

**Minutes of the Meeting of Mundford Parish Council
Thursday 2nd October, 2008.**

Present:

Cllr. Eyles, Chairman, Cllr Fox, Vice-Chairman, Cllrs Eyres, Goodrham, Marston, Miles, Shepherd. District Cllr Steward, County Cllr Monson and 8 members of the public.

1. The Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed those present and declared the meeting open.

2. Apologies for Absence

None

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Thursday, 4th September, 2008.

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

5. Meeting suspended for Public participation

None

6. Matters Arising

• **Outstanding Highway Matters**

• **Village Roundabout**

Cllr Eyres informed the meeting that the grasses on the roundabout are taking hold but Sean Rickard will replace any that do not..

• **Benches**

Cllr Eyles is to obtain quotes for the concrete pads for the benches and the meeting agreed that the cheapest quote should be accepted. The Clerk had contacted Highways about the siting of the benches and a form has to be completed and returned before permission is given. The clerk is to complete the form and return to it to Highways. The Bowls Club was contacted about placing one outside the club and they are happy to have one sited there on the narrow verge.

• **Grass Verge A134**

Garth has completed the clearing of the verge and it was a difficult task. The Chairman asked the clerk to write and thank him for all the time and effort he has put

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in. The whole area looks much better and is ready for top soil and planting up next Spring.

- **Bulb Planting**

The second half of Impson Way and the entrance to West Hall Drive is to be planted with bulbs this year. Adeane Meadow is to be planted up next year.

- **Mundford Common**

The Council is to continue to seek to determine the ownership of the Common from the Land Registry. The Clerk is to request a search to see if the land is registered.

- **Footpath Crown Road**

A survey is to be carried out by Highways to see if a footpath is necessary.

- **Wreath for Remembrance Day**

The Council agreed a donation of £75.00 for a British Legion wreath for Remembrance Day. The clerk is to request a wreath and send the donation

- **Vacancies on the Council**

Cllr Goad has resigned for personal reasons. The Council asked the Clerk to write and thank her for all her work on behalf of the community. The Chairman asked the Clerk to put in place the procedures for filling the vacancies which exist on the Council.

- **Naming of the road on the Bennetts Development**

Breckland Council has noted the Council request and will contact again in due course.

- **Parish Office**

A notice had been placed in the window with contact details.

7. Correspondence

- A letter of resignation has been received from Cllr Goad.
- A letter has been received from Mr Weight about a vacancy on the Council.
- The Council had received several small donations for bulbs. It was agreed to spend the money on bulbs for the school grounds. Cllr Eyles is to forward the money to the school for this purpose.
- An invitation to Highways Open Day at Watton had been received. County Cllr Monson will be present. Highways are seeking to explain the practical side of their work to Parish and Town Councils.

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- The Council had received a letter about Payphone rationalisation but agreed that it did not wish to sponsor a payphone.
- A letter had been received from Alison Eyres at Mundford Primary School seeking help with funding for a defibrillator. Cllr Fox proposed that the Council donate the full cost of the defibrillator and Cllr Shepherd seconded it. The proposal was passed unanimously. Cllr Eyles is to forward the cheque to the school.
- A letter had been received from Colin Gibbard about the Council's request for Breckland Council to fulfil its obligations with regard to Pigstye Lane dyke. The chairman read out the reply. The whole matter is to be referred to the elected members and District Cllr Steward informed the meeting that she had spoken to the Chief executive. She informed the meeting that the issue was to be discussed early the following week and she would inform the Council of the outcome next Tuesday or Wednesday. Cllr Steward was asked to pass on the strong feeling of Mundford Parish Council.

8. Finance

- The following payments were authorised by the Parish Council and cheques signed by Cllr Eyles and Eyres.

Cheque	Description	Total
100942	Community car Scheme	£ 500.00
100943	S.L.Symonds Litter Warden	£ 65.00
100944	J Illsley Clerk, post, travel and vouchers	£ 435.51
100945	T Waring Village Green	£ 528.00
100946	M. Eyles Bulbs	£ 100.00
100947	British Legion Poppy Appeal	£ 75.00
100948	Benches for Village	£1165.00
100949	Paul Lynch Distribution	£ 10.00
100950	Bus Shelter Cleaning	£ 60.00
100951	Mundford Primary school Appeal	£1000.00
100952	W. Smith Grass Cutting	£ 312.55
100953	Anglian Water	£ 73.22

- Councillors looked at the budget breakdown for this year and current spending and Cllr Fox then proposed that The Council request a precept of £31,500 for the forthcoming financial year. This seconded by Cllr Eyres and agreed by all the Council. The clerk is to forward the Council request to Breckland Council.
- Cllr Shepherd requested an increase in the Community Car Scheme support for this month due to increased use of the scheme. She said she hoped things would be back to normal next month but would contact the clerk before the next meeting. The Council agreed to the increase.

9. Planning Applications

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- 3PL/2008/0782/O 24 Fir Close Appeal lodged
- 3PL/2008/1056/F site adjacent Barton Hay St Leonard's Street granted
- 3PL/2008/0451/F 1 Swaffham Road on going
- 3PI/2008/1125/F 1 Crown Road granted

10. New Highway Matters

- Concern was expressed about the number of vehicles which are failing to stop at the pedestrian crossing when the lights change due to the timing of the lights on the pedestrian crossing. The Lights are also obscured. This has already been reported to Highways. County Cllr Monson is to look into the matter. Cllr Monson is also to ask the Police to monitor the speed of vehicles on the same road.
- There is no dropped curb between 17 Malsters Close and 37 Malsters Close the clerk is to report the matter to Highways.
- The Clerk is to request the last cutting of the grass at the beginning of November to protect the bulbs.
- Cllr Eyres asked the meeting if he could cut the Buddleia again as he did last year. The Council agreed to this. He also requested that the Council deal with the tree on Crown Road as Highways still hadn't dealt with it and it was becoming increasingly dangerous. County Cllr Monson said he would look into the matter.
- The ongoing problem with the dead tree has now been resolved by the residents.
- The clerk is to report a dead silver birch and a damaged silver birch outside 60 St Leonard's Street.

11. Street Lighting

Cllr Shepherd had reported the light outside 8 St Leonard's Street which flicks on and off.

12. Reports

- **MRG&VHT.**

The Chairman opened the new village play area on behalf of the MRG&VHT.

- **STANTA**

No report

- **School Governors**

See request in correspondence

- **District Councillor**

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Cllr Steward gave her apologies for the last two meeting. She informed the meeting that planning permission had been granted to Stanta for the Middle East villages to be constructed; she said site traffic would use the Bodney Camp entrance for access. She also said that there had been increased funding made available for the Community Car Schemes and that Taxi fares had increased; Mundford's request to be a service centre without growth was now at the second stage; A new Historic Building Champion had been appointed as part of the LDF framework; There had been an update in the street naming policy; Unitary Authority consultation was now closed and that a decision was expected in January or February; Breckland and other Councils were considering a legal challenge providing it was financially possible and viable.

Cllr Eyles expressed the concern of the Council that if the changes at present envisaged were to come in then there would be a complete change of Council and which would be less representative and would mean more work for Town and Parish Councils who had less training and were unpaid. He asked to be notified of any decisions to mount a challenge.

Cllr Steward also informed the meeting that the development of Snetterton was to go ahead which would create between 500 and 1000 jobs.

- **County Councillor**

Cllr Monson said that NCC had received a Performance Review and that the draft report showed the Council to be performing at level 3 out of 4 with one department at level 4. He also said that there had been a slight underspend at the half year but that more efficiency savings were necessary for next year's budget. He said many of the activities carried out were high inflation work and that an increase in Council Tax was possible. He informed the meeting that a reuse shop had now opened with items available for sale at the King's Lynn Waste Recycling Depot. The Biodiversity Conference bringing together among others NCC, the Wildlife Trust to tie together biodiversity and the countryside would target children and schools. He spoke of the duelling of the A11 which may go ahead by 2013.

- **Members' Matters**

Cllr Goodrham reported a large delivery van parked on the grass near to 23 Impson Way which was obscuring the view. The Clerk is to inform the Community Police.

There was great concern from a number of councillors about the lack of publication of the Connect magazine. Advertisers were concerned. The clerk is to contact the editor to seek information on behalf of the village.

Cllr Eyles is to inform the village of the "adopt a tub" scheme.

There being no other business the meeting closed to the public at 8.45pm

Chairman: _____ Date: _____

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Clerk: _____ Date: _____