

**OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL, MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
HELD AT 7.30 P.M., ON THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2002,  
AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET**

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

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

**APOLOGIES:** Mr M Vincent, Mr D Thompson

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

**242. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14.02.2002.**

The minutes had been confirmed and adopted by the Council on 28.02.2002.

**243. MATTERS ARISING**

Minute 228.1. Celebration of the Queens' Jubilee. Mrs P Mattocks had received 11 responses to the 24 letter sent out. There would be 6 organisations attending a meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> March.

**244. RECREATION GROUNDS AND CEMETERY**

244.1. Boundary fencing at Church Street Recreation Ground. Copies of the deeds had been obtained and clarified some of the boundaries.

There was a requirement to maintain a live hedge at the boundary with Garrick Green. It was hoped that the Groundsman's extra attention to this hedge would improve it.

There had been an obligation to fence a short length at the side of the rear garden of 145 Spixworth Road that had not been kept. It was AGREED to obtain quotations to fence this section with a six feet high chain link fence with either metal or concrete posts.

The areas next to the school were the responsibility of the school and had been fenced, recently, by the school. The boundary of the old police house was not the Council's responsibility but had not been fenced by the owner of the property.

The other boundaries had been fenced, inside the actual boundary, by the Council in 1972. It was thought the insurance company had suggested this.

244.2. Trees. A price had been obtained to remove some of the trees at the western side of the Recreation Ground. This quotation was for £250.00 and would pay for 2 men for 2 days. The options for the trees were discussed. The trees had been planted very close to the boundary and were likely to double in size. Residents of the neighbouring properties were unhappy about the proximity of the trees. It was AGREED to crown thin the trees in accordance with Miss MacQueen's recommendation but to delay placing an order until the possibility of grant help from Broadland District Council had been investigated.

244.3. Recreation Ground gates. The blacksmith consulted about making new gates had checked the gates and felt they were too good to replace. He suggested adding some embellishment to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee. It was AGREED to ask for his suggestions and prices for this and also to ask how the locking arrangement might be improved.

244.4. Matters arising from the Recreation Grounds Management Committee meeting on 7.03.2002.

It was AGREED that a chemical storage cabinet was needed, an order would be placed.

Skateboarding was discussed and it was noted that Lavare Park would be the preferred site, or failing this, possibly the amenity land at the Lodge Farm development. It was noted that there was already a facility for skateboarding at the Fiddlewood estate.

244.5. Land adjacent to Lavare Park. Confidential notes of the meeting with Broadland District Council's Planning officers are attached and were discussed. It was AGREED to add an extension to the pavilion, for use by a Youth Club, to the list of S 106 requirements. Brown and Co would be invited to arrange another meeting to discuss the matter further.

#### **245. VILLAGE HALL TOILETS, PROGRESS REPORT**

The insurance company had accepted liability for the subsidence of the toilet block, in principle. The company had been asked if its funds could be used to help pay for the new toilets and a reply was awaited.

#### **246. BUS SHELTERS, GRANT APPLICATION**

Some evidence of need had been requested, one letter asking for a new shelter had been received and others would help the case for a grant.

#### **247. DEVELOPMENT AT LODGE FARM, TO ARRANGE A SITE VISIT**

It was AGREED to meet at 6.30 p.m., before the next Committee meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2002, meeting at Repton Avenue.

#### **248. PLANNING GREEN PAPER**

The Council had not been directly consulted about this but had been contacted by Norfolk County Council pointing out the need to respond by 18<sup>th</sup> March.

There was a lively discussion of this item with differing views expressed about whether or not the Green Paper would be detrimental to Norfolk or beneficial. It was AGREED to write a letter, rather than fill in the form supplied, expressing the Council's wish to continue to be fully involved with the planning process and asking to be consulted as the Green paper progressed.

#### **249. WAR MEMORIAL**

A meeting of the ad hoc committee had taken place and it had been agreed that any relatives of the fallen who could be traced would be contacted and informed about the project and the change of memorial lists. It was AGREED that the new tablets would not be polished.

#### **250. DEVELOPMENT OF 'APPLEACRES' AT ST FAITHS ROAD, LIGHTING**

Norfolk County Council had asked if the development should be lit, and, if so, who would be responsible for the maintenance of the lighting. It was AGREED that the development should be lit and the lighting maintained by Norfolk County Council.

#### **251. TRAINING FOR COUNCILLORS AND CLERK**

237.1. The Clerk had successfully completed the 'Working for your Council' course.

237.2. Mr S Dunn, Mr K Leggett, Mrs G Masdin, Mrs A Riches, Miss P Wilkin and the Clerk would attend the NCAPTC Seminar and Update on 19.03 2002.

#### **252. NEW AUDIT REGULATIONS**

It was AGREED to obtain quotations for internal audit.

#### **253. ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES FOR DISTRICT COUNCIL, LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

The LGC had made various recommendations that were quite different from those made by Broadland District Council and agreed with the parishes concerned. The recommendation was that a new District Electoral ward be created called Old Catton and Sprowston West with three District Councillors. This would comprise the present Catton ward, plus part of Sprowston (Moore Avenue, Proctor Road, Pioneer Road, Archer Close, Tills Close, Tills Road and Lowry Cole Road).

The reason seemed to be based on the numerical imbalance in Broadland District Council's recommendations where Old Catton would have 2505 (plus 23% over the average number) electors per district councillor and Sprowston West would have 1935 ( minus 5%).

It was AGREED to oppose this suggestion. It was felt very strongly that the Parish and District boundaries should be the same and that changing the District ward boundary would lead to suggestions that Parish boundaries should also be changed.

#### **254. CHEQUES, PAYMENTS AND COMPARISON WITH BUDGET**

The attached list of vouchers numbered 519 to 560 was approved, and comparison with the budget noted.

It was agreed to reallocate money from the budget to other budget headings in accordance with the attached list.

## 255. CORRESPONDENCE

The attached list was received.

## 256. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 256.1. Mr S Dunn had been asked to deal with a complaint from a resident of Three Corner Drive about dogs' excrement in the Village; the resident had supplied a video of the offending areas. It was AGREED to ask Broadland District Council to deal with this and to urge prosecution of any offenders and to send a copy of the letter to the complainant,,
- 256.2. It was AGREED to ask the owner of the Manor House in Church Street to cut back the shrubs that were impeding pedestrians in the front garden.
- 256.3. It was noted that there was an accumulation of rubbish in Church Street in a corner between the school wall and the entrance to Blacksmiths Way.
- 256.4. It was AGREED to tour the Village on foot in June or July.
- 256.5. It was AGREED to write and congratulate the Middle School on its successful Ofsted inspection.
- 256.6. Planning application for a fence at 52 West Acre Drive. Members had visited the site and felt that the type and height of the proposed fence were not in keeping with the open plan layout of the area.

There being **no further business** the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 10.15 p.m.

Chairman, 11.04.2002