

**Minutes of the Meeting of Mundford Parish Council
Held at Mundford Cricket Club
on Thursday 7th January 2010**

Present:

Cllr. M Eyles, Chairman, Cllr J Goad, Cllr S Eyres, Cllr A Shepherd, Cllr D Goodrham, Cllr J Marston, Cllr J Miles, Cllr T Fox, District Councillor Ann Steward, County Councillor Ian Monson who arrived at 8.30pm, Mrs F Brown (Clerk to the Council) and 2 members of the public.

1. The Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed those present. He explained due to the weather conditions that the Council could not use the school for the meeting and thanked Cllr Marston for allowing the meeting to go ahead in the Cricket Club. He explained that it was not ideal to use a licensed premises but it was exceptional circumstances. The Chairman explained the procedure of the meeting to new members of the public. He declared the meeting open.

2. Apologies for Absence

Councillor C Weight.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Thursday, 3rd December, 2009.

The minutes were duly agreed and signed as a true record.

4. Declarations of Interest

None to declare.

5. Meeting suspended for public participation

Sue Scott, a local resident, explained that she was keen to start a project for the youth of the village. She is a youth worker herself and has a lot of connections within the children's services network. She is aware that there are pockets of money available for projects and wanted the Parish Council's comments and hopefully support. She explained that she attended the last Village Hall meeting and mentioned her idea of starting a monthly Youth Cafe. In her opinion it would help capture the energy of youngsters in the village, but also they can be helped by offering other services like careers advice, drink and drugs advice etc. A meeting has been set up and will be advertised for Wednesday 3rd February at 7.30pm at the Village Hall to determine what support she receives from the village. Sue will also ask youngsters at the bus stop for their comments and hopefully support. The Chairman explained that her project is very relevant to discussions the Council had had recently, and did acknowledge that there is a pot of money that the Council have since the last Youth Club disbanded. He asked Ms Scott if she liked the idea of a Youth Shelter but her personal opinion was that they caused more problems than solving them. The Council was in agreement.

Questions were asked on had she considered how many staff was needed and what procedures she would have in place. Ms Scott was very knowledgeable due to her working background, but did admit that she needed quite a lot of volunteers to get the project off the ground and all helpers would need to be CRB checked. Cllr Goad advised that they were 3 to 4 months behind with these which meant the project would take a while to get up and running. Ms Scott was keen to point out that she wanted it to take a while so they got it right and that all procedures and policies were

**Minutes of the Meeting of Mundford Parish Council
Held at Mundford Cricket Club
on Thursday 7th January 2010**

in place. The project would be advertised for Mundford Youngsters but it will not just be restricted to them, it will be open to other teenagers from other villages. The Chairman thanked Ms Scott for her comments and asked her to keep the Parish Council informed.

Another local resident, Paul Chegwidden, explained his concerns over the increased level of speed and bad driving standards he has viewed over the last few months. He stated that he had lived in the village since 2001, but had moved away in that time to return recently. The difference in his opinion had been very noticeable. He mentioned the new properties that had been built on the Swaffham Road and in Ickburgh which had increased traffic entering and exiting the area. However, his main concern was the speed of traffic. In his opinion 50% exceeded the speed limit of 40mph and it was only a matter of time before an accident will happen. He asked if the Council could ask for a speed survey to be undertaken.

The Chairman empathised with Mr Chegwidden, but did point out that the Parish Council had already had some speed surveys done in the village. He asked Cllr Goad to explain further. Cllr Goad described what the surveys did and what results were given. He also explained that the SAM2 survey was in motion 24hrs a day to get a constant evaluation, but again the findings showed that 90% of drivers were within the limits. The biggest problem, thankfully, was the lack of accidents and fatalities on this road, so the Council do not have a case to ask for calming measures or a reduction in speed limit. Mr Chegwidden did point out that a couple of the 40mph signs are covered with foliage which doesn't help. Clerk to report this.

Cllr Steward advised that she will discuss this issue with Cllr Monson but asked Mr Chegwidden to e-mail her with his concerns.

Cllr Fox stated that he had seen a lot more Police presence in Hingham and he thought it was due to a new project called the Parish Speed Watch. This involves three parishioners that are trained to use a speed gun and note down registration numbers of offending vehicles and write to them with a warning letter. Cllr Goad stated that problems do arise from this as the letters are not enforceable and in cases the registration number could be written down wrong. In conclusion it is Amateurs doing a professional job. Cllr Goad pointed out that the Police presence and the speed watch are not linked.

It was decided that the 40mph sign should be placed from the area it is now to the entrance into Ickburgh from the A1065 to try and reduce speed earlier into the village, and countdown signs to the mph reduction. The Clerk will contact Highways with this request.

6. Matters Arising:

6.1 Outstanding Highway Matters

White Lines on junction of Crown Road and A134, and outside 14/16 Crown Road.

This is on Highways work schedule from 16/10/09, however this will not be completed until the weather improves as the paint does not stick to the surface when it is wet. It also depends when funds are available. The area outside 14/16 Crown will not be considered by Highways.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Mundford Parish Council
Held at Mundford Cricket Club
on Thursday 7th January 2010**

22, Fir Close – Tarmac humps on road

Highways informed the Clerk that they have spoken to the resident of this property and he is a disabled pensioner who drives a disabled scooter. He felt that the current humps had not been built well and he is trying to get social services to replace them with ramps that are acceptable. Highways are going to contact him again in the spring to give him the time to sort this out with social services. The Clerk recommended taking this off the agenda for now but will keep this on the list.

Concrete base to be removed from roundabout

This was reported to Highways who advised that it is probably a Breckland matter. This has since been reported to Breckland but the base is still there at the present time.

Flooding outside 33, Fir Close

This had been reported to Highways and it the drains in that area have now been flushed out. However, highways have advised that the area needs further investigation and will contact the Council after this has been done. This will be not be done until the spring when the weather is better so the Clerk recommended taking this off the agenda for now as Highways will keep the Council informed.

31, St Leonards Street – flooding problems

The owner of No31 has experienced many problems with flooding and it is now coming through her walls. Highways have visited the area and agreed that there needs to be a permanent solution here. Highways have stated that they have to apply for funding for anything costing over £1k so The Clerk has asked the resident to take photos of the area when the flooding is at its worst so that evidence can be given to Highways to help with their funding application. This problem is unlikely to be dealt with for some time and the resident is aware of this.

Bus services

Three e-mail responses were read out by the Chairman and a list of responses from the W.I on what bus services they would like to see in Mundford. These responses will be sent to Karl Buffin at NCC as requested. The new Swaffham Bus Service starts on Saturday and the Council will see how popular this is before thinking about contributing to further routes.

Chairman's report on LDF meeting

The Chairman stated his displeasure over the lack of notice that Council's were given on a meeting to discuss the LDF on 11th December 2009 at Mundford Village Hall. The Chairman attended on the Parish Council's behalf and explained to the Council with help from photocopied plans of Mundford, what plans Breckland Council have for the village. There will be a consultation period for 6 weeks from April 2010 and final decisions will be made in October with a further 6 weeks for objections. The Chairman also explained what the plans were for Hilborough and Ickburgh. Cllr Ann Steward explained that it had been a heated meeting at times, and she explained the process gives people plenty of time for their comments.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Mundford Parish Council
Held at Mundford Cricket Club
on Thursday 7th January 2010**

Litter Pick

The Chairman requested this to be discussed at the next meeting due to the current bad weather.

Breckland Pride Scheme

The Parish Council's bid was successful and the Clerk needs to complete some forms to apply for the money.

No Cold calling in Brecklands

The Clerk read out an e-mail confirming that the sign will be erected shortly.

Mole Hills on land opp Malsters Close

Previous to the meeting Cllr Fox managed to secure a quote for £60 which was a lot cheaper than the original quote we had received and this was decided to go ahead with. Due to the terrible weather conditions they couldn't complete the job, but will go ahead again when the weather improves.

Pigstye Lane Dyke

The grill has now been made and this will be installed when the weather is better.

The Chairman asked if there were any other matters arising from the Minutes and Cllr Fox asked the Clerk to read out an e-mail response from Sue Arnold at Breckland Council that he had received stating that Mark Clayton at Browns Garage has failed to submit the necessary applications for various matters. Cllr Fox believed that the Parish Council has been misled. The Chairman explained that this was to do with Browns and Breckland Council and we should therefore not get involved at this stage.

7. Correspondence

All correspondence has been circulated prior to the meeting.

8. Finance

The following payments were authorised at the meeting 7th January 2010 by the Parish Council and cheques signed by Cllrs M Eyles and S Eyres

Cheque	Description	Total
101090	Community Car Scheme	£ 250.00
101091	Litter Warden	£ 65.00
101092	F Brown (salary/tel/mileage)	£ 604.68
101093	M Eyles, Gardener	£ 65.00
101094	MHB services Street Light Maint	£ 288.91
101095	Mr D Freeman (Bus shelter cleaning)	£ 60.00
101096	Mundford Primary School (flyers)	£ 15.00
101097	Mr P Lynch (distribution of flyers)	£ 10.00

8.1 Internal Auditor

The Chairman explained that due to the Clerk being the previous Internal Auditor, a new one was needed. The Clerk had approached a local resident and accountant, Mrs

**Minutes of the Meeting of Mundford Parish Council
Held at Mundford Cricket Club
on Thursday 7th January 2010**

Serena Barnes and she agreed to help. The Chairman asked for the Council's approval and this was proposed by Cllr Goodrham and seconded by Cllr Shepherd.

8.2 Sponsorship of roundabout

The Clerk finally received an e-mail reply from Mr Smith on his plans for the roundabout. He will pass a basic plan onto the Clerk shortly so this can be passed onto Highways for their approval. There was a short discussion on previous ideas for the roundabout and concerns over covering utilities on the roundabout. The Chairman was keen for a decision on whether everyone was happy to go ahead with Mr Smith's plans for the roundabout and this was agreed to.

8.3 Future Projects

i) Swaffham Bus

This service is due to start on Saturday even if the weather is bad. There has been a good response from the village. The Clerk had drawn up a contract for both parties to sign so that we were both protected. The Clerk has also asked for copies of their insurances and CRB checks so that these can be put on file in case the Audit Commission needs to see them.

ii) Village Hall Car Park Extension

The Chairman explained that the quote from Trelle was a lot more than he had expected so he had asked a local person for their ideas. It seems as though the project to include drainage is looking at a figure of around £20-30k at this stage but he will look into this further.

iii) Over 60's lunch club

Cllr Goad wrote a letter to the over 60's to present to the committee stating the Council's offer of helping financially. The Clerk had also received a phone call offering help from a local resident, but was unable to speak to her before the meeting.

The Clerk had received a few phone calls requesting grit bins for the village. The Chairman asked the Council their thoughts. Cost and liability were discussed. Cllr Fox asked if the grit lorry could come round the village as this would help at the present time. The Clerk explained that she had asked NCC for their help but had got nowhere. Cllr Monson arrived as this was being discussed and explained that he will call them tomorrow and ask for the grit lorry to go through St Leonards Street. He will also ask for the route to be placed on the gritting plan for next year. He also mentioned that in his experience the yellow grit bins are often stolen so it maybe an idea to make some wooden ones that are plastic underneath. The Council thought this was a good idea so the Clerk will look into this.

9. Planning Applications

- 3PL/2009/1017/F 11a The Lammas, Mundford. Granted.
- 3PL/2009/1018/F 19, Fir Close, Mundford. Granted.
- 3PL/2009/1051/F 8, Cherry Tree Close, Mundford. Granted.

10. New Highway Matters

The Chairman reported pot holes on the A1065.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Mundford Parish Council
Held at Mundford Cricket Club
on Thursday 7th January 2010**

11. Street Lighting

The lantern outside 11a The Lammas has been replaced at a cost of £125 plus VAT. Light 9046 was reported as unlit. The Clerk to report.

12. Reports

Cllr Monson stated that Norfolk has plenty of salt due to PFI agreement that was in place which meant that they have regular supplies. There is also a street lighting scheme in discussion which means that some street lights will be turned off after 12am to save money. Cllr Monson stated that Mundford's lights will not be turned off. He discussed the Power station plans for the area just outside Croxton and Croxton's appeal against the site and if the Parish Council wanted to send their support in form of a letter to Croxton, then he would be able to give the contact details.

The increase of Council Tax will be known in the next few weeks but it will be kept down as much as possible. Cllr Monson is hoping for an increase of under 2% which is the lowest increase for 15 years.

Cllr Goodrham asked if the potholes on the A134 near Lynford Stag can be addressed as well as signs in that area which are either missing or facing the wrong way! Cllr Monson agreed to address this problem.

District Councillor Steward mentioned Thetford growth open days which are to take place on 29th/30th Jan and encouraged the Councillors to attend to see what plans are due to take place in the future.

Cllr Steward discussed the LGR consultation but stressed she didn't know what was going to happen. Cllr Steward and Cllr Monson will be informed in mid February on a decision. The benefit to the recent situation is that the Councils are all working more closely together.

The Clerk mentioned that she had a copy of the recent Ofsted report from the school and a set of Minutes from the last Village Hall Committee. These will be circulated shortly.

13. Members' Matters

Cllr Eyres stated that he felt the car park extension idea was a waste of time. It is especially poignant at this time of year when the existing car park is like a sheet of ice and very dangerous. He asked for a vote from the Council for this to be taken off the agenda. The Chairman defended the idea of an extension but asked for views of the Council. It was proposed that the idea was taken off the agenda.

Cllr Goodrham advised that he will not be able to attend the next meeting and asked for no correspondence to be sent to him until he advises otherwise.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.18pm.

Chairman: _____ Date: _____

**Minutes of the Meeting of Mundford Parish Council
Held at Mundford Cricket Club
on Thursday 7th January 2010**

Clerk: _____ Date: _____