

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Beeston with Bittering Parish Council held on **TUESDAY 24TH APRIL 2012** in Beeston Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

Chairman: J. Farrall.

Councillors Present: J Kinnaid, R Sharpin, D Barter, T Townshend

County and District Councillor M Kiddle Morris

Apologies for Absence: Councillors G Davidson

4 Members of the Public.

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies to report.

MINUTES

The Minutes of 26th April 2011 had been circulated but could be read out if requested. No request was made. Councillor Sharpin proposed and Councillor Farrall seconded the adoption of the minutes and these were duly signed as a true record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT APRIL 2012

Councillor Farrall read out his report as follows:-

The local government elections of 2011 returned a new Parish Council (PC) with 7 members from a field of 8 candidates; there are two new members; - Councillors Darren Burton and John Kinnaid. Late in the year there was one resignation from the PC, Ms Tara Burton, I am sorry to report her leaving but I understand her reasons. The PC has met 10 times since 26 April 2011, the date of the previous Annual Parish Meeting, to deal with the usual Agenda of PC responsibilities and on one other date, 17 May 2011, to elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2011-2.

The main issues coming before the PC this year have been: -

- 1 Representations to Breckland Council (BC) and Norfolk County Council (NCC) on Planning Applications
- 2 Broadband
- 3 Breckland Local Development Framework (LDF)
- 4 Norfolk Minerals and Waste Plan
- 5 Highways in and around Beeston
- 6 Dog bins
- 7 Open Space Maintenance Contract
- 8 A Budget for 2012-3

Planning Applications.

- The Ploughshare.

On 22 July 2011 an Inspector from the Planning Inspectorate upheld the Applicant's appeal against B C's Refusal of the permission for the development dated 19 January 2010. The issues then determined were that outline permission would be granted for the retention and extension of the Ploughshare and function room, alterations to the car park and the erection of two detached dwellings at The Ploughshare with a range of conditions to cover the commencement of development for the two dwellings, landscape treatment, car parking, access from The Street, contamination and surface water drainage.

- Power from Waste Centre, King's Lynn.

The PC decided to object to NCC on the grounds of its proximity to King' Lynn, where there might be pollution from the flue.

- Development of 3 new dwellings on land near Brereton and Lazy Acre, Dereham Road.

The PC had already objected to this proposal when it was first considered in 2010-1 on the grounds that it would be inconsistent with environmental policies in the LDF and decided to reiterate this objection to an Inspector, appointed to determine an Appeal against BC's refusal. On 29 November 2012 the PC learned that the Inspector had dismissed the appeal.

- Re-cycling at Longham Quarry.

The PC decided to re-iterate its support for a self-contained access for the development, on grounds that adequate circulation for vehicles could be found within an existing consent and recommended NCC to refuse an extension of time for the development on the grounds that the developer had already been granted sufficient time to complete the restoration work within limits he had previously accepted.

- Small extensions to existing dwellings.

There continues to a low volume of applications for this type of development, there may later be fewer as the new code on Permitted Development takes effect.

Small Wind Turbines.

- BC has approved the erection of about 20 Wind Turbines in Beeston, enough to generate the equivalent of the power needed to supply 35 to 40 dwellings in an average year. In most cases the PC raised no objection.

Broadband.

This topic continues to need a satisfactory outcome; Beeston is at the end of an outdated telephone network and although this year's efforts to find a cable-transmitted substitute have had a relative success, the better solution of an improved BT NCC sponsored network is not yet guaranteed.

Breckland LDF.

This is the policy by which BC determine applications for development. A new National Planning Policy Framework was published on 27 March 2012 and the LDF in its present form will need to be reviewed to comply with this, a process that is likely to take two years. In the interim the LDF will be the determining formula.

NCC Minerals and Waste Plan.

A replacement plan is to be published on 27 April. In essence this is likely to recommend only a low level of new quarrying, although interested parties such as landowners and developers with their own reserves of minerals can be expected to seek to add their land to the plan. One local feature is expected to be an allocation for recycling in Beeston.

Highways in and around Beeston.

The October 2007 Traffic Survey has been reviewed and the results will be made available shortly. There may come a point when the findings point to investment in road-safety and environmental improvements that might be justified in the 'localism' context. A PC plan to set up a local 'speed watch' needs one further volunteer.

Dog Bins.

The PC has had one dog bin installed on the Village Green, this appears to have been a popular feature, which may lead to the case for a further bin or bins elsewhere.

Open Space Maintenance Contract.

Due to the retirement of the previous contractor the Clerk advertised for and found a replacement contractor whom the PC has now appointed to the job.

A Budget for 2012-3.

Next year's budget sets out to balance income and costs without increasing the precept. This is not likely to be a formula that the PC can easily sustain and may lead to making economies in vital projects, eg. support for The Citizens' Advice Bureau and similar organisations.

Diamond Jubilee.

Since June 2011 the PC has been working with other Beeston inhabitants to organise a day of events to mark the occasion and has allocated £500 to pay for mugs and a cake.

Beeston Website.

Paul Marchant has set up a website for the village, the PC is grateful for his endeavour and has reimbursed him for the initial costs involved.

The Village Green.

Nigel Barnett, Fransham Forge, is to hold a working session of Artist Blacksmiths from the UK and Europe. They will together make a seat to be installed on the Village Green and do some gilding work on the bell and weather vane at the school.

The 2011-2 Financial position.

In 2011-2 the PC had an income of £6,400 from its precept and made grants to a range of local charities: -

	£
EACH	50
Norfolk Accident and Rescue Service	25
Dereham CAB	50
British Legion Poppy Fund	40
Bittering Church grounds	100
Beeston Church Grounds	300
Beeston Playing Field and Village Hall	1,655
Beeston Village Hall floor polisher	345

Julian Farrall 24 April 2012

Brian Potter raised the matter of sending planning applications round between meetings and stated that a meeting should have been held.

It was also queried if the grass cuttings will be collected from the Village Green.

FUEL CHARITY ACCOUNT

The Clerk reported that 48 parishioners received £25 from the Beeston Fuel Charity, of which 2 have not been cashed. A further parishioner received a donation for fuel in January. The balance as at 31st March 2012 is £110.77. The Trustees are at present considering amending the governing document so that the scope of the payments is wider. This may mean that the regular payments to parishioners over 65 may cease, and the funds utilised for the most needy, not necessarily for fuel. A rent review has been carried out and the revised rent has not yet been discussed.

REPORTS FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

1ST BEESTON RAINBOWS AND BROWNIES

No report was received

BEESTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Beeston Parochial Church Council 2012

Secretary's Report.

There have been six meetings held during the year.

In October we were delighted to welcome Rev Martin Joice as Priest-in-charge of the Upper Nar Group of parishes. The general pattern of services has continued as previously, with services held in

the benefice jointly on the first and fifth Sundays. Beeston observes Eucharist on the second Sunday, no service on the third and Matins on the fourth. Special services have included Harvest, Remembrance, Christingle, Christmas and Easter services. We were fortunate enough to be joined once more by the Deaf Choir at our Carol service. There were no weddings or Christenings and 1 funeral during the year.

Fundraising events included the Mini Fete, Norfolk Churches Trust Cycle ride, a Quiz and a Bonfire BBQ. Other events held were the Harvest Lunch and Lent Lunch.

A transmitter box has been installed on the church tower by WiSpire to enable access to Broadband. The Parish Council have been most generous in donating a substantial sum to our much depleted funds. This is what has enabled us to once again contract Mr Peter Cross to cut the grass in part of the churchyard. Thanks go to him and to Mr Rodney Walthew, who has regularly cut the grass in other parts. We would like to thank Mr Ray Cross, as well as all those unknown people who tend family graves and find time to tidy adjoining areas. The combined efforts of all these people are why Beeston churchyard has such a "well kept" appearance.

Huge thanks go to our very loyal band of volunteers on the flower rota. They perform a wonderful job ensuring that the church interior is kept attractive and clean.

We are very fortunate in that we have two organists, and we have dependable officers to oversee the day to day running of the church. Thanks go to all of you for the time that you give.

Without you, the people who live in our community and give your enthusiastic support in all sorts of ways, it would be so very much more difficult to maintain our church. We thank you for this support, your friendship and generosity.

FRIENDS OF BEESTON SCHOOL

No report was received.

BEESTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

No report was given.

BEESTON CRICKET CLUB

The club last year put two teams into the West Norfolk League and will be doing so this year as well. We now have more people from the village who have joined as members, and we also run junior sessions on Thursday nights during the summer. The club purchased another mower and other equipment during the winter. Bingo evenings are held to raise funds for the club.

BITTERING PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Bittering Parva SS. Peter & Paul **Annual Report for 2011**

The Ecclesiastical Parish of Wendling SS Peter & Paul is part of the Gressenhall Group of Parishes Benefice; within the Dereham in Mitford Deanery of the Diocese of Norwich.

The Rev. Robert Marsden is the Priest-in-Charge. The Churchwardens appointed for 2011

were Mr. Jack Leggett & Miss. Jane Napier-Wilson. Members & Officers of the PCC duly elected to office in 2011 were:- Lay vice-Chair & Building & Fabric Officer: Mr. Jack Leggett.

PCC Secretary: Jayne Napier-Wilson. Treasurer & PCC Minutes Secretary: Mrs. Pat Baldwin.

Electoral Roll Officer: Mrs. Pat Hall. Deanery Synod Representative & "Friends of Chair: Mrs.

Barbara Marsden. Other PCC members:- Mrs. Janet Leggett; Mrs. Mary Taylor.

There were 6 names on the Church Electoral roll at the APC M in 2011.

Bittering Parva SS Peter & Paul co-operates with all the constituent parishes of the Gressenhall Group to further Christian ministry in its parishes, and through Parish Share contributes to the wider costs of the Church's mission. The parishes co-operate to provide weekly, and varied, Sunday Worship during each month. Regular monthly worship at Bittering Parva S S Peter & Paul, as in the Gressenhall Group as a whole, is possible only through the faithful ministry of its Clergy, its Readers, its Wardens, our Accordionist Mr. Dick Hall, and its people.

On average 9 people attended normal Sunday worship.

The Major Festival attendances were:- Harvest 10: Christmas Carols 31: Easter no service.

Our grateful thanks go to all who so generously contribute their gifts to the life of our parish

church; esp. those who faithfully clean & decorate our church. Children & Young People Protection Policy & Vulnerable Adults Policy have been under the oversight of Rev. Kevin Blogg.

Bittering Parva S S Peter & Paul meets its own direct costs of ministry, including maintenance of its church building; and it gave £_20 to The Churches Trust in 2011. In addition it generously contributes to the meeting of Benefice expenses for its full-time priest. Parish Share for 2011 was £1 500 of which the PCC was able to pay 33% - the same as 2010. At the end of the year £278.86 remained in General Funds (not including Building Fund) as a working balance. Summary of Specific Parish News (other information available on request)

- The Friends of Bittering Parva held a very successful & enjoyable 40's Night in June which was attended by 30+. It raised £270 There are currently 9 members. A 60's Night is planned for May 2012.

- Sadly our Christmas Fund Raiser was not held in 2011 but a number of different, smaller events are planned for 2012.

- Barbara Marsden was licensed as Reader at Norwich Cathedral in early September. She joins Jan Sexton, Tom Butler-Stoney (Readers) together with Rev. Kevin Blogg (SSM) & Rev. Robert Marsden in our Benefice Ministry Team

- We also hosted the Group Holy Communion in July. This was followed by a Picnic at Lodge Farm - with sincere thanks to Roger Kemp.

As always Bittering PCC is very grateful for the financial support from beeston Parish Council towards church yard maintenance.

BEESTON PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE

No report was given.

BEESTON SCHOOL GOVERNORS

No report was given.

TREE WARDEN

Brian Potter reported that trees are available for planting and some are needed at the Millennium Lakes

OPEN FORUM

A parishioner raised the matter of the notice board needing repair and he was informed that Councillor Kinnaird has this in hand.

The meeting closed at 1948