

**Minutes of the Meeting of Kenninghall Parish Council**  
**held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at the Memorial Hall Kenninghall**

**Present:**

Mr S Gordon (Chairman)  
Mr S Mitchell  
Mr M Halmshaw  
Mrs M John  
Mrs C Scott-Barber

Mrs E Dennis  
Mr N Styles  
Mr N Groves

In attendance was Mr M Sharland - Village Hall Committee + 1 member of the public

**Annual Parish Meeting:** The Chairman reflected on activity in Kenninghall over the past 12 months and invited discussion with all those present. The background set by applications for four large developments around the village and their potential cumulative impact on life in the village had been factors of ongoing concern. The impact of two judicial review processes and a ruling from the Secretary of State have yet to be finally realised. All social housing in the village is full to the frustration of at least one local family in need still living with parents. Meanwhile houses on the Bennets' estate along with a number of other houses in the village seem difficult to sell. Dog owners complain about other dog owners who selfishly allow their dogs to foul footpaths and recently a complaint had been received about a dog running wild that killed a muntjac deer at the entrance to the playing field after almost causing a road accident. Regular complaints about traffic speeding in the village are hopefully going to be partly addressed by a Vehicle Activated Sign at the Garboldisham end of the village subject to grant funding being successfully obtained. Meanwhile the village shop and post office exude enterprise and continue to develop their goods and services to meet the domestic and comestible needs of villagers. The two pubs continue to provide for other needs. Lastly it looks as if the project for a new village hall may have taken a number of significant steps forward over the past year and when this report is written next year it may just have become reality.

1. **Apologies:**  
Mr Colin Wright
2. **Minutes of last meeting:**  
Minutes of the Meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013 having been previously circulated were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. **Matters arising:**

a) **Roads:**

The Chairman noted that white-lining has been taking place on village roads. He reported that a quote for a VAS sign had been received from Westcotec and that he had submitted a bid for 75% funding of the sign to the Parish Partnership scheme in time for the 30 April deadline. He reported receipt of one letter from residents of Banham Rd expressing a need for a similar sign on that road to which he had replied.

Mr Styles reported on work he had carried out clearing the restricted byway and Red Lion Lane and on a project to repair the footbridge over

The Beck. He expected to be able to present a proposal with costings to a future meeting in time for the work to be carried out mid-summer.

The subject of parking of cars on verges was raised with particular reference to one car that is regularly parked on the verge on the corner of School Close and The Butts. It was felt that car obstructed the vision of drivers entering and leaving School Close. The Chairman undertook to address the problem.

**b) Village Hall Sites:**

Mr Sharland reported that various legal procedures were underway in order to finalise the purchase of the Breckland land and Flagship garages and to finalise adoption of the released section of restricted byway by the Parish Council. A deadline has been set of 1 June for these matters to all be concluded.

- 4) **Election of Officers:** In the absence of the Clerk the Chairman invited the Vice-Chairman to take over the chairmanship of the meeting. The Vice-Chairman called for nominations for the position of Chairman of the Council. Mrs John nominated Mr S Gordon and Mrs Scott Barber seconded. There were no other nominations and Mr Gordon was duly elected. On resuming the chairmanship of the meeting the Chairman called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Mrs John nominated Mr Halmshaw and this was seconded by Mrs Dennis. There were no other nominations and Mr Halmshaw was duly elected. Both men were thanked for their service over the past year.

5. **Planning:**

- a) In respect of the application by Mr & Mrs Gooderham for alterations, renovations and extension at Ash Tree Farm House, Green Lane, NR16 2ER there were no objections
- b) In respect of the application by Mrs Copeman for the addition of a UPVC conservatory at the rear of 3 The Old Crown, Market Place NR16 2AH there were no objections

6. **Financial Matters:**

- a) **Charity Accounts:** Mr Groves presented the audited annual accounts of the Kenninghall Fuel Charity for the year ending 28 February 2012. Expenditure included one death grant, one hardship payment and £3900 in fuel donations.

Mr Halmshaw reported some progress in the resolution of the situation of the Mary Bowles charity and two other dormant charities but that further work was needed to bring matters to a satisfactory conclusion.

- b) **Norfolk Accident Rescue Service Grant:** after a short discussion clarifying the purpose of the NARS Mrs John proposed a donation of £200. This was seconded by Mrs Scott-Barber and agreed by the council.
- c) **Receipts:** the Chairman reported receipt of the first half of the Parish Precept for 2013. A question was raised about what appeared to be an

incorrect percentage figure for the parish precept included in residents' 2013 Council Tax Bills. It was resolved to pursue clarification of the matter with Breckland Council.

The Chairmen reported receipt of £490.33 from Breckland Council for the past year's recycled materials constituting 18.386 tonnes glass and 1.860 tonnes of paper. A question was raised about the future positioning of the bottle and paper banks once the Memorial Hall site was sold plus pointing out the need for a hard surface to be used for easy cleaning of broken glass around the bottle bank. Mr Sharland stated this matter was in hand.

**d) NPLaw VAT:** The Chairman reported that Norfolk County Council were requesting a further payment of £44.31 VAT in addition to the sum previously paid of £223.03 for NPLaw legal costs for the diversion order. Mr Halmshaw proposed payment. This was seconded by Mr Groves and agreed by the council.

**e) Parish Council Insurance:** The Chairman brought to the Council's attention the invoice for payment to AON for the annual Local Council insurance protection policy. Rates for 2013 were reduced to £326.25. Mr Halmshaw proposed payment. This was seconded by Mrs John and agreed by the council.

Some details of the policy were raised in discussion and it was resolved that the policy content should be placed on the agenda of the next meeting for clarification with the Clerk.

#### 6. **Correspondence:**

**a)** The Chairman reported receipt of a letter from the Information Commissioner's Office with respect to a matter of a Freedom of Information request to the Council. The case had been closed by the ICO but with a advice to take more care in the future over such matters. After discussion it was agreed that it should be placed on the agenda of the next meeting for discussion with the Clerk.

**b)** The Chairman reported receipt of a letter concerning a distressing incident of a dog chasing and killing a muntjac deer at the entrance to the playing field. The dog had chased it across the road and almost caused a car accident. The owner has clearly lost sight and control of the dog. The complainant had reported the incident to the Breckland dog warden has written an article for the Parish magazine. The Chairman commented that it was essential that owners maintain better control of their dogs, particularly in the light of a noticeable increase in muntjac around the village.

#### 7. **Any Other Business:**

**a)** The clarification of who bears responsibility for events run by the Kenninghall Lands Trust on Kenninghall Woods land leased by the Parish Council was raised for clarification. It was agreed that this would be clarified by Mr Groves with Mr Wright before further discussion at the next meeting.

**b)** The next meeting will be 4<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at 7:30 pm at the Memorial Hall.