# Minutes of Deopham and Hackford Annual Parish Council Meeting in the Gralix Hall on Wednesday 8th February 2017

Present:

Councillors: Martin Skidmore Jackie Phoenix Chris Biggs Mark Howard

Chris Coath

Parish Clerk: Rowena Harkness

1. <u>Apologies</u> - John Chilvers, Jayne Allen, Cllr. Yvonne Bendle (South Norfolk DC) Cllr. Margaret Dewsbury (Norfolk CC)

### 2. Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

#### 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017 were agreed as a correct record. Proposed Chris Biggs, seconded Jackie Phoenix.

## 4. <u>Matters Arising</u>

- 4.1 BT Payphones have returned the signed agreement and the Parish Clerk has had notification that the box has been decommissioned and the equipment removed. The box officially belongs to the Parish Council on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2017. They have sent a notice that will be displayed in the box informing people that it is no longer a BT payphone and that the Parish Council is responsible for it. They have also sent an information back re technical info. The Parish Clerk will forward a copy to Stuart Whall and Jason Marsh who have both offered to renovate it and keep an eye on it. The Parish Council can decide at some point in the future if they wish to use it for anything.
- 4.2 The Parish Clerk reported to NCC Highways the poor condition of the road surface from Attleborough Road/Morley Road junction through The Green and down to the Pye Lane/Vicarage Road junction and the other outstanding NCC Highways issues.
- 4.3 The Parish Clerk has reported the Linden Close road sign to South Norfolk Council who will do a new one it could take up to 6 weeks!
- 4.4 The Parish Clerk raised the issues with car parking at the playing field on football days with Morley YFC and notified them of the rent increase for 2017/18 season.

#### 5. Correspondence

- 5.1 Card received from Heather & Barry Etheridge thanking the Parish Council for the donation towards the churchyard upkeep.
- 5.2 Letter received from South Norfolk Council re dog bin emptying charges. They will be increased to £100 + vat per bin for twice a week collection from April 2017. The budget allocated by the Parish Council does not quite cover this amount £300 + vat as we have 3 bins but underspends from other budgets will cover it. However new cost will be important if there are any future requests for new bins in the parish.
- 5.3 Notification from NCC Highways that the B1108 will be closed overnight at the Hardingham bends on February 22<sup>nd</sup> 7pm to February 23<sup>rd</sup> 6am. to allow for carriageway surface treatment retexturing.
- 5.4 Other correspondence for information was circulated around the table.

#### 6. Finance

- 6.1 The account balances as at 18/1/2017 were £502.27 in the current account and £1,551.33 in the deposit. There are two unpresented cheques and so the reconciled balance is £351.27 paper.
- 6.2 The payment of £16.89 to Anglian Water for the playing field supply 13/10/16 18/1/17 was approved. Proposed Jackie Phoenix, seconded Mark Howard.

6.3 The Risk Assessment for the Parish Council had been circulated and was reviewed. There were no changes required as the risks remain the same and the appropriate management of those risks is in place. To be reviewed in two years time – as recommended by Internal Auditor.

## 7. Planning

7.1 No planning applications have been received from South Norfolk – however the Parish Clerk and several parish councillors are aware of the proposed application by Richard Long for an anaerobic digestion renewable energy unit on land off Morley Lane, Morley St. Botolph. The Parish Clerk had printed the site location map with the site access routes and transport summary report as she was concerned about the implications for the parish of the tractors/lorries taking the crops to the digester going through Deopham and Hackford.

There was concern that though the application and supporting transport summary say that the incoming traffic will travel from the east – ie the B1172 and into Morley Lane presumably the reason for wanting a new digester in Morley is to serve the western side. This means all the land farmed by the applicant and farmers contracted to grow for him in Woodrising, Cranworth, Hingham, Hardingham and Deopham/Hackford.

The quickest route from Woodrising/Hingham/Deopham/ is to come via Deopham/Hackford to Morley and the contractors used by the applicant will use the quickest route.

The contractors last summer drove large tractors with large trailers carting maize and rye grass at all times of day and night and drove too fast on the small narrow lanes and roads – the vehicles are too wide and destroyed verges and caused dreadful damage. The narrow lanes in Deopham & Hackford are already used by enough large farm traffic without adding outside contractors who have no regard for the village environment.

As there are no footpaths in the village, pedestrians will be at more risk of being hit than they currently are.

Morley Parish Council have commented and said that once permission is given, how will enforcing and policing any conditions regarding traffic movements be carried out.

After discussion it was agreed that a letter be written to South Norfolk Planning outlining the objections of the Parish Council and saying that if approval is given there must be a way of ensuring the traffic does not come through Deopham & Hackford.

7.2 Cats Cradle, Church Lane, Hackford, NR18 9HN – removal of existing conservatory and proposed side extension, loft conversion and front porch (App. No 2016/2938) – has been approved with usual conditions.

### 8. Deopham Playing Field

8.1 Jackie Phoenix reported on the fundraising being carried out for the Playing Field Hut improvements via the Playing Field Development Group. She handed over two cheques £108.50from bingo, £103.90 from the coffee morning. The £300 grant from South Norfolk will be used for buying tables for use at future fundraising events and Jackie is in the process of ordering the tables.

### 9. Any Other Business

- 9.1 Katherine Gray from the High Oak Music Group would like permission to use the playing field on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 for the 25<sup>th</sup> birthday event she is organising for the group. It was agreed in principle dependent on the weather in the preceding week if the field is under water then the Parish Council may change its mind!
- **10. Date of Next Meeting** Wednesday March 8th 2017, 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.10pm.