of the men named on the memorial that had been contacted were very pleased about the new memorial the Committee's attitude was difficult to understand. Members were concerned that a delay could lead to the work not being finished in time to arrange a dedication before Remembrance Day.

304. PROPOSED NEW COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The Council had agreed the new structure and members had all indicated which committee they preferred to serve on. Every member would sit on the Committee of his or her choice. It was AGREED that the Chairman of the Finance and Policy Committee should be able to sit on the Planning and Property Committee as he or she wished. Each Committee would elect its own Chairman and Vice Chairman at its first meeting, as usual.

It was AGREED that agendas for all meetings should be sent to all members.

305. FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR BROADLAND

The Boundary Committee had decided to proceed with the creation of a three member Old Catton and Sprowston West ward for the District Council. Its report 'emphasised that its proposed warding arrangements did not indicate a preference on its part as to the future boundaries of parishes in this area'.

306. CHEQUES, PAYMENTS AND COMPARISON WITH BUDGET

The attached list of vouchers numbered 173 to 222 was approved, and comparison with the budget noted.

307. NCAPTC, AGM

It was noted that the AGM would be held on Saturday 12th October, members wishing to attend should let the Clerk know. Resolutions for debate had to be submitted by 16th August and nominations for officers by 31st August.

308. CORRESPONDENCE

The attached list was received and discussed as follows:

Mr S Dunn's report on the Freedom of Information Act was received. Broadland District Council would be organising a Parish Forum on the subject on 12th September. If any members were able to attend they should inform the Clerk.

309. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

309.1. No positive information had been obtained about the delay in beginning the traffic calming works. It was AGREED to write to Norfolk County Council's Director of Planning and Transportation expressing the Council's concern and displeasure, and asking for an explanation and details of when the work would begin. Copies would be sent to Mr L Austin, Wimpey Homes and Broadland District Council. Broadland District Council would be asked about the roundabout at the junction of Lodge Lane with St Faiths Road that had been a part of the planning consent but had not yet been constructed.

309.2. Junction of St Faiths Road with Fifers Lane. As the Traffic calming works would be delayed Norfolk County Council had been asked, and had agreed, to provide some oak bollards in an attempt to stop vehicles mounting the footpath.

309.3. Members were unhappy about the number and size of bollards provided by Norfolk County Council at the corners of George Hill with Lucerne Close and felt that the apparently high expenditure was not warranted. It was AGREED to write to Norfolk County Council expressing concern about this expense.

310. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

310.1. Planning application to extract gravel at Horstead. There was nothing to report, the matter had not yet been discussed by Norfolk County Council.

310.2. It was AGREED that Mr S Dunn's report of the LCAS seminar should be placed on the agenda for the Planning and Property Committee.

There being **no further business** the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 9.30 p.m.

Chairman, 29.08.2002

