

THORPE ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th November 2006

PRESENT:

Mr R. S. James	Mrs W. M. Howes
Mrs J. Baker	Mr I. J. Mackie
Mrs O. M. Campbell	Mr E. A. Newberry
Mr J F Fisher	Mr G. Rowe
Mr P. J. Harwood	Mr N. Shaw
Mr D. E. Eley	Mr J. M. Ward

1.) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Mrs S. E. Eltringham, Mr D. R. C. Spooner, Mrs Y. Utting

2.) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs W. M. Howes declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in agenda itm 12, as a friend of the complainant.

3.) COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October 2006, previously circulated to members, were approved and signed as a true record.

4.) Announcements

Chairman:

None.

Clerk:

The Clerk asked if members would prefer to have a list of items for information such as magazines and newsletters which could be copied for members who wished for their own copy. This was **AGREED** to be implemented.

Future Agenda Items

None.

5.) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Parish Constables:

Diss and Thorpe St Andrew had been targeted for the implementation of the Safer Neighbourhoods initiative which would bring a higher Police profile with dedicated officers to the area and an increased number of Police Community Support Officers being appointed with greater powers in due course.

Items Raised by District and County Councillors:

District Councillor Mr I. M. Mackie informed that a recent Government White Paper had given Norwich City Council the opportunity to become a unitary authority if it took over adjoining authorities and parishes. The District Council had put in place emergency planning procedures and a reappraisal of conservation areas was being carried out.

County Councillor Mr N. Shaw was continuing to press for the introduction of 20mph speed limits in Thorpe St Andrew. Mr P. J. Harwood said that the County Council Cabinet had agreed to financial provision for the County Council to make its case regarding the proposal for a Unitary Authority.

County Councillor Mr I. J. Mackie advised that a new Chief Executive for the Council had been appointed and new funding for the primary school under construction had been arranged. The government had given £100,000 to the Police Authority to recoup costs incurred in the preparation of merger plan proposals.

Members of the public

Mr P. Rope, Parish Tree Warden commented that the November minutes regarding Item 9 on the agenda did not record the number of votes cast for the resolution however under the Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, paras 12(2) and 29 (2) this was not necessary unless a member required the voting to be recorded.

6.) PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Cheques numbered 002003 to 002049 totalling £30,179.92p, vouchers 824 – 950 on the 2006/07 payments list were approved and signed.

7.) COMMITTEES

Plans Committee

The draft minutes of the meetings held on 9th and 30th October were presented by the Chairman, Mr J. F. Fisher, and noted.

Finance and Staffing Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 16th October were presented by the Chairman, Mrs W. M. Howes, and noted.

8.) Morse Pavilion

A copy of a letter to the architect from the builder was noted.

9.) Resolution to adopt Town Council status

On a show of hands it was **RESOLVED** to adopt town council status from 7th November 2006. Mr P. J. Harwood requested that his vote against the move be recorded. The Chairman Mr R. S. James commented "At this moment of transition from Parish to Town Council we gratefully acknowledge the work of every Parish Councillor over the past 111 years whose dedication to the welfare of the parish had created the present platform on which the council can build for the future."

10.) St Andrews Roundabout planting

An offer of £400 to sponsor the planting at St Andrews roundabout had been received from the Shalom Residential Home in Yarmouth Road. It was **AGREED** that revised signage would be investigated at Harvey Lane and St Williams Way, possibly with sponsored floral planting of some kind to mark the boundaries of Thorpe St Andrew.

11.) Broadland District Council

i.) Village Hall – Licensing Act 2003

Thorpe Players would be requested to produce a Temporary Event Notice prior to any future productions to ensure that the event was properly licensed on each occasion.

ii.) Village Hall – Polling Station decision

The District Council had detailed a number of problems with the Village Hall that would prevent its use as a polling station next May. It was **AGREED** that with some small alterations most objections could be overcome. The work would be put in hand and a re-inspection requested on completion.

12.) Norfolk County Council

(i) Road Safety Issues.

A temporary speed reactive sign would be placed in Spinney Road and other measures undertaken to address some of the concerns that the Parish Council had brought to the attention of the Casualty Reduction Manager.

(ii) Norwich (Postwick) Park and Ride – Disabled Parking

A copy of a letter to a resident confirming that disabled parking provision was below the national standard at the car park was noted. The number of bays would in due course be increased to 25 but not until after Christmas.

13.) Prospective Gypsy and Traveller Sites

The contents of the Evaluation Criteria consultation document were noted.

14.) Norfolk Constabulary – Safer Neighbourhoods Bulletin

The contents of the document were noted.

15.) g3 Mast – Lease of land at Pound Lane

The contents of the draft lease were noted.

16.) Thorpe St Andrew School

(i) Road Safety, Travel plan, Coach Routes, All-weather sports pitch

The contents of the documents were noted.

(ii) Donation request

It was agreed to make a donation of £50 for a prize. The Chairman, Mr R. S. James, offered to match the donation to establish a permanent annual Town Mayor's prize. Authority was delegated to Mr James to take the proposal further if the school was willing.

17.) Campaign to Protect Rural England

It was **AGREED** to renew the subscription to the organisation for another year.

18.) Norfolk Accident Rescue Service

Letter noted.

19.) Thorpe St Andrew Episcopi

The invitation to take part in the Christmas Service on Wednesday 20th December at 7.30pm was noted. Mrs W. M. Howes volunteered to take part by reading a lesson and as many members as possible were encouraged to attend the service and sit in reserved pews.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - Parish Council on 4th December 2006 at the Meeting Room, Dussindale Centre.