

**OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL, MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE,
HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2005,
AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET**

PRESENT: Mr B Sabberton-Coe – Chairman
Mr C Green Mr K Leggett Mr D Little
Mrs G Masdin Mr M Vincent Miss P Wilkin

APOLOGIES: Mr B Leggett Mr D Thompson

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

50. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr K Leggett declared his interest as a member of Broadland District Council's Planning Committee; he took no part in the discussion of item 51.

51. PLANNING

51.1. The list of planning applications was considered and recommendations made to the Planning Authority, Broadland District Council, as noted on the attached list

51.2. It was noted that the Planning Inspector would be hearing an appeal by Tarmac Limited for a mineral working near Horstead and Stanninghall on 13, 14 and 15 December 2005 at the Tithe Barn, Horstead. Members were welcome to attend and speak if they wished. The Council had objected to the application because of the additional traffic that would be generated at North Walsham Road. Norfolk County Council had refused the application.

51.3. Norfolk County Council invited comments about how it should involve the community when preparing minerals and waste planning documents.

51.4. Broadland District Council had sent a copy of the Inspector's Report on the Replacement Broadland District Local Plan.

52. MINUTES OF 10.10.2005

The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

53. CHURCH STREET RECREATION GROUND

53.1. Safety surfacing in the play areas. The Recreation Ground supervisors had been conducting a survey of children's preferences. So far there were 20 children in favour of sand and 6 in favour of the black rubbery type of surface. Comments had been invited in the current newsletter and would be reported to the next committee meeting.

53.2. Garrick Green entrance. The old chain link fence had been replaced at a cost of £895.00.

53.3. MUGA. A quotation to resurface the existing hard area and to fence three sides (excluding the side shared with the tennis court) with suitable material was just over £18,000. From preliminary research it seemed probable that a 90% grant would be available from Wren, Biffa or both. Also Broadland District Council had confirmed that

S106 funds from Sabberton Builders could be released if additional use was made of the area.

It was AGREED to obtain further quotes to include fencing all four sides and also to replace the floodlights. It was also AGREED to discuss the matter with the sports groups at the Recreation Grounds Committee meeting on 21st November.

If the project went ahead it was thought that the middle school might be interested in hiring the facility.

53.4. Football Training. The ground problems with evening football training were due to the very poor drainage in the floodlit area. There was also a security issue as the Recreation Ground gates were left open during training, allowing access to people not involved with the training. Serious damage had been inflicted on the bowling green recently by studded boots.

It was known that officials of the Junior Football Club (JFC) had stated, informally, that they would prefer to train on grass at Lavare Park, where the drainage was good.

It was AGREED to ask the JFC for its views on carrying out the evening training at Lavare Park and to obtain quotations and details of grants available for floodlighting the five a side area there.

53.5. Any other matters. Mr K Leggett suggested that the Committee consider improving the play equipment for young children. It was AGREED that the provision of equipment for all age groups and the disabled be considered for the future. It was noted that this had been suggested by residents in the Parish Plan.

54. WOODHAM LEAS AMENITY LAND

Broadland District Council's conservation officer, Mr Chesney-Beales and the Parish Tree Warden had agreed an outline planting scheme. Mr Chesney-Beales had not favoured planting in the centre of the land and had made suggestions of a hawthorn hedge adjacent to the fence of 37 Woodham Leas, a group of Hornbeam 7 – 10 metres from the fence of 30 Woodham Leas, a group of ornamental thorn trees or sorbus 7 – 10 metres from the fence of number 28, with a later scheme to extend the planting of the existing hedge adjoining the Priors Drive land. Mr Chesney-Beales had offered to supply the trees and a quantity of chestnut fencing to protect them until they were established.

Members also wished for some more central planting to 'break up' the land and it was AGREED that Miss P Wilkin and the Clerk would supervise the planting and ensure this happened.

55. LAVARE PARK

55.1. Storage for JFC. The Club had not given any further information about their wish to have a storage facility at the Church Street Recreation Ground and to remove all their stored equipment from the pavilion at Lavare Park. It was noted, however, that the ground at Church Street was already too wet for heavy plant to access the ground with the storage unit.

The situation if the training was moved to Lavare Park was discussed and if the

storage facility should be sited there, rather than at Church Street.

It was AGREED to allow the JFC to continue to store equipment at Lavare Park pavilion temporarily while the situation was being resolved.

55.2. Damage. It was noted that the fence around the play area had been repaired and a broken window replaced.

56. CEMETERY

56.1. Improvements to entrance. The railings and new gate had been completed and looked very good.

The owner of the adjacent field had removed the damaged and unsightly gate post.

56.2. Meeting of bereaved relatives. The meeting had been cancelled as only 6 people had expressed an interest by the date given for replies. It was felt that a meeting should be re-arranged when the evenings were light. It was AGREED to arrange the meeting for Monday 8th May 2006 at 7.30 pm, at the Pavilion. The Planning and Property Committee meeting would be held before that meeting at 6.30 pm.

56.3. Trees. Mr Chesney-Beales and the Tree Warden had looked at the avenue of weeping silver birch and felt that they were not ideal for their situation. Mr Chesney-Beales was researching suitable small trees, his recommendation was awaited.

57. CHURCHYARD

57.1. Damage to west wall. The Council's insurers were waiting to hear from the Community Service Unit as part of the damage claimed would have been its responsibility; also for an engineer to assess the damage.

58. COUNCIL OFFICE, SIGNING

It was AGREED to obtain a quotation for the next meeting for a sign to be fixed to the notice board in the entrance to the Recreation Ground and another to be fixed to the building.

59. NOTICE BOARDS

It was AGREED to order an 'infopost' from Queensbury (the supplier of the shelter) for the bus shelter at Spixworth Road at a cost of £93.50, including carriage and excluding fixing. Its use would be restricted by its size of 210 x 594 mm. This would replace the notice board that had been vandalised.

The Old Catton Society had written asking about the loss of the board at Spixworth Road and suggesting there was a need for more boards in the South of the Village. The Committee's plans would be explained to the Society.

It was AGREED to provide a plan of the Village showing the situations of the existing

notice boards with the agenda for the next meeting. The Committee would then prioritise need.

60. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

60.1. Junction of St Faiths Road with Fifers Lane. The letter asking the Highway Engineer for more information had been discussed at the Council meeting on 27th October when it had been agreed not to seek further advice.

However some members felt strongly that they needed more information and it was PROPOSED by Mr M Vincent and SECONDED by Mr K Leggett that Standing Order 35 be invoked to rescind the Council decision. This was AGREED by a majority vote.

It was then AGREED that the following questions be put to the Highway Engineer –

- Do you agree that traffic density in Church Street and St Faiths Road would be likely to increase if a mini roundabout were created at the junction of Fifers Lane with St Faiths Road?
- Would it be necessary to acquire land, or use existing highway land currently verges or driveways, to create a mini roundabout?
- If a mini roundabout was not created would any alternative traffic controls improve safety and traffic flow?

The reply would be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

60.2. Junction of Church Street with St Faiths Road. A resident had asked the Council to consider his suggestion of the creation of a traffic island at Church Street where it joins St Faiths Road; he felt it would assist pedestrians in crossing the road. The suggestion was discussed but not favoured; it was felt that an island would be vulnerable and that pedestrians should not be encouraged to cross there but to cross further into Church Street where the road was narrow.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 9.04 pm.

Chairman 12th December 2005