

# ASHBY ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting on Thursday 20 July 2006 at 7.45 pm at Ashby and Thurton Village Hall

## MINUTES

**Present:** Robert Todd (Chairman), Peter Wright, Carole Powell,  
and Edgar Hoddy.

**Also Present:** Linda Gray (Clerk), Adrian Gunson, County Councillor, Derek Blake, District Councillor, Mrs Clifford-Jackson of South Norfolk Council, Tim Mobbs and 3 Members of Public.

### 1. Apologies

Were received from Terry Kitt, Mark Rolph and Sarah Cook.

### 2. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest relating to items on the Agenda.

### 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2006

The minutes, which had been circulated previously, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

### 4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising, which were not covered by the Agenda.

### 5. The Attendance of Mrs Clifford-Jackson, Leader of South Norfolk Council Local Development framework

Robert Todd the Chair, explained that the residents were very concerned with the envisaged development of Ashby St Mary. Of the responses to the Parish Plan questionnaire (87% response rate) 90% of residents did not want the village to change, due mainly to lack of infrastructure. He asked Mrs Clifford-Jackson, if the village had such a consistent view that this factor would be taken into consideration when the decisions are made? Mrs Clifford-Jackson replied that consultation for the framework is ongoing, most of the land identified in the initial search will be eliminated and Framework land criteria are continually changing.

#### Rise in Council Tax

The rise in Council Tax was not expected but had transpired through various factors. The waste bill for the area was a lot larger than had been anticipated. There had been no extra revenue from new householders as the trend for people to live alone is on the increase and the Council gives a 25% reduction on sole occupancy Council Tax. The right to buy is also experiencing a decline.

#### Policing

The Chair reported that residents were concerned that the lack of response to local incidents is ever increasing, re: squatters at Christmas and now an incident at the Village Hall had experienced no support from the Police. The Parish Plan responses identified issues residents have concerning the visibility of the Police locally. Mrs Clifford-Jackson explained that she had met with the Chief Constable twice to raise the issue of Police visibility in rural areas. The new inspector at Diss is very pro active around this point. The Police will be holding a meeting soon concerning the new structure of the Police locally to include Community Police Officers. Derek Blake, District Councillor, reported that PC Sparkes had been replaced by PC Sonya Lake and the Police will be accepting the offer of a beat base at Hobart High School.

#### Recycling Centre Bergh Apton and Environmental issues.

The Chair explained that residents were not happy with the heavy handedness of rules at the Recycling Centre and questioned the reason why glass could not be collected in the recycling wheelie bins. Mrs Clifford-Jackson replied the policy for recycling centres needs review by the County Council but the centres do give good information regarding recycling. Everyone needs to change their lifestyles regarding waste as Landfill is nearly complete in this country. Although Suffolk has produced a further wheelie bin for glass, Norfolk is receiving mixed messages about how well this is received by residents. Some people are happy with yet

another wheelie bin where others are not. The glass cannot be mixed with the paper and in the short term the local glass recycling centres will continue. These are situated at Thurton and Claxton locally with further centres in Loddon and at most Supermarkets. Road Sweeping in the Village is required more regularly reported Peter Wright as sand and silt is constantly building up on Chapel Road and Mill Road, Who is responsible for road sweeping? Tim Mobbs replied that South Norfolk is responsible with this issue and he would contact the Clerk with information residents can use to report any problems. In summing up the Chair thanked Mrs Clifford-Jackson for attending the meeting and the explanations given.

## 6. Finance

A **Balance of Accounts** Current A/c as at 30 June 2006 £500.00  
Business Prem A/c 30 June £2116.86

### B Payments

Thurton & Ashby Preschool	100176	£ 100.00
Ashby St Mary PCC Grass	100177	£ 50.00
NCAPTC	100178	£ 7.49
Linda Gray Clerks Salary	100179	£ 287.54
Ashby & Thurton V.H	100180	£ 17.00

Payments were agreed and proposed by Carol Powell and seconded by Edgar Hoddy  
**Section 137 Donations** to be discussed at the next meeting in September.

### C Receipts

Kerbside Adopter	07.06.06	£54.65
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### D Audit

Chris Dix was approved as the internal auditor for the Parish Council Audit.  
The Parish Council approved the Audit figures. Proposed Edgar Hoddy and seconded by Carol Powell.

## 7. Correspondence (tabled separately)

*South Norfolk Council Re Licensing Applications.* These will be circulated for comment similarly to the planning, by the Clerk.

*Saffron Housing Re Land for Development in Ashby St Mary.* In reference to the Parish Plan, residents do not agree with any further development within Ashby St Mary.

*South Norfolk Council RE Parish Council Membership.* The Councillors felt that 7 Councillors was adequate.

## 8. Planning

### Planning – Applications

#### **2006/1437 The Paddocks, Mill Common, Ashby St Mary**

Proposed extension and alterations to dwelling. Councillor Decisions – Approved

Mr and Mrs Wood attended the meeting to discuss certain issues relating to this application

#### **2006/1272 Land to rear of 12 Foxgove Close (no's 7,16&18)**

##### **St Marys Road, Ashby St Mary**

Change of use from agricultural to domestic gardens Councillor Decisions – Approved

#### **2006/1107 Field View, Sandy Lane, Ashby St Mary**

Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of house Councillor Decisions- Refuse

This planning application was referred to the Eastern Area Planning Committee. The Committee felt that a site meeting was required. The site meeting is scheduled for 9am 26

July 2006. The applications issues will be discussed further at the next East Area Planning Committee Meeting on 10 August 2006, 4.30pm.

### **Planning - Decision**

#### **2006/1161 Springwoods, Mill Road, Ashby St Mary**

Proposed single storey bedroom extension

Application Withdrawn

#### **9. Ashby and Thurton Village Hall Notice Board**

The Clerk had received a number of letters from the Village Hall Committee concerning the following. Increase in hall charges, an incident that had happened relating to the Police (this item was discussed with Mrs Clifford-Jackson above) and the proposal of a notice board at the Village Hall. The Councillors discussed the issue concerning the new notice board and resolved to agree to the purchase but to also confirm that the notice board would be available for all residents and user groups to use and that management of the board had been discussed.

#### **10. Homewatch** Nothing to report

#### **11. Web Site** Carol Powell will seek further information and will report back at the next meeting

#### **12. Public Consultation Reports from County and District Councillors**

*Report from Adrian Gunson, County Councillor,*

*Thurton Primary School*, the building of a new school has been agreed. The Governors at present are reviewing the plans to ensure the new school provides all facilities. The School will enter into an agreement with the Village Hall for the use of the recreation field.

*Hobart High School*, building work is continuing well. The recent outstanding Ofsted report was well received by all. Local consultation was sought with prospective user groups and residents concerning the All Weather Pitch. Noise and floodlighting are proving sensitive issues, the planning permission application will be submitted in the autumn. The pitch will provide facilities for Hockey, Soccer and 5-a-side Soccer and Tennis.

*Policing* a meeting is to be held in Loddon on 24 July to report new arrangements including the Community Service Officers.

*Trowse Bypass Traffic light issues.* A new controller for these lights is being considered by the Highways Agency after a survey has been completed.

*The Whitlingham Trust*, the café and visitors centre in the barn has now been opened.

*Wherrymans Way*, a leaflet has been produced to show walks and guided walks organised by the Broads Authority are now underway.

*Report from Derek Blake, District Councillor*

*Local Development framework*, Derek gave all councillors a 'Handy Guide to Planning' document to give information on planning regulations. He also speculated that most development under this framework would take place in Market Towns such as Loddon.

*Gambling Act*, a new paper is available.

*Business Breakfast* 26 July 2006 at South Norfolk Offices in Long Stratton, Staff Retention. *Sainsburys Centre at the UEA*, is now again open after its refit. Admission is Free.

#### **13. Other Matters for future agendas and items for information**

Village Footpaths need attention; Edgar will contact Sally Hunt at Norfolk County Council. The Standing Orders for the Parish Council will be circulated with the correspondence. After comments have been received from all Councillors the Standing Orders can be ratified.

#### **14. Date of next meeting 21 September 2006**

**The meeting closed at 10.06pm**