

**Extraordinary Blo' Norton Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9 September
at 1930 hours Blo' Norton Village Hall**

Those Present: John Barnet-Lamb (Chairman); John Olley; Mike Bristow; Ann Lambert, Henry Meiklejohn, Development Officer Norfolk RCC and 12 members of the public

Apologies: Dick Edwards

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting which had been convened to discuss the following issues:

- Thinking Fuel – Bulk Buying Scheme
- Planning Application: 3PL/2013/0741/F - Erection of two single-storey, self catering, holiday chalets – Evangeline, The Banks, Blo Norton IP22 2JJ – Mr and Mrs Hewitt
- Planning Applications: 3PL/013/0771/LB and various other references: Replace main and rear lean-to roof coverings, soffit, capping and moulding detail, fascia board, stained softwood barge – 1-5 Fairfields, Blo Norton IP22 2JB – Flagship Housing Group Ltd

Thinking Fuel – Bulk Buying Scheme:

Henry Meiklejohn, Development Officer, Norfolk Rural Community Council (NRCC) spoke of the Thinking fuel – oil bulk buying scheme which was being rolled out across Norfolk. He stated that 72,237 households in Norfolk were in fuel poverty which was due to the increase in heating oil prices every year since 2009 and colder winters in recent years.

Norfolk RCC had partnered with AF Affinity to try and provide rural communities with the option of cheaper fuel, with proceeds of approximately 0.4 pence per litre going to the RCC Community.

Henry explained how thinking fuel had performed and whilst the largest saving had been noted at 8 pence per litre cheaper, average savings were between 1-3 pence. The average saving in 2012 had been 9%. If a householder had ordered the standard household usage of 2000 litres of oil last year with Thinking Fuel the saving, on average, would have been approximately £120 on your annual bill which was the equivalent of 39 days of free heating.

For those in Blo' Norton to benefit from Thinking Fuel a group would need to be set up with a co-ordinator, who would be the contact point (it was agreed the Parish Clerk would undertake this role). There was a £20 annual membership fee (which the Parish Council had agreed to pay) and then the Parish Council would need to complete a Constitution, setting out the criteria of the group and a membership form. Individuals would need to complete Registration forms and return them to the RCC. By doing this, individuals were not committed to purchase their fuel through this scheme.

Payment options – direct debit or credit/debit card (incur a 2% surcharge)

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Chairman

.....5 November 2013.....
Date

