

**Minutes of the Mundford Parish Council Meeting
Held at The Cricket Club, Mundford
on Thursday 3rd March 2016**

PRESENT:

Councillors J. Burton Chairman, S. Eyres Vice Chairman, C. Angus, A Shepherd, T. Fox, K Weight, D Goodrham, J Marston, D Frost, District Cllr M. Nairn and Mrs P Angus Clerk to the Council
There were three members of the public

1. THE CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The chair welcomed everyone

2. APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

County Cllr I Monson

3. ACCEPT AND SIGN THE MINUTES – to accept and sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 4th February 2016

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 4th February were accepted and signed as a true record. This was proposed by Cllr Angus seconded by Cllr Weight and 8 agreed.

4. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Marson and Cllr Goodrham declared an interest in item 8.5 and Cllr Weight for item 9

5. MEETING SUSPENDED FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(Note from the Clerk – as this was a sensitive matter I have put as much detail as possible for this part of the meeting)

A member of the public asked why they had not seen the February minutes – the Chair explained they are not published until they are signed which they were at tonight's meeting. The same member of the public said that she was at the meeting to discuss the planning application for the security fence at the bottom of Bracken Rise (3PL/2016/0107F) she said that it is very confusing as the post code is for West Hall and not Bracken Rise and she said that this had been done very deviously Cllr Weight (speaking as a member of public and not a Cllr at this point of the meeting) explained why this was, the resident asked Cllr Weight why on the map does it depict that the gate is going at the edge of Bracken Rise, Cllr Weight replied that is where the gate is going. At this point another member of the public asked if this would mean that the public are not able to walk across this land as they have done in the past and Cllr weight said this was the case as they would be trespassing. The Chair at this point had to ask that one person speak at a time. A member of the public said that there could be a conflict of interest here because Mrs Weight is a Willey (*referring to her maiden /fathers name*) and that Mr Willey had gone to court over the ownership of the land and had lost, Cllr Weight replied that this was incorrect, her father's court action was relating to a different piece of land on the other side of West Hall Drive behind Impson Way. A member of the public said she had checked and the land (*referring to the land at the bottom of Bracken Rise*) was unregistered, Mrs Weight asked when they checked this and the resident replied around 11 years ago, Mrs Weight replied that was before her father died and the land didn't have to be registered until it was transferred. The resident asked why the Council had come to the decision that they do not object to the planning application and the Chair explained that the documents are circulated to the Cllrs and the Cllrs had made a unanimous decision to not object (*Cllr Weight did not vote on this as she had a pecuniary interest*) the resident then said that as Cllrs you represent the people of the village and they would expect the Parish Councillors to support them. Many members of the public then started to speak all at once and again the Chair had to ask them to please speak one at a time. Another member of the group asked if any of the Cllrs knocked on doors and informed them of this application as nobody knew about it, the Chair explained that Breckland Council put up notices in the surrounding area, the resident said no such notice had been put up, the Chair explained that this matter was then down to Breckland and not the Parish Council. The resident then said again that nobody knew about this application until someone saw it on this month's meeting agenda. One of the residents then showed all the Cllrs a picture of what the gate would look like, Cllr Weight explained that the gate would have a wooden fence put in front of it in a style to match the existing fences on either side of the existing gateway. A resident asked what was going behind this gate - was there going to be containers and noise? Cllr Weight explained that it was to stop the fly tipping, there is broken glass, old toys, white goods etc. The residents said that there is no fly tipping going on in this area, Cllr Frost said that she did not agree as she had taken a look at the area in question and it was absolutely disgusting. At this point many members of the

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public started to speak again altogether mainly questioning Cllr Weight about the ownership of the land and the deeds. Cllr Weight told the public that if they check with land registry they will see that it is registered in her name, at this point a resident started to raise her voice asking where are the deeds, Cllr Weight explained that they are with the Land Registry and any one can see them. The Chair said that this type of conduct is totally out of order for this meeting. At this point the District Councillor Mike Nairn who was present at the meeting explained to the members of the public that the Parish Council can only object to a planning application if there is a sound planning reason for objecting, a member of the public said that there is a sound planning reason and Cllr Nairn replied that it would appear not. At this point the members of the public again started to speak all at once and the Chair again asked for some order. A member of the public stated that the Parish Council had shown no consideration for the residents in this area and have been very selfish. There was then various conversations regarding fence heights and Cllr Nairn pointed out that you cannot have a fence more than a metre high without planning permission he went on to explain that this land would be deemed as agricultural land until such times that a planning application is put in to change that, a member of the public remarked that there would be in this case and if there is then she hoped that the Cllrs would object to that instead of sticking with their friends, Cllr Goodrham objected very strongly to this remark stating that she was accusing the Cllrs of liaising with Cllr Weight over this matter the member of the public said that that is what she imagines goes on, Cllr Goodrham said that until she has proof of that do not come out with this accusation, at this point the conversation became very heated and loud and Cllr Nairn suggested that this matter be closed and the Chair called an end to this part of the meeting. The residents then started to leave the meeting, many remarks were made to the Council as they were leaving the building, one remarking "you are all in bed together" and another saying to Cllr Weight as she left "Deeds lady" The Clerk was questioned by two members of the public as to when they will see the minutes of the February meeting, the Clerk explained that they will go on the web site and notice board on Monday after this meeting, one of the members of the public said to the Clerk that she was to make sure that they are available for them to see this time, the Clerk and the Chairman explained again that the minutes that have been approved tonight will go on the website and the notice board and that all minutes are published in the same way after every meeting and are available for all to see. District Cllr Nairn said that the resident's remark regarding Cllrs liaising with each other over this matter was very unfair.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 Outstanding Highway Matters

Hawthorn Drive – The enforcement officer has confirmed that this fence is within the legal height and is not causing an obstruction. Flooding outside the Parish Office – The Clerk has chased this up with Highways.

6.2 Allotments – to discuss any outstanding matters

Plaque for Maryann Turner- Cllr Goodrham said that this was still with the manufacturer.

6.3 Scout Hut Area – to discuss any outstanding matters

Broken cover on the septic tank - a discussion took place and it was agreed that this was not a danger to the public and that this be taken off the agenda.

6.4 Handyman/Gardener – to discuss any outstanding jobs

New Plant Tubs for the end of Malsters Close have been purchased by the handyman. Benches –the benches are being treated and will be put back in their places as and when they are ready. Dog Bin – Adeane Meadow – a discussion took place and it was agreed that a new dog bin be placed by the salt bin in Adeane Meadow, this was proposed by Cllr Eyres, seconded by Cllr Goodrham and all agreed. The handyman reported that he would not be able to do the painting and cleaning of the chains as it is quite a large project for him to carry out, the Clerk has contacted Mr N Howe who has said he will get back to her with a quote.

6.5 Defibrillator – to discuss the next move

The British Heart Foundation have ran out of money and following a discussion it was agreed that the Clerk apply for some match funding from Breckland Council, this would mean that the Parish Council

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will need to spend approximately £500.00 on the defibrillator, this was proposed by Cllr Eyres, seconded by Cllr Fox and all agreed.

6.6 Pig Stye Lane – Diseased Tree and Mud

Public Highways department said they would be taking a look at the tree and the muddy area, the Clerk will chase this up.

6.7 Village Green Sign – update on the maintenance on base of sign

Cllr Eyres said that the repairs were in progress, this will be taken off the agenda.

6.8 Parish Councils Monthly Meetings – to discuss if the PC should have meetings every other month as against the current monthly meetings

Following a discussion it was agreed the Parish Council will continue to hold their meeting every month.

6.9 Fly Tipping on land opposite Impson way – to suggest leaflet drop in Impson Way

Following a discussion it was agreed that every resident in Impson Way will receive a letter regarding the fly tipping in the forest opposite Impson Way, it was also agreed that in the same letter the Clerk would mention the theft of the daffodils that have recently been reported to the Parish Council.

6.10 Grit Bin on Village Green

The Clerk had asked Highways if the Parish Council could lock the bin on the Village Green, this was following a report that people (not Mundford residents) were seen taking grit from the bin for their own use, unfortunately the bin has to be accessible to all so it is not possible for this to be padlocked.

6.11 Delivery of the flyer for the Annual Parish Meeting in April

Cllr Shepherd and Cllr Frost kindly offered to help the Clerk deliver the leaflets during the last week in March regarding the Annual Parish meeting in April.

7. CORRESPONDENCE – The Clerk will read out any outstanding correspondence received by the Parish Council

All correspondence was circulated before the meeting.

8. FINANCE

8.1 To Accept the Payments and Cheques for February 2016

The following payments were authorised on Thursday 3rd March 2016. This was proposed by Cllr Fox and seconded by Cllr Angus and all agreed. The cheques were signed by Councillor A Shepherd & Councillor T Fox.

Balance for February 2016	£ 7510.60
Minus the following direct debits	
E.ON Street lighting - energy	£ 255.60
Telephone/WIFI Parish Office	£ 53.55
Total direct debits	£ 309.15
Plus the following income	
Total income	£ 0.00
Total after direct debits + income	£ 7201.45

Cheque	Description	Total
101970	Void Cheque	£ 0.00

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101971	Viking Stationary – Printer Inks etc	£ 71.00
101972	LCPAS – Public Nuisance Training (put off until April)	£ 25.00
101973	Mrs P Angus - Salary	£ 611.62
101974	E-ON Parish Office	£ 197.69
101975	Icini Pest Control (January Inv)	£ 40.00
101976	Mr B McIsaac – Salary, Mileage and 4 Flower Tubs	£ 200.15
101977	Mrs A Shepherd CCS	£ 200.00
101978	Iceni Pest Control (February Inv)	£ 40.00
101979	Didlington Nurseries – Christmas tree and bedding plants	£ 173.00

Total of cheques paid = £ 1558.46
Balance in Community Account March 2016 = £ 5642.99
Balance in Savings Account = £ 22789.64 *
***Includes Chilzone Ring Fenced money of £ 1592.96**

8.2 Website – report from Mrs Godfrey

Mrs Godfrey has added events from the latest issue of the Connect and from local groups, backed up the website files and folders, updated WordPress and plugins, ran a security scan, checked the website statistics blacklisting referrer spam websites to prevent spam and fake activity hitting the website, added posts about Hospice neighbours with a link to the ‘Will you be a good neighbour’ poster, there were 206 visitors during February.

8.3 Bus Service – February passenger figures

There were 9 passengers on the 6th February cost £ 21.00 and 8 passengers on 20th February cost £27.00 total cost to the Council this month of £48.00

8.4 Playgroup application for financial assistance

No application received as yet from the Play Group.

8.5 Football Club application for financial assistance

The Football Club had applied for £4,000, a debate took place in which Cllr Shepherd proposed £4,000 this was seconded by Cllr Weight, Cllr Fox proposed £3,000 this was seconded by Cllr Frost, Cllr Eyres proposed £2,500 this was seconded by Cllr Angus, following a debate it was agreed to award the Football Club £2,500.

8.6 St Leonards Church application for financial assistance

The Parish Council are waiting to see the Church’s 2015 accounts before a decision can be made.

8.7 Internal Audit -to agree that Serena Williams will carry out the internal audit of Parish Accounts in April 2016

It was agreed that Serena Williams will carry out the internal audit in preparation for the external audit due in May, this was proposed by Cllr Goodrham, seconded by Cllr Frost and all agreed

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3PL/2014/0970/F Browns Kitchens Swaffham road IP26 5EH

Business signs, 1 fascia sign, 1 projecting sign and 3 hoardings (retrospective) dated 29th October

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Split decision has been made as follows – **Planning approval granted for the Mundford Gift Shop signs that are located outside the shop and on the fascia. Planning is not approved for all the car wash signs on the Browns site and the Mundford gift shop sign that is mounted on the fence alongside the car wash signs.**

Letters have been sent to Browns on the 20th January and the 15th February asking that the sign's are removed – if not legal action will be taken and the owner of East Hall Farm will be asking that the sign on the roundabout is taken down as it is on his land.

3PL/2016/0040F 34 Swaffham Road IP26 5HR

New 3 bedroom bungalow with detached garage and modified access to Highway dated 26th January

No objections

3PL/2016/0107F – West Hall IP26 5EB

Propose to erect a 6ft security fence dated 29th January 2016

No objections

3PL/2016/0079O 6 Green Lane IP26

Replace mobile home with 1 no dwelling dated 8th February 2016

No objections

Any planning objections can be registered by any individual on the Breckland Council website

10. STREET LIGHTING

Extensions on concrete posts – the lighting contractors have informed Cllr Eyres that it is not possible to extend the concrete columns however they are able to sleeve them and then extend the post. There is one light in The Lammas that has been extended and all who had seen it agreed that it was a vast improvement. Following a discussion it was agreed that the new lights that the contractors have put up for the Parish Council to trial are not suitable and that we would continue with the existing LED replacement lamps, this was proposed by Cllr Fox, seconded by Cllr Goodrham and all agreed, Cllr Eyres will provide the contractors with a new list for the next 6 lights. All 6 lights that were on the list provided to the contractors in February have now been done and the lights that were taken off these columns will be installed on 6 posts in Swaffham Road. It was agreed that a new street light is needed at the top end of Wissey View between numbers 20 and 21 and also in St Leonards, the Clerk will contact the contractors to discuss this.

11. REPORTS

11.1 District Cllr Mike Nairn

Cllr Nairn said that as we are probably aware the County Council will be putting up their Council Tax by 3.9%, the Police Commissioner by 2.9% and Brecklands are increasing theirs by 2%, he did point out that Brecklands have the lowest Council Tax in the country. The DCLG are trying to force all the local councils for Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridge – that's District, County, Borough and Town Councils to combine with an elected Mayor and Brecklands are undecided about this.

11.2 County Cllr Ian Monson

Not at meeting

12. MEMBERS' MATTERS

Cllr Marston reported a van that is parked at the entrance of Fir Close very close to the junction which is causing an obstruction and could cause an accident. Cllr Shepherd pointed out that a fence was being put up along the Swaffham Road that could possibly be too high. Cllr Goodrham said that the road that has been repaired in West Hall Road has now been tarred and chipped and it looks worse than before it was repaired as all the cracks are now showing.

With nothing more to discuss the meeting closed at 9.14pm

Chairman: _____ Date: _____