

East Tuddenham Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held 9th February 2015

Attendees:

Kim Andrews, Charles Barker, Lynsay Barrett, Chantal Childs (Clerk), Anna High, Alexandra Leaney, Ian Payter, Paul Claussen and Brian Rose (District Councillors), two members of public (MoP),

Apologies:

Ted Guy

(The meeting opened at 7.30pm in the Village Hall)

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 12th January were approved and duly signed.

IP has been informed that Ted is resigning from the council due to ill health. IP and the council wish to thank Ted for all his hard work and commitment to the council over the years and wished him well. CC will implement the process for a new counsellor. CC will obtain a new bank form for a third signatory as this will be lost with Ted's resignation.

2. Matters arising from those minutes:

IP reported that someone has bought The Beeches and the land behind it privately and have already been in the property. Fleur Developments will no longer have access to that bit of land any more.

A MoP detailed a meeting that occurred with Fleur Developments who stated work starts next week on the development plot by clearing the hedgerow down the side of the neighbours fence. They were surprised by comments on the drainage being a potential issue and stated crates will be used to assist with this, which will feed through to the main sewer. AH mentioned that hedges cannot be cut between 1st March and 31st July each year under the Wildlife and Countryside Act due to nesting wildlife. Samples can be taken for rootstock from the specific ash tree that was not included in the original TPO due to its resistance to ash dieback. Fleur are aware of the protection on the rest of the trees. Concerns have been made over vehicles parking on the road for the building works as it is on a bend. Fleur confirmed there will be a lay-by created after the hedge has been taken out to keep traffic off the road.

A new Highways representative visited the white lines problem on Mattishall Road and agreed they are in the wrong place. He will speak to his line manager to program the work for when the weather improves.

The Parish Partnership Scheme 2015/2016 was discussed and it was agreed there are no other Highways issues suitable. IP commented that paying 50% of the cost would be expensive for any improvements.

The Village Hall Committee has requested IP help with the paperwork for grants but IP will do this once a plan and formal budgets have been drawn up. IP stated the committee do not plan to fence the playgroup or upgrade the play equipment but wish to revamp the tennis courts. The funds that satisfied condition 17 of the application at Baynings is for social and children but the committee's current plans do not involve children. However there is the possibility of a multi-use area for children as well as tennis courts.

AL reported a parishioner was unhappy about the removal of Beech trees and possibly an Oak tree on Trapps Lane to sell firewood and shade the nearby crops. This occurred following liaison with the council and finding no protection order on the trees. AL advised they could speak to Breckland with their concerns but there is no protection order and they have not taken down more than they are allowed.

IP confirmed that East Tuddenham will not be doing a Neighbourhood Development Plan but Mattishall are considering it. The plan talks about shops, doctors, amenities etc which East Tuddenham do not have. BR commented that the area for the plan can be as big or small as you wish and the line drawn wherever chosen so it may be worth discussing the issue with Mattishall to see if efforts could be combined. There is external money available to implement a plan but this may not be necessary if the line from Mattishall can be extended to East Tuddenham parish. IP mentioned a joint NDP using the 6 parish chair but Hockering is the only other village that falls under Breckland. The Breckland Council seminar on NDPs will provide more guidance on this on 27th March.

A MoP expressed concerns that developments in Mattishall can spread to East Tuddenham as farmers sell off more land. PC commented that Mattishall have amenities and so is targeted as a service centre as it meets the sustainability tick box requirement which East Tuddenham cannot. There are a lot of houses being developed on Yaxham Road causing traffic to build up in this area. This will cause through traffic in Yaxham, Mattishall and East Tuddenham so it is a good idea for East Tuddenham to be added to Mattishall's NDP. AH commented that is important to know what planning applications are made in

Mattishall so that this information can be passed to us. BR stated that the steering group will plan the program for the NDP by the end of February.

3. Finance:

IP made the PC aware that Hockering has finally paid for their share of the speed sensor cost.

The following cheques were signed:

£130.00 in respect of The Jubilee Hall for the Friendship Club

The Parish Council funds now stand at £7,676.19

4. Planning:

The proposed diversion of part of East Tuddenham Footpath No 13 at Brackenwood House, Common Road was discussed. Land has been purchased adjoining the property in order to divert footpath No 13 which currently goes through the owners land, instead making it go around it. IP informed the PC that the Ramblers Association have agreed to it as well as the Open Spaces Society. Signs have been erected for regular users to see the change. CC will respond with PC views that there are no objections.

5. Correspondence:

The PC discussed whether the village sign and the pump could be restored using the Breckland Pride Board – 'Your Budget, Your Decision' whereby Dereham and surrounding parishes has £10,000 of funding with £1,000 available per project. However it is a project for community involvement. The new Pride Officer for Breckland Council requested to hear of any projects the Parish could benefit from and AH will obtain quotes for the cost of restoration of the sign and pump for this. There was a discussion whether any MoPs in the village could be used to obtain these from but IP also stated that there is money in the PC funds to help. AH highlighted the importance of using the same paint product/colours for the sign and so IP will speak to the previous clerk when the sign was previously painted to find this out.

CB advised that between the muck heap and the lay-by up the hill towards the Barnham Broom junction growth has started to build up and needs clearing. CC will notify the Parish Rangers for their next visit.

Dereham Crime Stats for December indicate there were three incidents categorised as 'Violence against Person'. No further details are known.

CC explained correspondence from Breckland regarding the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities which applies to Parish Council's with turnover of less than £25,000. Under this new framework smaller authorities will be exempt from routine external audit and will be subject to new transparency requirements laid out in the code, allowing electors and ratepayers to access relevant information about the authorities accounts and governance. IP stated that Mazars will inform us in due course of any changes to our normal auditing process.

A Hedgerow Removal Notice has been received to remove a hedge on land adjacent to Church Lane to improve visibility and access to land where test drilling of a new water borehole will occur. Observations should be forwarded by February 16th. It was agreed that there are no objections to this.

CC received correspondence from NCC asking for completion of a Citizens Advice Bureau short survey for views regarding their local CAB and other advice services and how these are meeting local needs and priorities. NCC are currently reviewing their funding for CAB services. CC will complete.

6. Update from Councillors

IP advised that he took down the village speed signs at the weekend but has not yet downloaded the results to his computer. He will report this at the next meeting. A brief look showed some speeding over 60mph. Speeding is worse from Easton rather than from Mattishall.

7. Items for the Next Agenda

None

*Dates for the next three meetings are 9th March, 13th April and 11th May) all at 7:30pm
(The meeting closed at 8:30pm)*

Ian Payter (Chairperson)

Date