

**MINUTES OF THE HILGAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2009**

The above Meeting was held at Hilgay Village Hall, commencing at 7pm.

PRESENT: Mr G Carter, Mr Houghton, Mr Wills, Mr Dawe, Mr Higgins, Mr Dent, Mr Bradley, Mr Bates, and Mr Martin and 3 Members of the Public.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Mrs A Charlesworth, Mr P Carter, Mr D Gordon, and Mr A Dent,
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
Mr N Bradley, Mr C Dawe, and Mr C Wills – under Item 6b – Donation to Ten Mile Bank School
3. **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 NOVEMBER 2008**
The Minutes were duly agreed and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

4 TO REPORT MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

BCKLWN Litter Bin Change in Regulations –Meeting took place between BCKLWN, Cllr Tony White and the Clerk on 19.11.08.

1. Hilgay have 6 litter bins (1 at bus shelter, outside Chapel, playing field, village sign area, and 2 at allotments
 2. Ten Mile Bank have 2 bins – 1 on verge outside school, and one on playing field. Playing field bin will have to be emptied into school trade waste bin.
 3. Bins on Parish Council land e.g. playing fields/allotments will be charged as trade waste. Trade waste bags can be purchased at £50 per 25 sack roll.
 4. Bins located at tourist areas and high usage e.g. at a school - will be special consideration.
- Clerk raised issue that Residents pay for emptying of litter bins on their Council Tax – BCKLWN advised no, only pay for household emptying.

Clerk has spoken with Cabinet Member Cllr Brian Long who advises as of 9.1.09

‘Following our telephone conversation today I can confirm the following;

Each Parish has a “basic” entitlement to 1 public litter bin per 1000 population. (so over 1000 = 2 bins and so on).

Waste bins on any publicly accessible land that is owned by a Parish Council or even private individual or organisation (such as a school) is trade waste and not effected by the new Parish Litter Bin Scheme.

Bins that are for the general use of Tourists or in Retail areas would usually not be included in the above entitlement.

The reasoning behind this was to bring all villages into line with regard to who gets what, it has however raised other issues regarding waste and Parish Councils. It is most important for Parishes to comply with Waste regulations advice on which is available on the Borough Council’s Website under trade waste.’

Clerk has spoken with Barry Brandford – Head of BCKLWN Environmental Health who advised as of 13.1.09

‘In reference to the litter bins on Parish owned land this waste must be treated as trade waste. The most cost effective way of dealing with this waste is to put it in to trade sacks. The sacks cost £50 for 25 including VAT. The contents of the litter bin can be put in the sack and when the sack is full it can be presented at an agreed location on collection day. It may mean that one roll will last a full year. You will as a Council receive a Waste Transfer Note from us following purchase of the sacks.

As for other bins the arrangements as yet have not been agreed and we need to get this task completed. I will liaise with Tony and advise you of my intentions and I will meet with you on site if necessary to get this finalised.’

It was unanimously agreed to hold this issue over to the March Meeting in order to consider the 2 systems of litter bin waste disposal (£50 per annum emptying charge or trade sacks).

Land at Sandy Lane –

Prevention of access by the general public onto this land. **Chairman advised that the legal aspects of this issue are being looked into.**

Annual Play Equipment Inspection - The Director, John Neal, of Sportsafe UK stated that his supervisor was being rather over zealous. No works were required. **Mr Neal has now forwarded written confirmation to that affect. Inspection Fees still outstanding (to be approved for payment at this Meeting).**

Youth Shelter

Father David Evans has pledged his support for the youth shelter. **No update from Grounds & Co as yet.**

Renewal of Playing Field Lease

No update from Grounds & Co as yet.

4 contd ..

New Play Equipment at Hilgay Playing Field and Ten Mile Bank Playing Field

Anita Stewart attended the Meeting to report on progress of the Steering Committee. **Several grant applications for the Hilgay Playing Field play equipment are currently in hand.**

Proposed Felling of Jubilee Woods – January Update

BCKLWN TPO Officer has advised he has inspected the site. Trees have been tagged which would indicate that a Survey has been conducted.

Clerk has tried to ascertain if BCKLWN have received a planning application – no confirmation as yet.

Mr & Mrs Banks have copied us the reply received from the Wildlife Trust as follows:-

'This project is part of the Environment Agency's Regional Habitat Creation Programme under which the Environment Agency has a statutory obligation to replace (compensate for) habitats that are designated at a European level (these are termed Natura 2000 sites) but which are threatened by, for example, predicted sea-level rise or a change in management which reduces the defences against this predicted rise. This obligation also applies to a number of species (e.g. the bittern) that occur in these sites which have been designated as site 'interest features'.

The site at Hilgay (65 hectares) has been selected and purchased by the Environment Agency for the creation of reedbed to compensate for the loss of coastally-located reedbeds in Norfolk and Suffolk which are currently threatened by predicted sea-level rise, with the subsequent loss of breeding habitat for the Bittern which is one of the main European interest features that these reedbeds supports. You may be aware that both Reedbed and the Bittern are priorities within the UK's Biodiversity Action Plan and both have their own Action Plans which include targets for increasing the area of reedbed within the UK and the number of breeding bitterns respectively. The Norfolk and Suffolk reedbeds constitute a very large proportion of the reedbed area within the UK and these in turn support virtually all the bitterns currently breeding in the UK. From this fact, you will realise that it is essential for conservation organisations to ensure that this breeding population is upheld and that new reedbed sites are created to support them as a matter of great urgency. On a wider scale, the bittern is also undergoing a decline throughout its mainland European range including in its strongholds of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet states so again, we have a responsibility to safeguard and expand the UK population.

*Towards this, a number of conservation organisations including the Environment Agency, the RSPB, the National Trust and The Wildlife Trusts are working on projects to create large and landscape-scale wetlands in the Fens area and in the Fens-edge, as this region has been identified as a target area, being a former wetland and being away from the coastline and the threat of loss from sea-level rise. The Norfolk Wildlife Trust is the Environment Agency's conservation partner on the Hilgay project and we will be delivering on their behalf, the planning, construction and ongoing management of the site into the future. We are currently in the latter stages of the site planning process and will soon be **submitting our planning application with the aim of beginning construction in mid-2009.***

We are sorry to find that you are against some of our proposals i.e. the clearance of the 2.5 hectare Jubilee Plantation along the western site boundary. We fully realise and understand that Jubilee Plantation has its own biodiversity and supports a number of widespread woodland bird species but intrinsically the woodland comprises mostly plantation trees (including non-native species) of less than one hundred years-old. We do of course acknowledge that there are a number of larger, more mature and older trees that were obviously present in 1887, presumably when the plantation was established. [Incidentally, barn owl, kestrel and bats will not be excluded from the site once it becomes a wetland – bats in particular will benefit greatly]. However, as I hope I have outlined for you above, conservation organisations in this region have a responsibility for creating new reedbeds, both to safeguard the important breeding bittern population, but also for the myriad other wetland species that such a site will support in the future, many of which are of national and international significance. Land on which to create these replacement sites is in short supply and expensive to purchase, so it is imperative that when land does become available, as here at Hilgay (identified as highly suitable for wetland creation), we maximise the future wetland area that the site will yield. Unfortunately, the areas that you kindly suggest alongside the River Wissey are simply not of sufficient size to be suitable replacements for the area to be lost on the coast, so we are searching for very large sites. The Hilgay wetland design itself reduces the amount of land available for reedbed habitat that we wish to create (due to the need to provide perimeter bunds in order to satisfy the Reservoirs Act, plus other site infrastructure) so we are under pressure to maximise the delivery of the reedbed area that we create on site. It is also worth mentioning that the Environment Agency has attempted to purchase additional adjoining land, which would have relieved some of the pressure for maximising the area of wetland to be created, but unfortunately these efforts have been thwarted. As such, because funding and land-purchase opportunities will ultimately be limited, we have to be pragmatic when land does become available and, as in this case, we have to assess the nature conservation significance of any habitats already present against those that we wish to create. In this case we have weighed the national need to provide reedbed habitat, the limited opportunities for expanding the site (which would almost certainly relieve the need to maximise the area of reedbed on the site by clearing Jubilee Plantation) and the needs of the proposed site design, against the significance of the plantation, which itself is one of a large number of similar features scattered throughout the parish and wider Fens-edge area.

We have been through a consultation process with the Forestry Commission regarding this particular proposal and this will of course be included in our planning application to the Borough Council. The consultation with the Forestry Commission indicated that there is no legal requirement for a Forestry Environmental Statement for the proposed clearance and during discussions with the Borough Council no objections were raised regarding this aspect. However, we have undertaken an in-depth Environmental Assessment for the whole site including a number of species and vegetation surveys so that we have all the information we need to formulate our proposals for the final design of the wetland site.

4 contd ..

Proposed Felling of Jubilee Woods – Wildlife Trust response contd ..

Within Jubilee Plantation we have undertaken both breeding and wintering bird surveys, a badger survey and a number of bat surveys at different times of the year in order to cover all possibilities. Badgers are not present within Jubilee Plantation and there has been no evidence that any bats use the trees as roosting or maternity sites, although a few individual bats have been found foraging there. To help offset the proposed loss of the plantation trees, we intend to take steps to provide additional bat roosting sites in the area surrounding the site and if possibilities arise within the near future we will provide new foraging areas by creating new wet woodland, although this will be on other sites elsewhere.

Finally, your email mentions the nearby Ouse Washes and RSPB Lakenheath Fen sites and of course these are nationally-important sites, but never-the-less there remains the need to create further inland reedbed sites as I have outlined above. RSPB Lakenheath Fen was created on a river valley site that formerly supported a large expanse of poplar plantations famed for their breeding golden orioles; it is important to realise that RSPB Lakenheath Fen is some 350 hectares in size (cf. 65 hectares at Hilgay) which enables the RSPB to retain some of the area of poplar plantation without comprising the functioning and management of the reedbed areas and their suitability for breeding bitterns. As I have outlined above, a number of organisations – including the RSPB – are working hard to deliver new large-scale wetlands in the Fens area to add to those already present and, in due course, the Fens area will be able to boast a network of the largest, most amazing and premier wetlands in the UK, which will be a great asset to the Fens community and its local economy.

I sincerely hope that you will appreciate the scale of wetland site creation that we are beginning to work on – at the Living Landscape scale – and the need to maximise delivery of wetland habitat when an opportunity arises, given the limited and challenging land-purchase opportunities out there and the national importance of the predicted coastal losses. This is not to say that we do not appreciate wildlife at the local level but on this site at least we are faced with making a choice and have very little room for compromise in terms of the area available to us and the legal obligations on the Environment Agency to replace coastal habitats that will be lost. If the plantation or even part of the plantation is ultimately cleared to make space for additional wetland habitat, then we will seek opportunities with the Environment Agency to create new wet woodland elsewhere.'

Steve Henson CEnv, MIEEM Conservation Officer (Rivers & Wetlands) Mr & Mrs Banks responded to the above as follows:

In reading your response to the concerns we raised, it seems to indicate to us that decisions have already been made ,and that we have little opportunity to encourage a change of plan. I am afraid that my wife and I are still not satisfied that our concerns have been adequately addressed or considered. We do ofcourse, welcome the provision of good habitat creation for wetland wildlife and most definitely to include the Bittern but we do not agree that it has to include the destruction of woodland which will destroy habitat for other creatures including some garden birds also on the decline. A wood of only 2.5 hectares may not seem like a lot ,but to an area like the Fens, woodland is more of rarity than elsewhere. Whilst we fully support conservation in all its aspects, surely organisations like the Woodland Trust and The Forestry Commission also have an equal responsibility to increase and sustain wooded areas particularly broad leaved trees. It is vital that all bodies responsible create a healthy ecologically friendly balance, is it not? Using 65 hectares will presumably also seriously affect the public footpaths and rights of way in this area including access along the Wissey river banks. How is this additional loss to the community to be addressed?

BCKLWN Special Expenses at Closed Churchyard, Hilgay

Clerk requested to raise follow issues with the BCKLWN:

1. Cost of works to All Saints Lych £5,213 in relation to works carried out appears to be over priced.
2. Establish whether other quotations were obtained for these works.

No Update on above queries – **Called booked to Head of Finance & Resources – David Thomason.**

Special Expenses received for Year End 10. Footway Lighting 3 Lights £220. Closed Churchyard - £2,180
Open Spaces - £1,620. TOTAL £4,020

Council Tax Base 420 Band D Charge for Year End 10 £9.57. Previous charges tabled below:

| For Year End | Special Expense Charged | Balance from Previous Years | Amount available | Amount Spent | Balance | Comments |
|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | |
| March 2005 | 500 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 500 | Amount not spent carried forward to next year |
| March 2006 | 3,000 | 500 | 3,500 | 5,213 | -1,713 | Amount in excess of special expense charge carried forward to next year |
| March 2007 | 1,000 | -1,713 | -713 | 0 | -713 | Balance of excess carried forward |
| March 2008 | 1,000 | -713 | 287 | 0 | 287 | Amount not spent carried forward to next year |
| March 2009 | 1,000 | 287 | 1,287 | | 1,287 | |

River Field toilets - in poor condition. BCKLWN have advised that the toilets are now closed for the winter season. The matter will be consideration in the Spring. Clerk requested to raise the following:-

1. Works need to be carried out before commencement of the Spring season.
2. Cost of repairs and maintenance are included in Resident’s Council Tax liability. **No update.**

4 contd ..

Right of Way – Sandy Lane – in poor condition. **Clerk to contact the contractor using the Right of Way**

Bar at Hilgay – being advertised on the internet. Clerk unable to find any reference on internet. **It was advised that the bar has been raided by the Police.**

5 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

NOV

20 East Cambridgeshire District Council – Boundary changes representations

23 NCC – Gritting Routes

24 BCKLWN – Standards Committee Panel Hearing Minutes (7.11.08)

25 BCKLWN Agenda for Council Meeting to be held 27.11.08

DEC

14 Downham Market Area Local Action Group – Minutes of 12.12.08 Meeting.

16 Christopher Fraser, MP – Speed limits outside Schools update

17 Norfolk Assoc of Local Councils – Business Plan.(formerly Assoc of Parish & Town Councils) Now offering Consultation Service: Consultation Service:- Parish Councils receive numerous consultation documents which are both extremely lengthy and often impenetrable! We are pleased to announce a new consultation service.

When a national consultation is announced this will be examined and an assessment made as to whether it concerns First Tier Councils. If it does a précis will be written to guide the council into the areas to pay particular attention. Details of this précis will be e-mailed to clerks and be available to download from the consultation page on the members area of the website. The most recent consultation 'Code of recommended practice on local authority publicity' has been added to the website and is available here

17 NCC Review of the East of England Plan to 2031. Cabinet Report will be available on NCC website.

Consultation

17.12.08 Communities & Local Government – Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity

Meetings

29.1.09 Norfolk Police Authority Budget Consultation – Wymondham at 7pm

17 Feb at 6pm at Kings Court Council Offices - Local Government Review (Unitary Authority)

6 ACCOUNTS & FINANCE including the following Financial Matters

6a FINANCIAL MATTERS TO REPORT

| | | | |
|--|----|-------------------|---------|
| <u>Allotment Rents</u> – Currently outstanding for 2008: | TD | Plot 1,2,3, + 4-8 | £809.00 |
| | RE | | £5.25 |

Clerk has sent overdue notices.

6b TO CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS

Ten Mile Bank School - £400 towards grass cutting costs for the 2008 season. Clerk's Note: Parish Council have already paid for 2008 Season.

(Previous donation was: £350 per annum Last Payment made:-

| | | | | |
|---------|--------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 10.5.07 | 101898 | TMB School | Donation Yr 06,07,08 @ £350pa | £1,050.00 |
|---------|--------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------|

It was agreed by 5 votes, with 3 abstentions Mr N Bradley, Mr C Dawe, and Mr C Wills, to donate £400 towards the 2009 grass cutting costs for Ten Mile Bank School Playing Field.

6c TO CONSIDER CLERK'S SALARY REVIEW

Held over from November 08. Interim salary award has been set as of 1 April 2008.

Clerk's SCP increased 1 point on 1.4.08 from SCP 22 @ £9.83 per hour for period 1 April 2007 to 31 Mar 08 - to SCP 23 as of 1 April 2008. Interim hourly rate has been set at £10.36 per hour as of 1 April 2008.

Hourly increase 53p per hour – totalling a monthly increase of £13.25 per month backdated to 1 April 2008.

Denver, North Runcton, and Tattersett Parish Councils have all agreed the new rate.

It was proposed by Mr Houghton, seconded by Mr Wills, and unanimously agreed to increase the Clerk's hourly rate of pay to £10.36 per hour, backdated to 1 April 2008.

6d TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF DUE INVOICES

| | <u>As of 28 October 2008</u> | <u>As at 15 January 2009</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Community Account | £1,949.04 | £1,180.26 |
| Tracker Account | £50,295.10 | £46,560.46 |
| | £50,295.10 | £47,740.72 |

6 d contd ,,Monies In -

| | | |
|----------|---|---------|
| 10.11.08 | Allotment Rent Plot 25 & 26 | £10.50 |
| 2.12.08 | Norfolk County Clothing -Advert in Riverside News | £10.00 |
| | Allotment Rent Plot 21 & 22 | £10.50 |
| | Allotment Rent Plot 1 & 2 | £10.50 |
| 8.12.08 | Barclays Interest 8 Sept to 7 Dec | £265.36 |
| 15.1.09 | Allotment Rent Plot 10 | £5.25 |

Monies Out (from 6.11.08 Meeting)

| | | |
|---------|---|-----------|
| 102025 | John Cullen – Inv5 hedge cutting at the Lych Gate – All Saints Church | £180.00 |
| 102026 | St Mark's PCC – Churchyard maintenance 2 nd & 3 rd Installment @ £110.32 each | £220.64 |
| 102027 | Kew Grass Care Inv8618 (3 x Sept cuts)=£179.77 + Inv 8652 (1 x Oct cut)=£59.92 | £239.69 |
| 102028 | MHB Services Inv 4006 Replacement bracket outside 3 Foresters Avenue= £229.13 + MHB Services Inv 3199 Replacement bowl at Station Road= £76.38 | £305.51 |
| 102029 | BCKLWN Inv 2171 Dog Litter 1 July to 30 Sept | £49.03 |
| 102030 | Mole Control & Pest Services Inv 1048 – Mole control Hilgay Playing Field April to Oct 08 | £290.00 |
| 102031 | Mazars – Inv502999-3779 Audit Fee for Year End 08 | £334.88 |
| 102032 | Norfolk County Services Inv 87381 ½ yr grass cutting – Hilgay Playing Field | £255.93 |
| 102033 | Grounds & Co – Inv CE6111 Annual Rent – Hilgay Playing Field | £250.00 |
| 102034 | Hilgay Feoffee Charity – River Field Annual Rent=£65 + Hire of TMB Hall=£10 | £75.00 |
| 102035 | Clerks & Councils Direct – Annual subscription £10 per Cllr (13) per annum | £130.00 |
| 102036 | Norfolk County Council – Inv 11128154 - Allotment Rent April to October 08 | £1,020.00 |
| 102037 | SL Tedder – stamps | £11.32 |
| 102038 | Downham District Poppy Appeal – Donation | £33.00 |
| 102039 | A Scordellis Tx Mth 8 –(13 Oct to 9 Nov 08) 25hrs @ £7.88=£197 less 20% tax(£39.40) | £157.60 |
| 102040 | HSBC – Inv46401 Printing of Oct issue of Riverside News | £33.00 |
| 102041* | St Mark's PCC – donation towards cost of water provision to Churchyard CANCELLED | £500.00 |
| 102042 | SL Tedder TxMth 8 (10 Oct to 7 Nov 08) Clerk & Riverside News 25hrs @ £9.83ph | £245.75 |
| 102043 | P Pope – Inv10449 Repair to Parish Cemetery tap | £60.00 |
| 102044 | A Scordellis – Tx Mth 9 (10 Nov to 7 Dec 08) 16hrs @ £7.88=£126.08 less tax(£25.22) | £100.86 |
| 102045 | SL Tedder Tx Mth 9 (8 Nov to 6 Dec 08) Clerk & Riverside News 25hrs @ £9.83ph | £245.75 |
| | Eon Electricity Direct Debit for November £143.47 and December £143.47 | |

* Cheque No. 102041 – cheque lost in post. Cancelled @ £8.

Authorised Interim Payments

| | | |
|--------|--|---------|
| 102046 | A Scordellis Tx Mth 10(8Dec-4Jan) 16hrs @ £7.88=£126.08 less 20% tax(£25.22) | £100.86 |
| 102047 | A Scordellis – Expenses – disinfectant + bin bags | £35.45 |
| 102048 | SL Tedder Tx Mth 10(7 Dec-4 Jan) Clerk & Riverside News 25hrs @ £9.83ph | £245.75 |

Invoices due for payment at this Meeting (15.1.09)

| | | |
|--------|--|---------|
| 102049 | Inland Revenue (A Scordellis) Mth 7=£44.13 Mth 8=£39.40 Mth 9=£25.22 | £108.75 |
| 102050 | SL Tedder – BT (5 Aug to 4 Nov 08)=£34.15 + Stamps= £0.72p | £34.87 |
| 102051 | W Asker Tx Mth 8,9,10 @ £5.91 per month (litter pick) | £17.73 |
| 102052 | HSBC – Inv 47303 Printing of Riverside News (Dec issue) | £33.00 |
| 102053 | Sportsafe – Inv 30295 + Inv30296 Play Equipment Inspects @ £76.38 each | £152.76 |
| 102054 | Hodsons Inv 77603 Ink & Tippex | £38.79 |
| 102055 | MHB Services Inv4153 (13Nov-12Jan)=£195.59 +Inv4339 (13Jan-12Mar)=£191.43 | £387.02 |
| 102056 | Ten Mile Bank School – donation for 2009 Season grass cutting of playing field | £400.00 |
| 102057 | SL Tedder – salary backdate to 1 Apr 08 250 hours @ 53p per hr less 20% tax | £106.00 |
| 102058 | Reissue of chq102041 (lost in post) St Mark's donation for churchyard tap | £500.00 |
| 102059 | A Scordellis Tx Mth 11(5 Jan-1 Feb) 22½ hrs @ £7.88=£177.30 less tax=£35.46 | £141.84 |
| 102060 | SL Tedder Tx Mth 11 (5 Jan-2 Feb) 25hrs @ £10.36 | £259.00 |
| | Eon Electricity Direct Debit for January & February @ £143.47 | |

Salaries & Expenses for Staff (3) for January and February 2009

It was proposed by Mr Houghton, seconded by Mr Wills, and unanimously agreed to pay the above invoices.

6e TO CONSIDER PRECEPT APPLICATION FOR YEAR END 10 (see attached sheet for details)

| | Year End 08 | Year End 09 |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Income | £26,629 | £24,235 |
| (Precept | £19,266) | (£19,747) |
| Expenditure | £15,541 | predicted at £23,307 + legal fees |

It was unanimously agreed to set the Precept application for Year End 2010 by increasing the Year End 2009 application by 2.5% (£19,747 plus 2.5%).

7. PLANNING CONSULTATION – NOTIFICATIONS and DECISIONS and MEMORIAL HEADPIECES

NOTIFICATION TO PARISH

08/02762/O – Outline Application – Construction of 1 No. 3 Bedroomed Single Storey Dwelling at Gilmarcy, Church Road. Hilgay. **Parish Council Approved.**

NOTICE OF DECISION

08/02427/F – Demolition of Grage and Erection of new Garage/outbuilding & 2 Storey Extension to Dwelling at Field View, Ferry Farm, River Bank, Ten Mile Bank. Parish Council Approved. **BCKLWN Permission Granted.**

08/02435/F – Construction of Dwelling at land north of Pingle Villa, East End, Hilgay. Parish Council Refused. **BCKLWN Permission Refused.**

Memorial Headstones

Emmerson & Son - on behalf of F Gooding. **Approved.**

8 TO MAKE FINAL DECISION ON THE BCKLWN FENCING AT THE GREEN (FRONTING AVENUE CLOSE)

Held over until January 2009 Meeting, whereby a final decision is to be made. Options to be considered:

1. Leave the fencing in its current state of disrepair.
2. Request the BCKLWN to remove the fencing.

Notification placed in the December issue of Riverside News. No response from Residents.

Member of Public attended this Meeting to raise complaint that the works are not proceeding.

It was unanimously agreed to approach the BCKLWN with a view to undertaking the repairs.

Clerk to obtain repair quotation.

9 TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE NEW MODEL PUBLICATION SCHEME UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

ADOPTION OF NEW MODEL PUBLICATION SCHEME UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Notification Received in December

Approval for all existing publication schemes will expire on 31 December 2008. The new model publication scheme must be adopted by 1 January 2009.

The Act obliges every public authority to adopt an approved Publication Scheme. The intention of a Publication Scheme is to require authorities to make certain kinds of information routinely available to the public.

It was unanimously agreed to adopt the new model publication scheme under the Freedom of Information Act.

10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Matters raised are noted under the relevant Item headings,

11 HILGAY MATTERS

The Avenue - Volunteers required to assist with cutting of the holly hedge at The Avenue, All Saints Church.

Advertisement for volunteers to be placed in the Riverside News.

The Green, Manby Close - vehicles driving across the Green. **Send letter to Manby Close Residents.**

Fly Tipping at Ely Road – bags dumped in layby. **Clerk to report to Cleanup Team.**

Hilgay Bridge - large pothole, and bollard broken. **Report to Highways.**

12 TEN MILE BANK MATTERS

Modney Bridge Road/A10 - numerous complaints about unmarked/unlit junction, and adjacent farm entrance reflector posts causing confusion. Safety audit has previously been carried out and junction was deemed clearly marked. **Clerk to raise with Highways again.**

12 contd ..

Fen Riverway – dog fouling issues. **Clerk to investigate.**

Mud on Station Road – ongoing issue. Previously reported to Police and Highways. **Clerk to request Highways to write to farmer concerned.**

Station Road Crossroads – road surface marked up for repair 4 months ago. Works still not undertaken. **Clerk to query with Highways.**

Station Road - dyke culvert blocked. **Report to Highways.**

Station Road – wheelie bins – being kicked over.

Potholes:

Modney Bridge Road

Church Road (outside St Mark's Church) – repair breaking up

Road sunk around drain outside No.19 Station Road

With no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.35pm

2009 Meetings

Thursday, 5 March Ten Mile Bank Village Hall

Thursday 7 May - Annual Residents Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting Hilgay Village Hall

Thursday 2 July Ten Mile Bank Village Hall

Thursday 3 September Hilgay Village Hall

Thursday 5 November Ten Mile Bank Village Hall