

BLO NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting of the Blo Norton Parish Council held on Tuesday 13 April 2010 at 7pm in Blo Norton Village Hall

The meeting opened at 7pm

Those Present: John Barnet-Lamb (Chairman); Mike Bristow; Caron Finlay, Ann Lambert; Two members of the public, Michele Collins (Clerk)

- 1 **Apologies for absence - John Olley.**
- 2 **Public Comment - None**
- 3 **To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of items for consideration. - None**
- 4 **To approve the Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 9th March 2010 – Approved.**
5. **To receive an update re Former Highway Surveyors Land Charity (FHSLC) new tenancy agreement – Awaiting approval from legal side of NALC**
6. **To receive an update with regard to War Memorial Seminar held in March attended by Councillor Finlay – The Parish Council received an update, following attendance by Councillor Finlay at the Seminar. It was reported that advice was given with regard to cleaning and it was suggested that all information on the war memorial be stored safely in two different places. Mike Bristow stated that the Church held some information with regard to the coat of arms and this was on show in the church. It was thought that the history of the war memorial could be done by the history group. It was noted there was an article in the newspaper about the war memorial and a copy of this article would be obtained. It was asked that the photographs be printed and stored.**

ACTION: COUNCILLOR BRISTOW/CLERK
7. **To consider correspondence received by Mr Biggs dated 7 February with regard to Speed Limit, The Street, Blo Norton and acknowledged by Chair:** The Parish Council noted Mr Biggs' concern with regard to excessive speed along The Street. John Barnet-Lamb had had a meeting with Mr Biggs and explained the actions that the Parish Council had undertaken with the introduction of speedwatch, explaining to make this successful, more volunteers were required. Mr Barnet-Lamb had also contacted Councillor Nunn to explore the reduction of the speed limit to 20mph. It was thought this would not be possible at the present time, however the Government appeared keen to introduce more 20mph speed limits in villages, so it was hoped this could be something for the future. It was agreed that the Parish Council would continue with Speedwatch and keep an interest in the Government's proposal to introduce more 20mph speed limits.
- 8 **To receive an update on Speedwatch – John Barnet-Lamb was pleased to report that two members of the village had now been trained to use the speedwatch gun. The police officer took them around the village to explain where it could be used. Unfortunately, there was no where on Fen Road where the gun could be operated as it must be operated from a pavement or driveway (with the owner's permission) Also, there had to be enough distance to put a warning sign prior to the gun being used. It was noted that the only place in Blo Norton it could be used was on The Street. Also three operatives were required. Therefore it was agreed to put a further article in the next newsletter encouraging people to be trained.**
9. **To consider concern over the state of Fen Road and the new hedge planted by Blo Norton Hall** John Barnet-Lamb had received a phone call with regard to concern of the poor state of repair of Fen Road (pot holes etc) and the new hedge in front of Blo' Norton Hall, as it was thought to be too close to the road. It was thought that so long as the hedge was planned one metre back from the road, there was no issue that the Parish Council could take up with the owner. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to the owners of Blo' Norton Hall acknowledging

the planting of the hedge and reminding them that it would need to be kept trimmed, so as not to spoil the view of others in the village. It was thought that there was a legal requirement to keep hedges no more than two metres in height. It was asked to put this item on the agenda in August.

ACTION: CLERK

10. **To investigate problems reported caused by the smell from the slurry pit of Gressingham Duck Farm, Fen Road** The Parish Council had received correspondence from a concerned resident with regard to the smell from the slurry pit of Gressingham Duck Farm in Fen Road. It was thought that so long as the duck farm was following regulations, there was a limit as to what the Parish Council could do. However, a meeting was to be held with Gressingham Duck Farm where this letter would be brought to their attention. **ACTION: CHAIRMAN/CLERK**
11. **To receive an update re Bus Shelter following correspondence sent to Youth Committee on 22 March** Following correspondence with Paula Wood it was agreed to explore costings of a teenage shelter and funding/grants which may be available for such a project. It was thought that literature could be advertised at the St George Day, to ask the village what their preference would be. **ACTION: CLERK/COUNCILLOR LAMBERT**
12. **To receive an update re caravan parked at Meadowside:** The Parish Council received an update.
13. **To receive an update regarding the John Dyer Charity** John Barnet-Lamb reported that there was still no communication back from Darryl Hall of the John Dyer Charity. This was extremely frustrating, as a meeting was held 12 months previous where a promise of action was taken as there was a villager who required the assistance of this charity. It was noted that this charity had not filed reports with the Charities Commission since 2004. It was agreed that the Parish Council would yet again write to Mr Hall asking that Blo Norton Parish Council be informed by return how much money is owed to Blo' Norton and that proper reports are made to the Charity Commission. The correspondence would also be copied to the Charity Commission.

Following the lack of communication by this Charity it was agreed by two of the trustees at this meeting to forward a cheque for £150, from the £300 that the Parish Council held for this charity to the villager who required assistance. A cheque was written and signed and the Chairman would pass the cheque to the recipient. The Clerk would arrange for monies to be transferred from the deposit to the current account to cover this transaction. The Clerk was asked to check records to find out when the money was paid into the account and how many years of money was missing. **ACTION: CHAIRMAN/CLERK**
14. **To consider continued membership of Norfolk Rural Community Council Membership:** Following consideration it was agreed to continue with membership and an invoice was received and agreed. **ACTION: CLERK**
15. **To consider continued membership of Norfolk Association of Local Councils** Following consideration it was agreed to continue with membership and an invoice was received and agreed. **ACTION: CLERK**
16. **To receive an update on Parish accounts** An update was received.
17. **Planning** There were no planning applications.
18. **Such other business as the Chairperson may direct**

Insurance The Parish Council insurance had arrived following posting of the agenda. Following consideration it was agreed to renew the insurance as described. **ACTION: CLERK**



Blo Norton Signs – It was noted out of the four signs, number 2 is missing and number 3 has a chip (Thelnetham Road/Middle Road). The Blo' Norton sign has also been defaced. The Clerk would inform highways department. **ACTION: CLERK**

Newsletter: It was agreed that the following items would be in the next newsletter: Duck Farm, what people of Blo' Norton would like to see instead of a bus shelter, speedwatch.

Item for next agenda: Discuss possibility of Parish Council donating to the Village Hall. Breckland County Council. These would be items for the June agenda.

Parish Plan: It was asked that the Clerk look out the Parish Plan which was made six or seven years ago.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting would take place on 11 May 2010

The next Parish Council meeting would take place on 1 June 2010 at 7.00pm, in the Village Hall

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, located on the right side of the page.