

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 6TH June 2011

Written by Les Wood (Clerk)

EAST TUDDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The normal monthly meeting held on Monday 6th June, 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Attendees: Ian Payter (Chairperson), Lynsay Barrett (Vice Chairperson), Janet Shrimpling, Alex Leaney, Anna-Marie High, Ted Guy, Charles Barker, Betty Wilson, Les Wood.

- 1.** Apologies for Absence: No apologies were received
- 2.** The Chair introduced and welcomed Mr Tim Edmunds, Highways Network Manager (Norfolk County Council) and welcomed him to the meeting to inform and discuss issues relating to traffic and traffic calming initiatives.

Mr Edmunds explained his role within Norfolk County Council and the contact his department has with the public and how issues relating to roads/highways are resolved.

Mr Edmunds explained that budgets within the County Council have been significantly reduced for example the capitol budget has been reduced from £30 million to £2 million and the traffic programme has been significantly reduced.

Mr Edmunds explained the levels of which roads/highways are prioritised depending on problems experienced on a local level:

- Maintenance of network, signs and surface texture of roads are monitored and resurfacing to replace broken down texture
- Think Signs which are deployed as a tempory measure to alert drivers
- Community speed watch
- S.A.M signs deployed on a 6 weekly cycle
- Speed enforcement (mobile safety vehicles)
- Fixed camera sites
- Changing the road environment which could include speed humps, planting tree's etc

Mr Edmunds opened this section of the meeting to a question and answer session

Q/ can the 30 mile an hour speed limit sign written on the road leading to the village be moved.

A/ speed limit signs can be adjusted if necessary and it may be possible to seek funding from the developers of the social housing development. Betty Wilson said that she had sent an email regarding the speed limit sign to the council who said they would look into it.

Q/ unless an injury was caused no record of accidents are reported and therefore gives a under reported level of accidents within the parish boundaries.

A/ Police do maintain a data base which includes user groups, gender etc and that the County Council has achieved its targets 4 years early.

Q/ drivers going through the village are driving too fast for the road conditions and often mount the pavements within the village boundaries.

A/ it may be that the environment of the road may need to be assessed, a possible answer could be to plant trees along the road which are planted at gradual reducing intervals, which give the driver the impression that they are driving faster and therefore reduce their speed.

Q/ could the parish council have access to the kill your speed signs for wheelie bins, which other villages have had.

A/ this are available and details would be sent to the parish council

Q/ local residents feel strongly that drivers are ignoring the speed signs and that residents are worried that not only car drivers could be injured but that a resident standing in their garden could be equally at risk and that the parish councillors are powerless force the authorities to act.

A/ Mr Edmunds said he would arrange for a letter to be sent to all local residents regarding the responsibility of road and speeding vehicles

General issues are that drivers are ignoring the speed limit signs and that the speed signs coming into the village are not placed in the appropriate location and that other measures such as traffic calming should be considered.

Mr Edmunds stated that traffic calming measures could have an adverse effect as drivers can try to speed up to beat the oncoming traffic.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Edmunds for attending the meeting and for the information that he presented. Mr Edmunds was also asked who owned the road at Hall Lane; Mr Edmunds said he would look at this and report his findings to the parish council.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting: were read and were agreed as a true record.

4. Matters arising:

Members were advised that the leakage of effluent near the pathway behind Earthsea House was now being dealt with by the environmental health officer.

Members were advised that Barclays Bank required proof of identity for those members acting as signatures.

Members were advised that all relevant documents had now been scanned ready to be transferred to the website.

Members were advised that the footpath at Rotten Row should be cleared and that pipe work has been replaced to stop flooding.

5. Finance: it was reported that the balance was £6,712,36p

Les Wood was to attend training on the 23rd June which would cost £40.00, Insurance £367.98, donation to EACH was agreed for £20.00 and the clerks quarterly salary and expenses £293.22. This was agreed by the members.

6. Planning: no planning applications had been received

7. Correspondence: a letter advising the members that the Community Rangers were to be in the village on 11.7.2011 to do various tasks such as grass cutting, hedge trimming etc and the council was asked if they would like to add items to the list which required attention. The letter was circulated to the members and the clerk agreed to send the amended list to the Rangers.

8. A.O.B: it was asked if any information was available as to the status of the lettings for the social housing development.

It was stated that the nomination process had been completed and a date had been set for the prospective tenants to view the properties.

A general comment was made regarding the distance from the road to the front of the properties and that this was too close to the road and could be a potential safety hazard for the new residents and was this too late for the parish council to raise as an issue to Breckland Council. The chairperson said they would seek advice regarding this.

It was confirmed that the accounts were to be sent to the account and forwarded on to the auditor when completed.

9. Date of the next meeting: 11th July 2011 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

