

# **Woodbastwick Parish Council**

Incorporating Ranworth and Panxworth

## **Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 11th January 2012 in Woodbastwick Village Hall at 7.30 pm**

**Present:** Sue Hitchcock (Chairman)                      Kit Cator  
Barbara Garrett    Mike Deveson  
Maggie Manton    Nicola Cohen  
Roy Champion

1 resident

**1. Apologies:**

PCSO Bob Hall  
James Carswell (District and County Councillor)

**2. Declarations of Interest:**

Maggie Manton declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the planning application for Decoy Cottage as she lives next to the site.

**3. Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting dated 9th November 2011 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Sue Hitchcock, as Chairman of the Parish Council.

**4. Matters Arising:**

- 4.1 The Royal British Legion has sent a letter of thanks for the recent donation.
- 4.2 MP Keith Simpson has written to the Transport Minister to request that the plans to dual the A47 at Burlingham be made more urgent, following the recent accident.
- 4.3 Broadland District Council stated that, at the last election, 93 people voted in person at Ranworth, (out of an electorate of 195,) and only 31 people voted in person at Woodbastwick, (out of an electorate of 106). BDC has therefore decided to designate Ranworth Village Hall as the sole polling station for the three villages of Woodbastwick, Ranworth and Panxworth.
- 4.4 Phil Courtier, senior planning officer at BDC, will attend the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March to talk about the planning system and the role of parish councils.
- 4.5 BDC has stated that there are no plans to move the dog litter bin at Ranworth Staithe.
- 4.6 A replacement bank mandate form has been completed and will be sent off to the Bank to add Sue Hitchcock and Maggie Manton as signatories, along with Barbara Garrett.

**5. Correspondence:**

- 5.1 The Stop Norwich Urbanisation campaign group (SNUB) asked for financial assistance with its campaign costs. After some consideration it was agreed not to contribute to the campaign as the Council had supported the Joint Core Strategy, whereas SNUB is challenging the Strategy.
- 5.2 The Broads Authority has sent a copy of its Broads Plan 2011.
- 5.3 The County of Norfolk decriminalised parking enforcement in November. The Police will no longer be able to issue parking tickets, but will still be able to deal with issues concerning obstruction. Traffic enforcement was transferred to the County Council and is being managed by Kings Lynn Borough Council. This was noted.
- 5.4 The Police Authority has invited councillors to attend an Open Meeting to discuss the Police Budget for 2012/13 on 19<sup>th</sup> January.
- 5.5 Councillors are able to apply for a copy of the electoral register; no copies may be given out and information must not be disclosed unless it also appears on the Edited Register.

**6. Financial Matters:**

	£
Balance b/f at 9th November 2011	852.63
<b>Receipts:</b>	
None	
<b>Cheques for Payment:</b>	
Acle PC – share of exps	42.06
P James –clerk’s fee and exps	276.12
Information Commissioner (DPA)	35.00
Woodbastwick Village Hall - hire of room	<u>15.00</u>
Balance c/f at 11th January 2012	484.45
Savings Account	<u>5,616.83</u>
Total Monies	<u>£6,101.28</u>

The above invoices were approved for payment.

**7. Application for an Order to Modify the Definitive Map:**

Norfolk County Council carried out a site inspection of the land subject to the application and asked the clerk to send notification to the owners of Sotshole as it adjoins the path. This has been done. A further evidence form has been received and will be sent off to NCC. It was noted that a new gate has been erected at one end of the land, with new signage.

**8. Bridleway in Ranworth:**

It was reported that some hedge cutting has been carried out along the bridleway and that the surface of the track has been churned up. It was also noted that cars are being parked in front of the sign that says no vehicles are allowed on the track.

**9. Highways Matters:**

9.1 NCC will send a quote for a brown tourist sign for Ranworth Staithe shortly. The clerk will advise South Walsham Parish Council to ensure that they have no objections to the sign being erected in that parish.

9.2 Panxworth has been added to the waiting list for the temporary flashing speed sign. NCC has suggested a Speedwatch scheme where volunteers record vehicle speeds from the side of the road. The councillors felt that this would be very dangerous and that volunteers could not be asked to stand by the side of the road where the road is so narrow and with high vehicle speeds. The clerk was asked to find out the price of “gates” to mark out the beginning and end of the village and to continue to press for a reduction in the speed limit for the village.

9.3 It was reported that there have been two recent accidents on Norton Hill. The clerk was asked to contact Highways to request an improvement to the verges and some warning signage that the road narrows. As this land is in South Walsham parish, the clerk will contact the clerk there for assistance with this request.

**10. Planning:**

10.1 Plans for **Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Ranworth Broad** – temporary vegetated circular raft to be installed for a 5 year lake restoration trial – were received. The councillors had no objections to the plans.

10.2 **Mr Westgarth, Decoy Cottage** – resubmission of withdrawn PP – BA/2011/0177/FUL (Maggie Manton left the room and took no part in the discussion or voting). After some discussion it was agreed to object to the plans on the grounds of loss of amenity for the neighbours, an overdevelopment of that part of the site, that the garage is in front of the building line in that location and to repeat that there appears to be plenty of room for a garage on the other side of the plot.

10.3 Planning results from **Broadland District Council:**

**Mr Beattie, 2 The Old Foundry, Panxworth** – conversion of garage to additional habitable accommodation – full approval.

**11. Environmental Matters:**

11.1 Management of Ranworth Staithe. John Packman, Chief Executive of the Broads Authority, has stated that the Authority does not have adequate funds to pay for “an enhanced service to manage the staithe”. He also states that charging for moorings is contrary to the Authority’s policy whereby they maintain a network of free 24-hour moorings for visitors. He believes that the staff and volunteers at the Norfolk Wildlife

Trust centre will be able to manage the staithe, with training and support. He is to meet with the director of the Wildlife Trust shortly and will write again after that meeting. The clerk was asked to obtain the Land Registry entry for the staithe to check that it was owned by the Broads Authority. Roy Champion offered to discuss the situation informally with a local solicitor.

- 11.2 Sue Hitchcock gave a report on a meeting with Ed Stocker from Norfolk County Council; he agreed to investigate options to protect otters crossing the road at the bottom of Norton Hill.

**12. Budget and Precept:**

The clerk presented a draft budget. After some discussion it was agreed to set the precept request at £3,000 for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013, which averages £17.24 per Band D house for the year, and the clerk's fee was agreed at £9.59 per hour for three hours per week. The budget shows a forecasted excess of expenditure over income of £644 for the year.

**13. Public Forum:**

No comments.

**14. Any Other Business:**

- 14.1 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at Ranworth Village Hall.
- 14.2 It was agreed to investigate installing a better noticeboard at Panxworth as the current one is very difficult to use.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.00 p.m.

Signed.....  
Chairman

Dated: 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012

