

4. Matters Arising:

- 4.1 Letters of thanks have been received from Lowland Search & Rescue and Victim Support for the recent donations.
- 4.2 Mike Deveson is still working on the noticeboard for Panxworth.
- 4.3 Anglian Water cancelled the hosepipe ban.
- 4.4 The clerk reported on the annual conference; topics considered included the new Code of Conduct, modern methods of engaging with residents, pensions and freedom of information.
- 4.5 Carol Champion offered to be the parish tree warden. Her details have been sent to Broadland District Council.
- 4.6 Norfolk County Council has said the SLOW road markings in Ranworth should be done this month.
- 4.7 The leaning trees at Shearwater have been reported to the estate office and to NCC. Kit Cator reported that the trees will be inspected again shortly.

5. Correspondence:

- 5.1 The Broads Authority has sent updates to the Broads Landscape Character Assessment. This was noted.
- 5.2 The Audit Commission has sent details of its consultation on the re-appointment of Mazars as the Council's external auditor. The proposals also mean that the Council would pay no fee for its external audit in future.
- 5.3 The internal audit of the Accounts to 31st March 2012 has been completed by John Gallop. The Annual Return has been sent off to the external auditors, Mazars.
- 5.4 PCSO Bob Hall sent a report of no recorded crimes since the last meeting.
- 5.5 BDC has sent details of its Gambling Policy Review.
- 5.6 The Broads Authority has sent a survey on its engagement with local communities. It was agreed to send the Council's concerns that it was felt that the Authority paid no attention to the councillors' or residents' concerns. It was also felt that communication was poor and slow.

6. Financial Matters:

	£
Balance b/f at 9th May 2012	2,365.56
Transfer to savings account	(2,000.00)

Receipts:

Transfer from savings account 1,500.00

Cheques for Payment:

P James – clerk’s fee and exps, incl insurance 538.86

HMRC – PAYE & NIC – July 24.80

HMRC – PAYE & NIC – August 25.00

Acle PC – share of exps 29.52

John Gallop – internal audit 69.00

E.On – electricity 67.74

Ranworth Village Hall – rent 15.00

NCC – signage 380.00

Balance c/f at 14th July 2012 715.64

Savings Account 6,119.65

Total Monies £6,835.29

The above invoices were approved for payment.

7. Footpath in Panxworth:

There was some discussion about media interest in the footpath application. It was reported that NCC are continuing to gather evidence about the usage of the path, but that there were other applications ahead of this one, with applications dealt with in the order they were received.

8. Fairhaven Garden Trust:

There has been no further correspondence. It was reported that the bridleway is in reasonable condition at present.

9. Highways Matters:

9.1 NCC has asked for a cheque for £380 for the costs of the new signage. This was agreed.

9.2 NCC has temporarily installed a pair of “your speed” signs in Panxworth. It was reported that only one sign is working.

9.3 Maggie Manton reported on problems with people parking in the disabled parking space in Broad Road. New signage had been erected by the Broads Authority which had improved the situation.

9.4 It was agreed that the signage for the Visitors Centre, Information Centre and Conservation Centre is confusing. The clerk will contact the various organizations to discuss this.

10. Planning:

10.1 Between meetings, the planning application was received for **Woodfordes Norfolk Ales** – demolition of single storey flat roof link/re-construct to 1.5 storeys, increase external store footprint to 2 storeys and new retractable awning to entrance of visitors centre. (20120796). The councillors had no objections to the plans.

10.2 The councillors considered the proposal for a conservation area for Ranworth. As it was felt that the majority of those present opposed the proposal, it was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting and to try to discuss this meanwhile with any local residents who had not been able to attend the meeting.

11. Environmental Matters:

11.1 Management of Ranworth Staithe

The clerk has emailed John Packman to ask if the local volunteer warden, Alan Bishop, could be assigned to Ranworth. It was reported that the Norfolk Wildlife Trust volunteers are not trained to moor boats so are not able to assist with that.

12. General Power of Competence:

The General Power of Competence was brought in by the Localism Act 2011 ss1 – 8. The Power gives a local authority the power to do anything which individuals generally may do.

The eligibility requirements are that at least 2/3rds of the councillors must have been elected or stood for election and the clerk must be qualified. It was agreed that the Council met these requirements and it was proposed by Maggie Manton, seconded by Kit Cator and agreed unanimously that the Council should adopt the General Power of Competence.

13. Code of Conduct:

The Localism Act 2011 abolished the Standards Board and requires every council to adopt a new Code of Conduct. BDC has drafted one suitable for parish councils. This Code was adopted and signed by the councillors. Councillors must complete a declaration of interests within 28 days.

14. Clerk's Pension:

The clerk asked the Council to consider joining the Norfolk Pension Fund, run by Norfolk County Council. The clerk would pay contributions of 5.9% and the Council would pay contributions of 19% (2013 – 19.5%) of her salary, which would cost £284 pa at this year's rates. The clerk left the room while this was discussed. It was agreed that Kit Cator would investigate the issue further and that it would be considered again at the September meeting.

15. Public Forum:

15.1 Additional signage was requested for the public toilets, the skip and the bins at Ranworth staithe. It was suggested that a map board would be useful by the shop.

15.2 It was reported that the phone at Ranworth staithe no longer works. The clerk will report this.

16. Any Other Business:

- 16.1 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 12th September 2012 at Woodbastwick Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.20 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman

Dated: 12th September 2012