

# HILGAY PARISH COUNCIL

## **Draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016 7.00pm in Hilgay Village hall**

**Present:** Cllr G Carter, Cllr R Houghton, Cllr J Evans, Cllr E Hall, Cllr G Harris, Cllr V Martin, Cllr A Charlesworth, Cllr P Bates, Cllr P Carter, Cllr A Holmes, Cllr R Martin, Cllr C Dawe, Cllr A Hall, Cllr M Storey, Clerk, C Wills.

**Apologies:** 0

**Members of the public:** 5

### **Minutes of Last meeting**

Minutes from the last Parish Council meetings held on 12<sup>th</sup> May and 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016 were discussed and agreed to be a true record of proceedings.

Proposer: Cllr C Dawe

2<sup>nd</sup>: Cllr J Evans

### **Declarations of interest**

Members are invited to declare personal or prejudicial interests in items on the agenda. It is a requirement that declarations from a member include the nature of the interest and whether it is personal or prejudicial.

None declared.

### **Public comments/questions**

No decisions will be made by the Council; matters will be put forward to the next meeting of the Parish Council for discussion.

Members of the public raised concerns with the safety of the junction of Modney Bridge Road and the A10. Vegetation makes visibility poor, the white markings could be improved at the junction and possible double white lining to stop overtaking along that stretch.

Requests were made to have a moveable speed monitor/flashing sign in Ten Mile Bank.

Members of the public requested that no abbreviations are used in the minutes.

The speed warning sign is missing from Church Road.

No public notice was displayed for the planning meeting which was held on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

### **Chairman's reports/updates**

Report on meeting held with Mr. Wallace Norfolk County Highways on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016.

Items discussed were:

1. Painting the bridge railings: will be forwarded to Kenny Mann Bridges team
2. Request for new salt bin near school: If the council were to purchase a bin then Highways will fill this bin once then the Parish Council would need to refill and a street furniture license is required.
3. 30mph roundels on road and lining works for Modney Bridge Road Junction with the A10 have been scheduled and will be handed over to the contractor who then has 12 weeks to complete.
4. Verge works at Ten Mile Bank are ordered. Engine Road damage caused by badgers was discussed.
5. Edge of Station Road needs repair.
6. Flooding and blocked drains were discussed at length and Mr. Wallace agreed to carry out an investigation of the drains in that area, from Ely Road down to Dents shop, and will request the rangers' rod the drains every three months.
7. Lorry turning area at West End and flooding of path at the bottom of Steels Drove: Mr. Wallace has programmed the cleaning and tidying of the footway through to the A10 from Steels Drove and the turning area, this will be handed over to the contractor when resources permits.
8. Sandy Lane public right of way access was discussed, Mr. Wallace will look into this and issue PROW map to the Council
9. In Ten Mile Bank the trees are overgrowing the school warning signs, also the TMB direction sign on the A10 at the junction. Trimming trees to expose signs opposite the Modney Bridge Road junction with A10 are programmed.
10. Pot hole outside Dents shop, Stocks Hill was reported.
11. Dirty signs in the village: request for the rangers list

### **Maintenance reports/updates**

Concrete slab has now been removed and grass seed set.  
Toilet door is still awaiting repair

Council discussed the health and safety implications of the current transport arrangements for the lawnmower to and from Hilgay.

Currently the mower is transported on a borrowed trailer with inadequate means of getting it on the trailer. The Parish Council has a duty of care towards the person carry out the task and therefore has decided to not transport the lawn mower until a suitable alternative can be arranged.

It was proposed to carry out a full costing to decide on whether to purchase means of transport and storage for the mower, purchase a second mower to avoid transportation or appoint an external contractor to carry out the grass cutting.

This will be investigated for the next meeting, in the mean time the contractor who currently cuts the playing field in Hilgay will be asked to cut the cemetery and transport of the mower will cease immediately.

Proposer: Cllr V Martin

2<sup>nd</sup>: Cllr A Hall.

The football hut is still in situ and no repairs have been carried out. The Council agreed that the hut is beyond economic repair and recommended immediate removal. It was agreed not to replace the hut until there becomes a need for it then the Council would be open to suggestions.

Proposer: Cllr J Evans

2<sup>nd</sup>: Cllr E Hall

12 Councilors in favor, 1 abstention.

Cllr V Martin will request a financial donation from Mr. Dent to assist with removal costs.

Cllr M Storey apologized for the current grass cutting situation. The Borough Council and Norfolk County Council have reduced the number of cuts this year by half. The Parish Council can request further cuts at their expense.

Many of the footpaths and bridleways in Hilgay are overgrown and impassible; Cllr V Martin suggested that the Parish Councils has an obligation to look after these footpaths.

It was proposed to obtain quotes to cut these paths.

## **Correspondence**

Safer Neighborhood Action Panel (SNAP) minutes from meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016 are available to read. The next meeting will be 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2016 at 7.00pm in Downham Mkt Town Hall.

A request has been received for some football goal posts in Ten Mile Bank, Council discussed this and will discuss with the school.

Parish Partnership scheme will be available again for 2017/18; bids need to be placed before 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

Norfolk community funding news.

Devolution briefing Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Kings Lynn Town Hall 7-8pm.

*Members of Norfolk County Council have agreed today (Monday 27 June) by 34 votes to 28 with two abstentions to begin a public consultation on a devolution deal for Norfolk and Suffolk.*

*The outcome of the consultation will be submitted to the government in early September, with a further meeting of the full council to be held by the end of October to consider giving consent to the establishment of a Mayoral Combined Authority for the two counties.*

*Cliff Jordan, Leader of Norfolk County Council, described the proposed deal as a 'huge opportunity' - and said he was pleased Norfolk people would now have a chance to have their say.*

*He said: "I strongly believe the right course of action today was to endorse this deal and scheme of governance, so that we could submit it all to the people of Norfolk for consultation.*

*"The vote today was all about giving people a say on a fundamental change to our structure. And we have an equal duty to listen to what they say, and reflect that when we meet again in October."*

*Councilors spent more than three hours considering the issue before agreeing to move the process forward.*

*Among the highlights of the Deal are:*

- *A single pot of £25m a year of new money for the next 30 years (£750m) to support economic growth, development of local infrastructure and jobs. 40% of the 'single pot' will be revenue, which can support capital borrowing*
- *£100m, over five years, of new money to support the building of new homes across Norfolk and Suffolk. Recognizing the housing market conditions in Norwich and Ipswich, Government will also provide the Combined Authority with an additional £30m over five years, split equally for Norwich City and Ipswich Borough, to meet its housing needs*
- *A guaranteed £225m transport budget for the next four years*
- *Control of an existing c£20m a year Adult skills funding to ensure the training offer matches the needs of local businesses and the local labor market*
- *Control of an existing c£2m Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE grant) to enable funding to better meet the needs of local Norfolk and Suffolk employers*
- *Greater control over who delivers transport services in Norfolk and Suffolk, and how they are delivered, rather than it being imposed on us by Central Government*

*Andy Wood, who has led negotiations with Government on behalf of council leaders and the Local Enterprise Partnerships said: "I am pleased that Norfolk County Council has endorsed the deal and agreed to proceed to formal consultation during July and August. We must now await the outcome of meetings being held by other member authorities but this is a really important and positive first step.*

*"The proposed deal offers the area greater decision making powers and additional funding for among other things infrastructure and housing. Government has been clear that there must be local sign up to the proposed deal before it will sign off on it."*

For more information on Devolution visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk)

Emailed received from a parishioner highlighting some dangers on a public bridle way and their disappointment with the lack of concern shown by both Norfolk County Council and local Council to these matters.

**Anglian Water private pumping stations campaign:**

*There may be good news coming for some of your parishioners if they have a private pumping station on their property.*

*Currently, homeowners have to spend hundreds of pounds every year for electricity running costs, maintenance and repairs to look after these private pumping stations. They may even have been flooded if it's broken down in the past.*

*From October 2016, many of these private pumping stations will transfer over to Anglian Water and become our responsibility. We will take over all of the maintenance and the running costs too, saving customers hassle, worry and money.*

*We'd like to ask for your support in letting local residents know about this, and asking them to get in touch with us if they think they have a private pumping station.*

*To help customers identify and report the pumping stations easily, we have launched a specialist website: [www.spotapumpingstation.co.uk](http://www.spotapumpingstation.co.uk).*

Cllr A Hall updated the Council on behalf of FEOFFEES regarding the land adjoining Bridge Street Hilgay. Correspondence from the solicitor suggests that Parties need to consider whether it is viable to continue with the application for Registration of the roadway. The Land registry has raised the issue as to whether there is sufficient evidence to support the application for registration of title. Advice from the solicitor is: either leave things as they are. The Parish Council/Trustees rely on their warning against first registration in terms of access or make an application based on possessory title, this option would be costly.

FEOFFEES made the decision to leave matters as they are. The Parish Council discussed this matter and also agreed to leave matters as they are and rely on the warning against first registration.

The Environment agency has erected a No Fishing sign on the wharf. Council will contact them to find out the reason for this.

## **Planning applications**

None received

## **Payments for approval**

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Clerks wages May             | £291.55  |
| Expenses                     | £51.87   |
| HMRC                         | £95.20   |
| C Wills May                  | £543.68  |
| Expenses                     | £20.40   |
| Hodson office ink            | £28.97   |
| Village hall hire May & June | £32.00   |
| E.on streetlights            | £199.07  |
| Thurlow Nunn strimmer repair | £37.68   |
| Wicksteed leisure repairs    | £932.06  |
| Westcotec SAM 2unit          | £3840.00 |
| JD Signs bin stickers/sign   | £186.00  |
| K and M Lighting             | £119.33  |
| Clerk wages June             | £233.20  |
| Expense                      | £134.15  |
| C Wills June                 | £559.08  |
| HMRC                         | £98.80   |
| Aardvark landscaping         | £150.00  |
| JD signs                     | £186.00  |
| Hodson office ink            | £28.39   |
| K And M Lighting             | £119.33  |
| Anglian water                | £52.89   |
| E.on                         | £192.65  |
| C Wills                      | £31.30   |

Payment to Westcotec was recorded on 12<sup>th</sup> may 2016 for £1600.00, this was not paid and the invoice is for £3840.00, Parish Council must pay this in full then 50% will be refunded from Norfolk County Council.

All payments were approved for payment

Proposer: Cllr A Hall

2<sup>nd</sup>: Cllr A Charlesworth

### **Matters requiring attention**

Council discussed the quality of grass cutting currently being carried out by contractors; the grass is growing very quickly and is long. Some cuts have been missed by the contractors. The council wished to write to them to discuss the contract and a reduction in price.

A request has been made for a new Salt/grit near Hilgay School, Council discussed and decided not to purchase at present time.

Parking outside the school continues to be a problem. It was suggested that the school write a letter to go out to the parents.

A.F Holman has issued a quote to clean the war memorial. Council decided to obtain further advice and quotes.

A request has been made to re plant some trees on the River Field following the removal of the willows. FEOFFEES have decided that no new trees will be planted.

Some of the footpaths require some new gravel.

Prices are still to be obtained for the proposed flower planters on the bridge and others around the villages.

John Evans has a plan of the properties Willow lodge to show ownership of the land. To clarify the position following Cllr Carters concerns.

All Councilors have been emailed a copy of the Governance toolkit for parish and town councils. Cllr V Martin suggested that committees to monitor areas such as footpaths, cemetery, and allotments are setup. Cllr V Martin and Cllr A Holmes will draft some guidelines.

Cllr A Hall, Cllr E Hall and Cllr G Harris volunteered to form a footpath committee.

Various questions were raised regarding the proposed website for Hilgay. The costs will be in the region of £70.00 per year.

Ouse Fest is 18<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> July 2016. The Ouse washes project has been collecting history from the parish and have requested ideas as to how to present and store this history for future generations.

Cllr A Hall announced that FEOFFEE apprenticeship grants are open for applications again this year, closing date is end of October.

There is a lorry still parked at night on the main road near the junction of West End. Council will write to the business to politely request that they do not park here.

Cllr V Martin announced that the government will not lift the ban on pesticides, so the bees are safe!

**Matters requiring attention to be brought forward to the next meeting of the Parish Council.**

These issues have been raised by the Council to be addressed at the next meeting of the Parish Council; no decisions will be made by the Council at this meeting.

Meeting closed 9.15pm

Next meeting of the Council will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 at 7.00pm in Hilgay Village Hall.

Signed Chairman.....

Date.....