

OLD CATTON PARISH COUNCIL, MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE,
HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2010,
AT THE PAVILION, CHURCH STREET

PRESENT: Mr B Sabberton-Coe – Chairman
Mr J Arnott Mr C Green Mr B Leggett Mrs G Masdin
Mr D Thompson Miss P Wilkin

APOLOGIES: Mr A Lovett

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

59. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

60. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 11.10.2010

The minutes of the meeting, which had been circulated, were confirmed, and signed by the Chairman.

61. PLANNING

61.1. Recommendations were made on planning applications as the attached list.

61.2. There had been an informal presentation by Beyond Green Developments before the meeting when aspects of potential development of the land to the north of Old Catton and Sprowston had been outlined. Land owners, including the Alderman Norman Foundation, who owned the land to the north of The Paddocks, had already signed agreements to join a consortium with Beyond Green for 20 years and other landowners were potential members. So far sites for housing or other uses had not been defined. The land concerned was part of the Old Catton, Sprowston, Rackheath and Thorpe St Andrew Growth Triangle and was currently the subject of a public examination. It was AGREED that representatives of the Council should be part of further discussions with Beyond Green.

62. CHURCH STREET RECREATION GROUND

62.1. Bowls/cricket hut

Three quotations were considered and it was noted that one quotation excluded items included in the other two. The Chairman had checked references from organisations that had already employed the three companies. It was PROPOSED by Mr B Leggett and SECONDED by Miss P Wilkin that the contract be awarded to Province Building Services Ltd in the sum of £14,064.20. This was AGREED. It was noted that this was not the lowest quotation but it was AGREED that it was preferable to employ a company known to have already completed similar projects successfully.

This decision needed to be ratified at the full Council meeting on 25th November before an order could be placed.

It was AGREED to find out how long the building would take and to arrange it, if possible, for a time when the S106 funds from the conversion of St Christopher's School were available.

62.2. Other matters

Football in 2011/12. It was noted that the Finance and Policy Committee would be fixing charges for 2011/12 at its meeting and that there was a need for certainty in budgeting which was not possible when the Junior Football Club was charged per team. It was noted that in the current season there were fewer teams than previously and that the full income budgeted for would not materialise. Other sporting organisations paid a fixed charge per year regardless of use. It was AGREED to recommend that the charge to the Junior Football Club for 2011/12 should be based on full use of the pitches with a specified maximum number of teams.

The way the new land at Lavare Park should be used for the 2011/12 season was discussed. It was AGREED to provide three big pitches there with the opportunity to move them each season by providing extra sockets which would help with pitch wear. It was also AGREED that only mini soccer pitches would be provided at the Church Street Recreation Ground; there would be three mini soccer pitches, two more than were currently provided at Lavare Park. It was AGREED to review this arrangement for future years.

63. LAVARE PARK

63.1. Negotiations with the Junior Football Club.

It was noted that the Junior Football Club Committee felt that their and the Council's aspirations were not sufficiently close for the Committee to make a long term decision on the Club taking over management of the land.

63.2. Other matters.

It was noted that new swing chains had been ordered as a result of the safety inspection.

64. CEMETERY

There was nothing to report.

65. CHURCHYARD

65.1. Defective memorials

The Parochial Church Council had replied stating the formal position which was that the Parish Council was liable for the safety of the memorials and that a faculty would be needed for any permanent protection, repair, dismantling or removal. It was concerned that the current fencing around the memorials was inadequate. Mr D Thompson and the Clerk had recently met with a reputable memorial mason to discuss ways of making the memorials safe and quotations to do so were awaited. It was AGREED to attempt to discuss the problems with the Arch Deacon. It was AGREED to take photographs of the memorials for future reference and to justify any action that might be needed.

It was also AGREED to suggest that provision be made in future budgets for problems of this nature.

66. WORK IN PROGRESS

The list was reviewed. Members were concerned that the planned work to the paths at the Recreation Ground had not been carried out yet.

67. HIGHWAY MATTERS

67.1. Leaf clearance. It was AGREED to ask Broadland District Council when this might be done.

67.2. It was noted that extra 20 mph signs had been added at Church Street, despite financial constraints. It was AGREED to ask why this had been done.

67.3. It was noted that the Vehicle Activated Sign at Spixworth Road was not working and the sign at St Faiths Road was dim. This would be reported to Norfolk County Council for its attention.

68. CORRESPONDENCE

The attached list was noted.

It was AGREED to ask the Council's solicitors to quote to register the Council's land.

69. OTHER MATTERS

It was noted that issues related to the lack of planning permission to fix the Busy Beavers' gate to the wall at the Village Hall had led to the resignation of Management Committee officers. Although the Parish Council was the Custodian Trustee of the Village Hall and regretted the loss of two able officers it did not have any responsibility to deal with this situation or to intrude on the actions of the Management Committee.

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting at 8.10 pm.

Chairman, 13th December 2010