

Woodbastwick Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 13th July 2011 in Ranworth Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Sue Hitchcock (Chairman)
Mike Deveson

Barbara Garrett
Maggie Manton

Five residents

1. Apologies:

Kit Cator
Roy Champion
PCSO Bob Hall
James Carswell (District and County Councillor)

Nicola Cohen

2. Declarations of Interest:

Maggie Manton declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the planning application for Decoy Cottage as it is adjacent to her home.

Mike Deveson declared a personal interest in the application to modify the definitive map and a personal and prejudicial interest in the possible permissive path as the new path would skirt his boundary

3. Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting dated 11th May 2011 were agreed to be correct and were signed by Sue Hitchcock, as Chairman of the Parish Council.

4. Matters Arising:

4.1 No objections were reported for the planning application for Four Winds in Salhouse.

4.2 Norfolk County Council's final decision on whether to extend the gritting schedule in the area is expected later this month.

4.3 Whole council training has been booked for Monday 12th September at 7.00. Mike Deveson has already attended training for new councillors.

4.4 The clerk attended a Broadland District Council workshop on community engagement.

4.5 Roy Champion has contacted NCC to discuss options to help the otters, but the otters have disappeared from view at present.

5. Correspondence:

5.1 The internal audit report has been received, with no comments to report to Council. The Annual Return has been sent off to Mazars, the external auditors.

5.2 Councillors have been invited to a Community Resilience workshop on 27th July, followed by a picnic and sustainability event, organised by the Norfolk Association of Local Councils.

5.3 Salhouse Parish Council has raised concerns about pedestrian safety on Slad Lane. It was confirmed that the option of a footpath in the adjacent fields was considered previously and was not possible, so the councillors had arranged for the verge to be cut more often so as to make the verge more accessible to pedestrians. It was agreed to ask the contractor for a price to cut the verges again.

- 5.4 PCSO Bob Hall sent a report of three crimes since the last meeting.
- 5.5 NCC has sent details of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Allocation. There are no sites near to the parish.
- 5.6 BDC has asked councils to consider the future of standards; the Standards Board has been abolished and it will be up to councils to adopt their own code, or a district-wide code. It was agreed that it would be appropriate to sign up to a BDC code and to ask the BDC monitoring officer to act for the Council, if necessary for a small fee.
- 5.7 Councils are invited to send nominations for the NALC AGM and motions for the meeting. No nominations were made.

6. Financial Matters:

	£
Balance b/f at 12th May 2011	2,569.59
Receipts:	
VAT refund	48.73
Cheques for Payment:	
John Gallop – internal audit	65.00
Acle PC – share of exps	33.57
Upton PC – share of exps	10.70
P James –clerk’s fee and exps	285.49
Ranworth Village Hall - hire of room	<u>15.00</u>
Balance c/f at 13th July 2011	2,208.56
Savings Account	<u>5,616.83</u>
Total Monies	<u>£7,825.39</u>

The above invoices were approved for payment.

7. Panxworth path:

The three landowners, Charles Cator, David Pooley and Simon Simpson were invited to attend the Parish Council meeting, but were not present. They had proposed a site meeting on 6th July, which was attended by Sue Hitchcock, Kit Cator, Barbara Garrett, Maggie Manton and Nicola Cohen. The councillors walked some of the path with Charles Cator and Simon Simpson. The landowners expressed their concerns about dogs running loose and people dropping litter. A revised route for a permissive path was suggested by the landowners, along the drive of Cotenham Barns, along the main road and across a field to link up with the “green road” to Panxworth Church tower, with the path to be closed during the shooting season. The previous permissive path, reported at the May meeting, has now been withdrawn.

The clerk has spoken to an officer at NCC; there are no costs to the Council for a request to add a path, unless a solicitor is needed at any hearing.

The councillors did not wish to encourage pedestrians to walk along the main road, which is considered to be very dangerous. It was therefore decided, unanimously, to send off the evidence forms to NCC, to ask that the Definitive Map be modified to add a footpath from Sotshole in Ranworth to Panxworth Church via Cotenham Barn, or round the edge of Cotenham Barn, and from this path to South Walsham Road in Panxworth.

8. Fairhaven Garden Trust:

The Broads Authority does not expect the activity on the land to constitute a material change of use, and therefore not development needing planning permission.

Sue Hitchcock reported on a meeting with the manager of Fairhaven Garden Trust; the trust will re-plant the hedge in the Autumn. Volunteers are needed to carry out ecological studies on the land and to help with the management of the site. The archery equipment will be moved out of sight and some overgrown bracken will be cleared. Some of the 28 days permitted without planning permission have been used this year and it is expected that the full 28 days will be used. The monies raised by letting the land for activities will be used for the management of the site. It was agreed that Council would be kept informed of any future works.

9. Highways Matters:

9.1 NCC has quoted £300 for village nameplates saying, "Welcome to Ranworth – Please drive carefully". A verge 1.5 – 2.0 m wide is needed so that the sign can be 0.5m from the highway. It was agreed to ask NCC to inspect the land at the boundary with South Walsham at the bridge at Norton Hill to see if there is a possible site.

9.2 Signage for village facilities. The clerk was asked to find out the criteria for a brown tourist signage to "Ranworth Staithe".

9.3 Signs for "Public Bridleway. No unauthorised vehicles" on the bridleway no: 1 in Ranworth, with white lettering on dark green background would cost £16.11 each for roughly A4 size. After some discussion it was agreed to find out what size the current signs were and then to purchase three signs; one for each end of the bridleway and one for the junction of Common Road and Common Lane, to reduce the likelihood of parking at this location. It was agreed that the landowners should be contacted to ensure they are happy for the new signage to be erected.

9.4 There was no information available on speed reduction measures for Panxworth. There has been a temporary flashing sign on the main road and an increased Police presence. The clerk was asked to contact NCC to ask about "gates" on the verges and coloured tarmac on the road to make drivers more aware of the need to slow down in the village and to request that the flashing sign be sited on South Walsham Road through Panxworth.

10. Planning:

10.1 Several items of correspondence have been received concerning the proposed power and recycling centre at Kings Lynn. This was noted.

10.2 **Mr Westgarth, Decoy Cottage, Broad Road** – proposed erection of double garage with room above (BA/2011/0177/FUL). (Maggie Manton declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a close neighbour, left the room and took no part in the discussion or voting.) It was agreed to object to the plans on the grounds of the close proximity to the boundary and being unneighbourly. There were also concerns about the nearby hedge.

Planning results from Broadland District Council:

Mr Gooch, Four Winds, Lower Street, Salhouse – erection of two storey extension, replacement garage and accommodation. Full approval.

11. Environmental Matters:

11.1 The councillors expressed their concern at the management of Ranworth Staithe since the Broads Authority closed the Information Centre. Sue Hitchcock reported on correspondence between Charles

Cator and John Packman of the Broads Authority; it seems that agreement has been reached with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust for them to run the Centre, the ferry and the day-to-day running of the staithe. The owners of the Granary have reported problems with the refuse skip, with people mooring for more than the permitted 24 hours and the lack of assistance with moorings.

The clerk was asked to send John Packman the report from the Granary stores and request urgent action to sort out the management of the staithe in time for the summer holidays.

11.2 It was agreed that it was inappropriate to consider the funding of an additional table until the management was sorted out.

12. Public Forum:

12.1 The signage of footpath no: 2 was raised. It was agreed to check that the sign on Plumstead Road is in the correct location.

12.2 It was reported that the vegetation is overhanging the road at Ranworth Staithe.

12.3 The path to Ranworth Church is overgrown and the fence is broken. The clerk was asked to report this to NCC as there are concerns that pedestrians will choose to walk on the road.

12.4 Signage was suggested to indicate that it is Malthouse Broad at Ranworth Staithe, not Ranworth Staithe.

12.5 The clerk was asked to contact NCC to raise the narrowness of Norton Hill; it is suspected that the verges have encroached onto the metalled road. A hedge was reported to need cutting in this area too.

12.6 An issue with addresses in Ranworth showing up on BDC's database as being in "Woodbastwick" was discussed. The parish is named "Woodbastwick" and includes the villages of Woodbastwick, Ranworth and Panxworth. The clerk will contact BDC.

12.7 The clerk was asked to contact BDC to ask about the possible procedure to change the name of the parish.

12.8 The Council was thanked for the recent publicity leaflet which was circulated with the Broadsider. A small fee will be paid to the magazine.

13. Any Other Business:

13.1 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 14th September 2011 at Woodbastwick Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.35 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman

Dated: 14th September 2011

