

Minutes of Blo' Norton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 11th October 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

1 Apologies for absence –None

2 Resignation of Councillor – With regret the Parish Council accepted Caron's resignation and acknowledged the amount of work she had done during her role as a Councillor.

3 Public Comment – None.

4 To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of items for consideration. – None.

5 To approve the Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 23 August 2011 – Approved as circulated and signed by the Chairman.

6 Village Hall

(a) Future: Ann Lambert reported that the Village Hall AGM took place on 29 September, where she stood down as Chairman and a new Committee of ten was elected. It was noted that the Village Hall accounts were healthy and the new committee were full of enthusiasm in how to take the village hall forward. Ann Lambert would continue to oversee the re-development work of the village hall, although would take a back seat where the rest of the events were concerned, although would remain on hand if the new committee required advice. It was noted that there was a member each from the PCC and History Group on the Village Hall Committee and therefore it was considered appropriate that a member of the Parish Council, also become a member of the Village Hall Committee. Mike Bristow volunteered to be the Parish Council member on the Village Hall Committee.

ACTION: MIKE BRISTOW

(b) Village Hall SOS – Big Lottery Fund: This issue was noted, although no further action would be taken via the Parish Council.

(c) Caretaker: Prior to the AGM, the Parish Council were looking to the future of how they could support the Village Hall, if required to do so and thoughts of a caretaker were discussed to take care of the every day needs of the Hall. However, to be able to afford to do this, the precept would need to increase. Following discussion it was agreed, for the time being the Parish Council should take a back seat and let the new Committee establish themselves in organising events, raising money and running the Village Hall.

7 To review Standing Orders – yearly review – A new model of standing orders had been published within the last 12 months on the NALC website and a copy was passed to Councillors to take from the meeting and look to adopt this model at the next meeting.

ACTION: ALL COUNCILLORS/CLERK

8 Newsletter – John Barnet-Lamb asked for items for the next newsletter. John Olley would forward the pictures of the road works and other pictures to include. Items would include: War Memorial; Village Hall Committee; Advertisement for Parish Councillor; Bottle Bank; speeding cars and accident; reminder about cutting hedges, especially those near the highway.

9 Highways

a) Recent road accident in Blo' Norton – It was thought that Blo' Norton had suffered four serious accidents in the last five years and that speed was a main factor in all of these accidents. An article in the newsletter would highlight the need for property owners to ensure hedges and overhanging trees were cut back to ensure a clear view on the highway

b) Clay Hall Lane – It was reported that Clay Hall Lane is in a very poor state of repair and John Barnet-Lamb would speak to Highways with regard to doing a site visit. It was also noted that there were bad pot holes in Redgrave Road and Councillors were asked to report

these as members of the public via Highways website.

ACTION: CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS

- c) To discuss letter from NCC re Delivering local highway improvements in partnership with Town and Parish Councils – Following discussion it was agreed that a bid should be submitted with regard to vehicle activated signs and for work to be done at Clay Hall Road. The deadline for the bid to reach the NCC was 20 January 2012. **ACTION: CLERK**

- 10 To consider Breckland Jubilee Woods Project – Letter dated 22 September from Breckland Council had been circulated with regard to this project and was noted. The Chairman would forward the letter to Dr Joanne Pitt, Little Ouse Headwater Project as it was thought they may wish to take advantage of this project. **ACTION: CHAIRMAN**

- 11 To make a decision with regard to ordering a Poppy Wreath – It was agreed to order a wreath as in previous years, to be delivered to John Olley. **ACTION: CLERK**
[Secretary's Note: Wreath ordered via British Legion 14 October]

- 12 War Memorial – Board of Trustees – Letter had been sent to PCC, History Group and Mr Lorimer on 16 September. Only one acknowledgement letter had been received to date. This would be an item in the newsletter. Ann Lambert and Roy both volunteered to be Trustees.

- 13 Caravans: Photographs had been sent to Deborah Wagg at Planning Enforcement, and the Chairman would be in contact with her later in the week. **ACTION: CHAIRMAN**

- 14 To approve payment for Mazars invoice in connection with external audit work – this invoice was approved and cheque signed. **ACTION: CLERK**

- 15 To receive an update on Parish Accounts – The Parish Council received an update on the accounts; it was agreed, in view of the new Village Hall Committee – not to raise the precept. Therefore a request would be made to Breckland Council for the same amount of precept. **ACTION: CLERK**

16 Planning

- a To consider the following Planning Applications: There were no planning applications for discussion.
- b To receive and consider any planning applications received after the posting of the agenda but prior to the meeting – There were no planning applications received after the posting of the agenda but prior to the meeting
- c To note the following Planning Permission Decisions:

3PL/2011/0641/F – Just Another House – Continued standing of portacabin for use as home office – noted.

3PL/2011/0764/F – Willow Farm – extension to existing straw barn – Noted

17 Such other business as the Chairperson may direct

Bottle Bank: The overflow of the bottle bank had now been dealt with and the correct number to call for bottle bank emptying would be published in the next newsletter.

Intruders: A resident had reported intruders on their property late at night on the same day as the garage sale took place; whilst this could have been coincidence, residents were reminded of the danger of having an “open day” such as a garage sale and were asked to be vigilant in the future.

The next meeting will take place on 13 December 2011 at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall