

WALBERSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held in the annex of the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday, 6th April, 2009

PRESENT

Mrs M V Dabbs (Chairman), Mr R G Buncombe (Vice Chairman), Mrs A Aldridge, Mr A E Hunt , Mr B Tibbles, Mr D C B Webb, and Mr K G Webb (Councillors) and Mrs V J Hunt (Clerk). There were no members of public present.

1. **APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE** was received from County Councillor Rae Leighton
2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** were **approved** after one small adjustment and were signed as a true record by the Chairman
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** There were none
4. **MATTERS ARISING**
 - a. Shoreline Management - Councillor D Webb had attended the meeting and gave a report. See appendix 'a'.
 - b. Play Equipment – This was still under discussion
 - c. Parish Plan – the Chairman reported that four members of the Parish Plan Group would be attending a workshop on 16th May at a cost of £150.00. She reported that a grant of £500.00 had been received from Rural Action East towards the project.
 - d. Quality Councils – The Chairman also reported that Mrs Kay Ungless had set up a Web Site for the Parish Council at www.onesuffolk.co.uk/parishcouncils. She stated that a tremendous amount of work had gone into producing the site and it looked really professional. Thanks would be expressed to Mrs Ungless, at the Annual Parish Meeting, for carrying out this work on behalf of the Council.
 - e. Track outside Parish Lantern – Conditions were now right for repairs to be carried out. Councillor K Webb stated that it would be done as soon as possible.

5. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications

TE AWAHOU, Millfield Road – Replacement of existing greenhouse in garden – Application No: C/09/2009

The Parish Council had **no objections** to this application.

6. ACCOUNTS

a. Receipts

- i. Rural Action East – grant to Community Benefit Fund for Parish Plan £500.00

ii. *HM Revenue and Customs – VAT	£65.79
iii. *VHMC – grass cutting – Village hall area (VAT £10.71)	£82.14
iv. *WCLCT – grass cutting – Palmers Lane green (VAT £10.71)	£82.14

b. Payments

i. *WDC – grass cutting – Village greens (VAT £85.73)	£657.23
ii. *WDC – grass cutting – sports field (VAT £20.45)	£156.75
iii. SALC – Yearly subscription	£138.00
iv. Mrs V J Hunt – salary Jan/Feb/March	£1,111.85
v. HM Revenue and Customs – tax for Mrs V J Hunt	£50.40
vi. Mrs V J Hunt – expenses (VAT £2.25)	£25.13
vii. *Mrs M. Dabbs – Lost cheque replacement (Chq no: 000675)	£31.20

*These receipts and payments accounted in 2008-2009.

It was **unanimously supported** that the above accounts should be paid and the receipts were acknowledged. The Clerk pointed out that she had mistakenly thought a 'details of payment' received from Suffolk Coastal Services in November had been credited to the PC account at that time (See November minutes - item 6a). On checking, however, it was discovered that this in fact had been not been remitted until February included in another credit (see March minutes – item 6a).

c. To receive details of receipts and payments for the year ending 31st March 2009

The Clerk had prepared details of the receipts and payments for the year ending 31st March 2009. (See appendix 'b'). These would be presented to the Annual Parish Meeting and copies made available to the public. The balance in hand at the end of the financial year was £9,423.56. It was proposed by Councillor K Webb, seconded by Councillor B Tibbles and **unanimously supported** that these accounts be accepted.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Request for a sign to warn of concealed driveways (Blyth Reach, Green Gates and The Stables on the bend in Main Street) – It was **unanimously supported** to contact the Highways Department to see if this was possible.

b. Walberswick Common Lands Charity:

- i. **Revised Scheme consultation with Parish Council** - The Chairman, Barbara Priestman, had written to say that the amended scheme would revert to the original composition of Trustees, i.e. four Nominative, two Co-optatives and one ex-Officio.
- ii. **Funding** – The Trust had written to inform the Council that they had set aside the sum of £250.00 towards fencing the children's play area at the sports field. They would also consider contributing to the Parish Plan if requested. They had also agreed to help towards funding the first responders up to £2,000.00.

- c. **Walberswick Car Parks Ltd.** – The secretary had written to the Council asking if it would consider the feasibility of Walberswick Car Parks Ltd. operating from 1st April each year. It was **agreed** to contact the Highways Department asking the position of extending parking restrictions to include April, before discussing this further.
- d. **Allotments** – Mr Philip Kett, allotment co-ordinator, had written asking if some of the excess rent money could be spent, in the autumn, on trying to rid the allotments of rats. It was **agreed** to permit this if it was viable and within budget. It had also been reported that one of the allotments was being severely neglected and this was causing a problem with seeding on surrounding allotments. It was agreed to write to the tenant.
- e. **Changes to Policy regarding plasterboard at Suffolk Household Waste recycling Centre** – Suffolk County Council had written to inform the council that plasterboard would only be accepted in limited quantities of two bags per day.

8. SEA AND RIVER DEFENCES

- a. **Parish Council's responsibility to organise the fencing of the dunes** - It was agreed, initially, to write to the Environment Agency asking them if they would be prepared to re-erect the fencing to maintain protection to the sand dunes.
- b. **River Blyth Flood Banks – Planning Application** – Councillor D Webb, on behalf of the Blyth Estuary Group, asked the Council if they would be prepared to submit the necessary planning application for the rebuilding of the river walls as this would cut the cost of submission by half. Funding was already in place so there would be no cost to the Council. It was **supported** that the Council would be prepared to submit the application providing there would be no legal or financial liability for the Parish Council.

9. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW

This had been deferred until 15th July, 2009. The Council **agreed** to write to the Review Manager at the Boundary Commission re-emphasising the Council's previous letter to maintain status quo. It was also agreed to object to the further costs of the review.

10. APPOINTMENT OF NEW CLERK

The Chairman and Councillors Hunt and Aldridge had interviewed for the new Clerk. They recommended that Miss Mischi Verneti be appointed. This was **unanimously supported**. The appointment would come into effect from 1st June, 2009.

11. ARCHIVES

It was **unanimously supported** that the Chairman and Clerk should go through the archives of the Council, which were currently stored at the Clerk's house and destroy all superfluous documents.

12. MATTERS RAISED BY THE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND THE POLICE

There were none.

13. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

- a. **Caravans** – It was agreed to write to Mr. Winyard to ask him to remind his tenants that their caravans should not arrive before the 1st April and be removed by 1st October.
- b. **Gorse on playing area of sports field** – Councillor D Webb reported that this needed cutting back.
- c. **Cycling Courses for visitors' children** – The Council was concerned at the way children were being allowed to roam the streets on bicycles, often on the wrong side of the road and almost all without helmets. It was **agreed** to look into running cycling courses similar to the ones held by the Council in 2006.
- d. **Dog fouling notices** - More were required. Councillor Buncombe agreed to produce them.
- e. **New grass area on Village Green** – This required attention. The Chairman agreed to contact Bob Cronin for advice and treatment.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11th May, 2009

Meeting closed at 9.04pm

Signed.....

Date.....