**SOMERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**

**TUESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2016 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 P.M.**

PRESENT:

Cllr R Starling (Chair) Cllr D Van de Bulk (Vice Chairman)

Cllr J Clift Cllr N Grayling

Cllr D Crane Cllr T Jones

Cllr B Barker

G Lack (clerk)

The Chairman welcomed County Cllr Childs and Borough Cllrs Weymouth and Bensly to the meeting together with 13 residents.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** None received
2. **Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda**

Cllr Clift noted an interest in Item 10, Accounts – Staithe Trustee reimbursement for grass cutting. Payment Reminder.

1. **To consider a motion to suspend the meeting to allow members of the public and the Borough/County Councillors the opportunity to inform the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Grayling, seconded by Cllr Clift and unanimously approved.**
2. **Public Discussion – 15 minutes allowed.** 
   * A resident noted that children’s play equipment had been replaced with no consultation with residents and that nothing had been provided for older children.
3. **Report from Borough Councillors/County Councillor if present**

* Cllr Weymouth noted the following:
* The play equipment referred to above was possibly in a dangerous condition but agreed to investigate why no consultation had taken place.
* Cllr Bensly noted the following:
* It was noted that Public Space Protection Orders in Great Yarmouth were being put in place to deal with antisocial behaviour problems and that this be could rolled out to Parishes in the future.
* Cllr Childs noted the following:
* Public Health in Great Yarmouth had worsened over the past 16 years possibly associated with rural deprivation;
* An audit of County farms had revealed the farms were making very little profit;
* Mud on the road left by farmers, workmen, horse boxes etc was a continuing problem on rural roads and was responsible for accidents.
* A committee membership document would be circulated showing the Committees of which Cllr Childs was a member.

**Reopening of the meeting:-**

1. **Report from PCSO – not present**

* No issues noted.

1. **Broadband Provision – Update/Presentation by Karen O’Kane, Programme Director Better Broadband for Norfolk**

The Chairman welcomed Karen O’Kane to the meeting and thanked Cllr Childs for arranging this. A copy of the full presentation can be found on the Parish website. Ms O’Kane noted the following:

* The roll out of broadband was scheduled for 2019 for Somerton.
* Private investors could help with funding. Individuals could apply on line to obtain an indicative cost;
* A “soft dig” to run cable into individual properties from the distribution box costs £30 per metre, while a “hard” dig costs £100 per metre. BT would consider a self dig option;
* Any resident with speeds of less than 2mb per second could apply for a £350 Government voucher for wireless or satellite options. The website for application is [www.betterbroadband.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.betterbroadband.norfolk.gov.uk) There were three providers in Norfolk: Symmetris, WiSpire and ITsWisp (In Touch Systems);
* The Chairman pointed out that the East and West Somerton hadn’t existed since 1935 and therefore this split was erroneous. Ms O’Kane responded that BT would design a system based on physical location and not by East or West designations;
* It was noted that some properties on Collis Lane were closer to Hemsby but OFCOM would not allow BT to operate across boundaries. However, this was being challenged.

1. **To confirm minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th July 2016**

Cllr Grayling proposed that the minutes be confirmed and this was seconded by Cllr Crane and unanimously agreed by the Council. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

1. **To report matters arising not already on the agenda, for information only.**

**Item 13. Top Farm – Response from GYBC Planning Department.** The Clerk read out a response from the GYBC Planning Department Enforcement Officer.

**Item 16. Upper Thurne Working Group Meeting – Attendance & Role of future meetings.** Cllr Starling read out a response from the Chairman.

1. **(Finance: To agree payments in accordance with the budget.**

Cllr Barker proposed a Motion that the following payments be made in accordance with the budget. This was seconded by Cllr Crane and unanimously agreed by Councillors. IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the Motion be carried . The Clerk requested that the cheque to Mr Hobbs be approved in advance but kept in hand until the work was inspected and. This was agreed by the Council.

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| **Cheque No** | **Payee** | **Description** | **Amount**  **£** |
| 100699 | G Lack | Clerk salary and expenses | 208.33 |
| 100700 | R Bird | Grass cutting | 263.00 |
| 100701 | D Hobbs | Refurbishment costs | 540.00 |
|  |  | TOTAL | 1011.33 |

Opening balance 1.4.2016 4,768.54

Add receipts year to date 6,280.00

Less: Payments year to date (excl. above) ( 1,412.54)

Closing balance year to date £9,363.10

1. **Planning Application BA/2016/0301/COND. Variation of condition 2 of permission BA/2015/0317/HOUSEH. White House, Horsey**

Cllr Grayling proposed that there should be no objections to this application and this was seconded by Cllr Clift and unanimously agreed by the Parish Council.

1. **Extension of 30mph area – Winterton Road. To seek approval from County Council to extend 30mph area. R Starling**

* It was suggested that the 30mph speed limit be extended 50 metres passed the junction with Collis Lane. Cllr Jones noted that this had been proposed previously and been rejected since it didn’t meet the criteria for extending speed limits and that none of this criteria had changed. Cllr Childs said he would support the proposal. Cllr Van de Bulk proposed that photographs be sent to Cllr Childs and the Clerk should write to the relevant department at Norfolk County Council to make this request. This was seconded by Cllr Grayling and unanimously agreed by the Council.

1. **Seat Bench & Notice Board refurbishment. To consider and approve quotations**

The Clerk noted that only one quotation had been received from Mr Hobbs for the refurbishment of three village benches and the notice board totalling £540.00. Cllr Jones proposed that the quotation be accepted and this was seconded by Cllr Clift and unanimously agreed by the Council.

1. **Parish Website. Update – Parish Clerk**

The Clerk noted that there had been no recent problems with the site and that no funding would be received for setting up a site by a commercial company. It was proposed by Cllr Clift to continue with the NCC website. This was seconded by Cllr Grayling and unanimously agreed by the Council.

1. **Provision of Parish Council Computer. Update funding application – Parish Clerk**

The Clerk noted that the Parish Council had been given a grant of £668.32 to meet its obligations under the Transparency Code. This would enable the Council to purchase its own computer and printer/scanner. However, there was a shortfall of £6.68 which the Council would have to meet. It was proposed by Cllr Clift that the Parish Council should meet the shortfall of £6.68. This was seconded by Cllr Barker and unanimously agreed by the Council.

1. **Parish Partnership Grant Application (SAM2 sign). Update Grant Application – Parish Clerk**

The Clerk confirmed that the application had been received and that a decision would be made in December 2016.

1. **Road signs. Damage to two signs and repositioning of one other. Proposal to inform Highways Dept, NCC. T Jones**

* It was noted that two signs on Winterton Road on the bend on Dark Lane corner had been damaged by a shot gun and had been reported to the police. It was also noted that the one way sign at the junction of the road outside The Lion was being turned round and traffic was going the wrong way up the one way system. It was agreed that this be reported to NCC with a request that the sign be fixed so that it could not be moved. This was proposed by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Barker and unanimously agreed by the Council.

1. **Overgrown hedges along Horsey Road. Proposal to contact hedge owners to request hedges are cut back – R Starling**

* It was agreed to wait for 6 weeks before contacting the owner. After that time, the owners would be contacted to request the hedges be cut back. .
* Cllr Jones commented that the reeds at The Staithe should be cut back since they were obscuring the view of motorists trying to turn right onto the Horsey Road.

1. **Autumn Litter Pick. To Agree dates.**

It was agreed that this should take place on the 8th and 9th October. The normal request that volunteers wear high viz jackets and undertook the pick at their own risk was noted.

1. **Martham Parish Council – Cess Road, Martham – To consider request for witness statements regarding use of Cess Road**

It was noted that this had already been published in the Parish magazine and that no further action was required from the Parish Council.

1. **Correspondence**. *Additional Correspondence and Actions/Comments noted/made at the meeting are shown in Italic.*

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| **ITEM** | **FROM WHOM RECEIVED** | **CONTENT** | **ACTION REQUIRED** |
| 1 | GYBC | Dog Control – Public Space Protection Order. Update of review | *Noted. No comments* |
| 2 | BA Planning Dept | Application BA/2016/0186/HOUSEH. Replace existing extensions with one and a half storey extension to rear. Sunways, Staithe Road. Application approved | *Noted.* |
| 3 | CPRE Norfolk | Request for Parish Councils to oppose the additional housing targets in revised local plans. | *Noted.* |
| 4 | GYBC | Great Yarmouth Local Plan – Call for Sites and Policy Suggestions 2016. Deadline for submissions Friday 30th September 2016 | *It was proposed that John Clements be invited to the next Parish Council meeting to give a presentation.* |
| 5 | NALC | Invitation to local area meeting in Great Yarmouth. 21.9.16 County Hall, 28.9.16 Swaffham Town Hall | *Noted.* |
| 6 | Cllr Childs | Carers Support – Beyond 2017 by North Norfolk CCG. Opinions sought. NNCCG.carersfeedback@nhs.net | *Noted.* |
| 7 | CPRE Norfolk | Devolution document | *Noted.* |
| 8 | Cllr J Childs | Free seminar – Norfolk & Suffolk Trading Standards to discuss scams. 16.11.2016 Trinity Park Ipswich | *Noted.* |
| 9 | Robin Hodds | Call for agenda items for next Parish Liaison Meeting to be held on 19th September 2016. Deadline for agenda items 12.9.16 | 1. *Timeline for decision regarding the Precept* 2. *Flood barrier/3rd river crossing* |
| 10 | NALC | Devolution Response | *Noted.* |
| 11 | Dan Hoare, BA | Water Plants in Hickling Broad blog. <http://thebroadsblog.blogspot.co.uk/2016/08/water-plants-in-hickling-broad.html> | *Noted.* |
| 12 | Norfolk Coast Partnership | Free events – The Glaven Eel. Various dates | *Noted.* |
| 13 | Cllr Childs | Launch of Rural Tourism enquiry | *Noted.* |

1. **Items for Next Agenda**

* Broads Authority Conservation Area.

1. **Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 1st November 2016 in the Village Hall at 7.00p.m.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.30.