

**SAHAM TONEY PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2015**

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at The Wells-Cole Community Centre.

**Present** – Mr. J. Kemp in the Chair supported by Messrs T. Bunce, N. Creek, R. Harrold, B. Hinkins, J. Laws, S. McConnell and Mrs. M. Roy.

The Chairman welcomed Mr. McConnell to his first meeting and asked for permission to refer to him by his Christian name and put his name and contact details in the Saga. Mr. McConnell gave his permission.

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Apologies received and accepted from Ms M. Baldwin, Mrs. P. Grieff and Mr. C. Carter (District Councillor).

**2. Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda:** Mrs. M. Roy declared an interest in the letter from NCC re Watton Water Recycling Centre, Brandon Road.

**3. Minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2015 were taken as read, proposed by Mr. T. Bunce, seconded by Mrs. M. Roy and unanimously agreed and signed.

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes and Action List:**

- Registration of Coburg Lane – still in progress.
- WCCC – under Correspondence.
- Seat in front of WCCC – Mrs. P. Grieff had collected £36.17 which the Clerk will make up to £40 towards the purchase of a seat – to be on the September Agenda.
- Playpark – The Chairman and Mr. T. Bunce will attend to the remedial work to the under 8 enclosure gate next week.
- Highway matters – most of these matters had been dealt with. The hazard marker posts in Chequers Lane, the foul smelling water in the ditch in front of Clayland development and the dropped kerb assessment were still outstanding. Mr. T. Bunce said The Oval and Neville Close have been resurfaced but unfortunately the pot holes had not been filled first so there are dips in the road.

**5. Resolution to Adjourn the Meeting for Public Participation and District/County Councillor**

**Reports:** The Chairman closed the meeting and reminded the public that this is the only time they can speak.

A parishioner spoke re the parking hazard on - Richmond Road, outside the old Post Office – Clerk will report to Highways to see what can be done at this location.

The Chairman reopened the meeting.

**6. Correspondence:**

- Letter from CGM with quotation for strimming at church – after discussion it was agreed the Chairman would undertake this work. Some areas of the Wells-Cole land had not been

strimmed prior to the Fete which had resulted in the WCCC having to ask someone else to do this. The Clerk will check the contract with CGM.

- Email from WCCC re possible dates for Annual Meeting – The date for the User Meeting has been set as 25<sup>th</sup> August at 7 p.m. and the date for the Annual Meeting as 6<sup>th</sup> October – to be chaired by Mr. Charles Carter. It was agreed Mr. J. Laws will attend the User Group Meeting on behalf of the Parish Council. The Clerk read a note from Mr. Carter saying he is happy to chair the meeting in order to rekindle the relationship between the Parish Council, the parishioners and the Community Centre and will focus on positive current and potential future structure, relationships and working arrangements and does not propose to focus on events of the past. There are many questions which have been asked by the village and all these areas will be explored in order to achieve a positive outcome. If any area is withheld then he will not be able to help the community.
- Information on Practical Budget Training – it was agreed that this is not necessary for the Clerk.
- Letter informing of Appeal re Otterwood Kennels – Mr. Charles Carter had stressed it is important that letters of objection be written to the Planning Inspectorate detailing all the past objections to plans for Otterwood Kennels. The Clerk had prepared a note of all the Council's previous comments and it was agreed to submit these comments with the omission of two points.
- Mr. C. Carter had also asked that the Council give consideration to meeting on the second Monday of each month in order for him to better attend meetings. It was unanimously agreed that the Council change its meeting date to the second Monday of the month from October as long as this is convenient for the WCCC.
- Email forwarded from Breckland as a parishioner had contacted them re request for dog bins on Coburg Lane and Ploughboy Lane. The Clerk had already replied that we had looked into this and Breckland will not collect from a bin in Coburg Lane and there is already a bin on Ploughboy Lane.
- Emails re repairs to Church Clock – Mr. R. Harrold explained that the chiming mechanism on the clock needed replacing. An initial visit by Smiths of Derby had confirmed this although this visit has been carried out by a subcontractor – Haward Horological – who had quoted for the work independently of Smiths. Two quotes had been received – Smiths £981 + VAT and Haward Horological - £500 which had subsequently been reduced to £420 if the work is done this week as he has another job in Swaffham. It was proposed by the Chairman and unanimously agreed that the Council accept the price of £420 from Haward Horological.
- Heritage Notes Article for Saham Saga – The Clerk had circulated Mr. Mitchell's notes for inclusion in the September Saga. Mr. B. Hinkins pointed out some points including “the right to buy” and the doctor's surgery in Watton and Mr. Mitchell will amend his report and resubmit to the Clerk who will circulate to councillors in order that it is approved in time for inclusion in the September Saga.
- Letter from parishioners re the Peafowl Nuisance in Richmond Road – The Clerk had forwarded this to Mr. B. Mitchell who has replied to the parishioners. Mr. Mitchell has also contacted Mr. G. Tweed re this letter but has not yet spoken to him but will continue to attempt to do so. There is nothing that the Parish Council can do.
- WCCC Play Park Inspection for July 2015 – Mrs. B. Harrold had commented that considering the time the play area has been in full use it is in a remarkably good condition and this, in most parts, is thanks to the people who use and respect this amenity. There is a tree that is dead and needs to be removed. All in agreement that Alan McMurdie removes the tree. The ROSPA report had been received and the Play Park risk had been set at “Medium” but there were no items considered dangerous or needing immediate attention.

- Letter from NCC re Watton Water Recycling Centre, Brandon Road – erection of two GRP kiosks for electrical and control equipment for Anglian Water – no objections to this. Mrs. M. Roy did not take part in the discussions.
- Two letters from a parishioner – one concerning trees at the bottom of her garden which belong to the adjoining property and one re an overgrown hedge opposite Hunts Farm. Mr. J. Laws said he is working on the trees and should complete the work by September and Mr. S. McConnell said the hedge is in front of his property and he will cut it back at the correct time of the year having regard to the wildlife pointing out that the road has also grown due to erosion. Clerk to inform parishioner.
- Email sent to a councillor re Mill Corner property – This has recently been sold at auction on the owner's death and we are told that the new owner has plans to demolish a clay lump barn and build a house on the site although the Council has no knowledge of this. The parishioner is concerned because she believes there to be bats present in the barn. Mr. N. Creek said he had been told that a bat survey had revealed that there were 7 species of bats identified within half a kilometre of the barn including the Western Barbastrelle, an endangered species, so there is a good chance there are bats in the barn. It is a criminal offence to destroy a bat habitat even if the bats are not in residence. Mrs. M. Roy said the NCC will help with this but Mr. N. Creek said he believed the parishioner had already contacted them. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the new owners of the site with a copy to NCC and the Bat Conservation Trust.

#### **7. To Approve Accounts for Payment:**

The following accounts are due for payment:-

- Breckland Council - £75 – uncontested Election
- Mrs. J.S. Glenn - £ 496.75 made up of salary - £476.76 plus Broadband £19.99
- Smiths of Derby - £180 – attending site after fault reported, check over the installation and report.
- Mrs. P. Nichols - £135.50 – Community Car Scheme (half repayable by Breckland)
- CGM - £883.90 – grounds maintenance at the WCCC and Church
- Playsafety Limited - £110.40 – Annual Inspection Play Park

The payment of the above accounts was proposed by the Chairman and unanimously agreed.

**8. To Consider Planning Matters:** Planning Permission received to Plan 3PL/2015/0599/F – proposed loft conversion at Parcent, 51 Hills Road. The following plans were discussed:-

- Plans 3PL/2015/0817F and 3PL/2015/0818/LB – replacement dwelling at Pages Place Lodge, Pages Lane. On a vote of 6 in favour and 1 against, it was agreed not to object to this plan. Mrs. M. Roy objected as it is a listed building and should not be demolished.
- Plan 3PL/2015/0805/F – proposed extension and garage to annex at The Croft, 69 Hills Road – no objections.

**9. To Report on Progress with the Neighbourhood Plan:** 82 replies had so far been received to the Neighbourhood Planning Questionnaire and the Clerk had produced a summary of the main points. Mr. B. Hinkins said Wayland Partnership were arranging a meeting for all the partnership parishes with a representative from planning at Breckland in late September to discuss Neighbourhood Plans and felt it would be best not to proceed further until after this meeting. Mr. B.

Hinkins asked Mr. B. Mitchell if he would help with historic facts for the Neighbourhood Plan and Mr. Mitchell agreed. An offer of help from the Saham Action Group had also been received.

**10. To Consider Reports from Outside Organisations:** The Clerk read the Speedwatch report. During July there had been 29 vehicles recorded as exceeding the speed limit over 4 hours in 4 locations.

**11. Items for the Next Agenda (not for discussion):** The following item to be on the September Agenda: Seat in front of the Community Centre and Entrance to the Car Park at the Community Centre.

**12. To Confirm the Date and Time of the Next Meeting of the Parish Council** –Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.30 at the Wells-Cole Community Centre.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 p.m.

### **Parish Matters**

Mr. T. Bunce suggested letters of thanks be sent to Carol and John Hagan for their work in organising the Fete and Erich Bonneton de Sarlat for providing top soil and helping to level the ground in preparation for the Fete. It was agreed that the Clerk write letters.

The entrance to the Community Centre had been badly flooded on the day of the Fete and Mr. R. Harrold said that the contractors putting the electric wires underground had said that the car park was packed down too tightly and it should have had a membrane to allow the water to soak through. Agreed to put on the September Agenda.

.