

## DITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### NOTES OF MEETING HELD MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2011

Due to an oversight 3 days notice, to the public, of this meeting had not been given. It was decided to proceed with discussion items and to hold a further meeting to complete formal items and to make decisions. With the Clerk unable to attend, the Vice Chair compiled these notes.

Julian Green chaired the meeting. Peter Bent gave his apologies and all other councillors along with approx 10 members of the public were present.

#### Public Participation

- (i) Several people voiced concerns about the anti-social behaviour by some young people and about alleged police inaction. Although this is a perennial problem some time was given to it. No new solutions were forthcoming but the following were included in the discussion: engage with the youngsters/ include them if and when CLP takes off/ attend the imminent Eastern River Valleys Neighbourhood Board meeting (ERVNB)/ Councillors attend the imminent meeting at Brooke re "Improving Community Safety in your Parish."
- (ii) Parish Council communication with the community – appreciation of the new notice board was expressed. Sharon Cheer's offer to make Councillors' contact details available to the "Parishioner" editors was accepted with thanks. The Council agreed to finish the task of posting portraits and brief biographies.

Item 1 – Apologies were noted

Item 2 – Deferred

Item 3 – Deferred

Item 4 – (i) The Vice Chair updated the meeting about the Good Neighbour Scheme. Following a poorly attended launch meeting at Belsey Bridge, a small Steering Group has been formed. Officers have been appointed and further publicity will be forthcoming soon.

(ii) The Vice Chair also gave an update on CLP. Leaflets had recently been distributed with the November "Parishioner." Following collection, Pauline Allen will collate responses. Assuming sufficient interest, public meetings will be held with a view to establishing Steering Groups.

Item 5 – (i) **County Councillor** Tony Tomkinson reported that £30 million, of the £32 million Norfolk invested in Icelandic banks, would be returned (but no interest.) He also reported that the Government is taking £4.5 million pounds from the Norfolk budget that subsidises local transport and concessions. He urged people to join in a campaign to get this restored. Thirdly, he commented on the anti-social behaviour issue. He repeated the advice to attend ERVNB and suggested speaking with PCSO Donna Boggis, who is back in post (pt.) He also commented on an "EDP" report of 17/09/11 about NCC making available £100,000 for small highways projects; he explained that matched (50/50) funding would be needed. Finally, he explained how money will be forthcoming from building developments through Section 106 and through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL.)

(ii) **District Councillor** Pauline Allen had provided a written report, The completion date of the affordable housing project is expected to be March/April 2012. Attention was drawn to the need to bid for S106 monies. A report was given on meetings with Broome PC re fly tipping and dog fouling. [Councillors decided to discuss, at its next meeting, the reinstatement of bags for dog owners' use]. PA is now representing SNC on N Suffolk CAB board. She is involved in discussions about how SNC will make the £2.6 million savings required over the next two years. She indicated that the Vice Chair could give updates on GNS & CLP (see Item 4 above.) In a written note PA advised councils to be vigilant over the route and nature of planned electricity supply through the area. In another written note she alerted Council to proposed changes in SNC's receipt of local planning decisions. It is likely that, in future, only decisions made at a public meeting will be considered valid. Finally, she drew Council's attention to the meeting at Brooke re "Improving Community Safety in your Parish."

Item 6 – Deferred

Item 7 – Deferred

Item 8 – N/A

Item 9 – N/A

Item 10 – (i) The Chair led a discussion on Standing Orders (SOs) . A set of model SOs was to hand. Chair & V Chair had worked on these and 2 marked up copies would be circulated amongst Councillors, for comment, prior to a final version being adopted.

(ii) Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for Advisory Committees had been circulated. There was a brief discussion. The V Chair indicated that ToR and Advisory Committee membership could be adopted at the next meeting; there was no dissent.

The remainder of Item 10 was deferred.

Item 11 – A brief discussion on LDF ended with several Councillors expressing the view that the Council's existing policy should be restated.

CC Tomkinson gave further information on the CIL which will produce large amounts of money for communities having building projects. (5% to PCs by right.)

The V Chair said the Council should be vigilant in making itself aware of available monies and of other bodies' claims on resources. There will be a role for Advisory Committees in this.

Item 12 – There was a brief discussion about the nature of the development Council would like to see. It was recognised that there might be a mismatch between Council's preferences and commercial viability.

Item 13 – Councillor Jane Chadd said informal discussions with parishioners indicated there was little enthusiasm. She was awaiting a reply from the school and would submit a paragraph about twinning to the "Parishioner."

The rest of the agenda was deferred.

The date of the next meeting was proposed as Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November.

This was subsequently CHANGED TO TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER because the room was not available.

Keith Weston 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011