

ROYDON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Parish Room, St. Remigius Church on
Tuesday 28 February 2017 at 7.15 pm.

Present:	Paul Curson	PC	Chairman
	David Bartrum	DB	
	Angela Brown	AB	
	Andrew Daniels	AD	
	David Goldson	DG	District Councillor
	Pam Murton	PM	
	Jenny Shorter	JS	
	Elizabeth Taylor	ET	
	John Taylor	JT	Vice Chair
In attendance:	County Councillor Jenny Chamberlin	JC	
	Gareth Roderick-Jones (Clerk)	GRJ	

1 Apologies for Absence

none

2 Declarations of Interest

none

3 Residents' Forum

a A resident mentioned an article in the Roydon Herald which used what he considered offensive language in relation to a rerouting of a right of way (which happened in 1993 by order of SNDC). He wanted to know if the facts or the article itself had emanated from the Parish Council. The Chairman and councilors were able to assure him that this had been published without the awareness or agreement of the council, and in fact the council agreed that the facts were inaccurate and the language inappropriate.

b The dog fouling signs have been damaged or blown away in recent weather and dog fouling has restarted. They will be replaced.

c A resident presented photos of recent flooding near The Close showing that problems persist despite assurances from Norfolk CC: Dg will pass these to the Chairman of the EDT Committee for action.

d Further fly tipping of large numbers of bottles at the recycling centre: GRJ will write a letter to the person most likely to be responsible (PC will pass him details).

e Factory Lane: there has been some progress but further tree damage happened during Storm Doris. One of the Football Club boundaries is in Diss, so PC will speak to Diss TC Clerk.

f Shed/summer house on Factory Lane: the owner has been advised to apply for retrospective planning permission.

g One of the 30mph electronic signs on the A1066 is working only intermittently – GRJ to contact Highways.

h People seen fishing at the pond were foreigners who were unaware that a licence was required.

4 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting 17 January were approved and signed with one amendment: "Ms Brown" was changed to "Mrs Brown".

5 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

a GRJ has spoken to Norse regarding the 5-year option on a new grounds maintenance contract. Norse cannot guarantee there will be no increase if we take the 5-year option, but they have agreed they will cap any annual increases to a maximum of 2.5%.

proposed PC and seconded AD: we should accept a new 5-year contract with increases capped at 2.5%. Agreed unanimously.

b Village Hall deeds have been located at Steeles Law. Because of delays by solicitors and by Saffron Housing the VH have missed the opportunity for funding in this financial year. The Parish Council contribution has been agreed but will have to wait for the SNDC funding to arrive.

c Churchyard Maintenance: James Crerar will be given a trial in March and will be given a 1-year contract if the trial is mutually satisfactory.

6 Accounts for Payment

The following payments were approved for payment:

PAYEE	NARRATIVE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE #
HMRC	PAYE	£53.49	101146
Gareth Roderick-Jones	February salary	£213.94	101145
E-ON	streetlighting electricity (Direct debit)	£134.33	n/a
Pearce & Kemp	streetlight maintenance (Standing Order)	£158.26	n/a

7 a Bank Balances (as at 3 February 2017)

The following were checked against bank statements and approved:

Current account	£24,223.69
Savings account	£7831.58
sub-total	£32,055.27
less unpresented cheques	nil
Cashbook Balance	£32,055.27

b Online banking facilities: we have to start again with entirely new paperwork. Appointment of Bankers forms were signed and Personal Details forms were distributed for completion and return to GRJ. The arrangements will be as follows: authorized signatories:

Paul Curson, Andrew Daniels, John Taylor, Angela Brown

registered address for statements and correspondence:

Gareth Roderick-Jones

Dove House Cottage, Diss Road, Tibenham, Norfolk NR16 1PW

GRJ to complete forms and send with covering letter to explain requirements.

8 Highways

a Hedges in Hall Lane: owner has to complete the cutting back before the nesting season begins: will be monitored and reported on in March meeting.

b Factory Lane shed and hedges: see item 3e above

9 Brewer's Green

Update from meeting held last week: The issue of the path across the green is now in legal hands and an enquiry is due to be held soon.

10 Allotments

- a Ditch is full of branches and debris: this is ongoing and unwanted materials will be removed.
- b A tenant has offered to clear this in exchange for 2 years rent-free: for next agenda.
- c One of the allotments is getting overgrown. PC will check and email GRJ to send a letter.
- d The driveway is getting overgrown and may require Mr Crerar to deal with it – for discussion at the next meeting.
- e One of the water tanks is leaking – JT will check and repair/report back.

11 Streetlights

GRJ to inform Pearce and Kemp we are now looking elsewhere, and also will contact Cozens to see what they can offer.

12 Diss & District Neighbourhood Plan

- a The Heywood and Thrandeston have announced they are not going to be part of the NP.
- b Roydon Parish Council need to debate and pass a motion to acknowledge Diss TC as the leading authority in the Neighbourhood Plan – on agenda for March meeting.
- c We need to ensure that the residents have the opportunity to study and discuss the proposals so that the NP is community-driven rather than Parish Council-driven. To this end the Annual Parish Meeting will be held in April in the Village Hall; PC will look into booking the hall for 25 April and will inform everyone else.
- d We can adapt the publicity materials developed by Diss TC for our website and parish magazine.

13 Section 106 Monies

It seems that the original sum was all spent, and Roydon received a short stretch of footway; new funding has all been allocated to the development at the Primary School. DG will investigate further.

14 Draft Asset Register

Item deferred to next meeting

15 Planning

no new applications in the system

16 Village Sign and area

JT will investigate and assess what is required to improve and maintain the area and will report back at the next meeting. It was noted that a couple of months ago AB voluntarily did some cleaning and tidying in this area.

17 Missing Postbox update

Neither GRJ nor JC have had any response from Royal Mail. DG will follow up by contacting Richard Bacon MP.

18 Hog Carving

The insurers have said that the hog carving should probably be added as an endorsement to the Parish Council policy instead of the Village Hall's policy, but that before it can be finalized we need to send them a valuation.

The widow of the late David Kindersley, who still runs the Cambridge workshop which David Kindersley set up and where he created the carving in 1948, has given us a replacement value of £170,000.00. This figure might include an element of sentimental value.

The council agreed that we would be unlikely to seek a replacement in the event of total loss. GRJ will contact Scole-based Birtton and Woods, stonemasons, to enquire about repairs and measures to improve wear- and weather-resistance, and to ask if they could give a valuation. GRJ will also contact the insurers again for their advice.

19 Correspondence

Correspondence has been circulated to all councillors and noted.

County Councillor's report

Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan – Map

Quaker Wood newsletter

email regarding broken dog bin (PC will check and if irreparable council will replace – next agenda)

Norse – letters re contract renewal

response to request for valuation of hog carving

letter from Anglian Water re opportunity to change suppliers (council see no advantage in changing so we will remain with Anglian Water)

20 Report from District Councillor

(full report has been distributed to all councillors)

South Norfolk District Council is a top-6 finalist in the Council of the Year Awards, due in part to its proud record of building almost 1% of the nation's new houses. However, this has meant that the budget setting process has been made more difficult by changes to the New Homes Bonus system; after several years of frozen Council Tax, SNDC have had to impose an increase this year.

Cllr Goldson described the "bicycle shed syndrome", a phenomenon in which scant attention is paid to major issues (such as the need to increase the District Council portion of Council Tax), and minor issues (like dog bins) are scrutinized in minute detail.

He also drew attention to the Community Governance Review, for which the consultation period starts in March, and will be added to the next agenda. He pointed out that only 19 out of 119 parishes had elections last time around, and

21 Report from County Councillor

(full report circulated to all councillors)

Cllr Chamberlin's report focused on the need to balance budgets and also to fulfil obligations to the community, leading this year to increases in Council Tax.

The first Syrian refugees under the government's Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme were due to arrive in Norwich earlier this month.

Because of the outbreak of avian flu in Redgrave, parts of Breckland and South Norfolk fall within the 10km Surveillance Zone, which entails an extension to the original DEFRA restrictions on bird keepers.

Young people in Diss have been helping older residents to use the internet and gain confidence with technology – a project led by Saffron Housing Trust.

Cllr Chamberlin is participating in a Children's Services group looking into ways to support the government's new "free 30-hours nursery care" initiative.

22 Any Other Business/Items for Next Agenda

none

25 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 28 March 2017 at 7.15pm