



WEST ACRE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES of the MEETING HELD on MONDAY FEBRUARY 4th 2013
at 7pm at the VILLAGE HALL

A meeting of West Acre Parish Council, was held on Monday February 4th 2013 at 7pm at the Village Hall.

Those present were Sally Bridle (chair) Henry Birkbeck, Jeremy Cameron, Lorraine Copeman, Colin Filer, and Ralph Sliwa (Councillors) and Sue Filer (Parish Clerk).

Also present were Jim Moriarty (Borough Councillor) and Belinda Bush (Resident).

Minute 1 To receive apologies - County Councillor Janet Murphy and PCSO Deborah Pearson sent their apologies.

Minute 2 To accept the minutes of the previous two meetings - These were approved and signed.

Minute 3 To discuss matters arising from the previous meetings on Monday November 12th 2012 and Monday December 17th 2012

a) Parish Plan.

i) No progress on speeding, road narrowing and give way signage; repairs to wait until winter is over.

Action - Sally to continue to remind Highways of work needed.

ii) Discussion took place about the bench for the village green. It was decided that Lorraine should order a 6ft oak bench and that more money from the precept should be released for this purpose.

Action - Lorraine to order the bench decided on by the councillors.

***Footnote: following the meeting Lorraine ordered the bench costing £730.**

It was decided that Lorraine should try to form a parent committee to discuss the most appropriate extra play equipment to buy. She expressed her regret that it may mean losing the use of the Old Bowling Green for this purpose as the youth club uses this area for football games in the lighter evenings.

Action - Lorraine to contact local parents to form a committee to choose the play equipment.

iii) Colin spoke of his concern that information about the delivery of new bins on Thursday had been poorly disseminated. Unless a resident checked the Borough Council website on a regular basis or read the Lynn News in depth, he/she would be totally unaware of what was happening. He thanked Belinda for bringing this to his attention.

Action - Colin to produce an information leaflet and he and Belinda would deliver copies to each household in the village before Thursday.

iv) Activities in the theatre are not likely to happen in the near future as building work is still progressing and the company is busy.

Action - Sally will revisit this matter when it seems appropriate.

v) No Pilates instructor has been found willing to come to West Acre.

Action - Sally will keep searching!

vi) It was agreed that anyone willing to set up other activities in the village should be supported by the Parish Council and that a statement to this effect should go into the Parish Council article in the Nar Valley News. Colin is willing to try to organise a table tennis club and a notice to this effect should be placed in the Nar Valley News.

Action - Sue to include these issues in the next Nar Valley News article.

vii) A map of the village and its footpaths is still under development.

Action - Henry to expedite ASAP.

viii) Joint meeting of Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee has been set as Sunday February 17th 2013 at the Village Hall at 3pm.

Action - Henry to report at the next Parish Council Meeting.

ix) With respect to the village website, Ralph produced a couple of "grabs" for inspection. He also produced two costings of different site management. Belinda stated that the Bowls Club website was free.

Action - Ralph to contact Amanda Bush re the Bowls Club website, but if found to be unsuitable to run with the cheaper management option.

x) Jeremy said that he hadn't realised that he'd agreed to put together Village Emergency Plans.

Action - Jim to contact the Borough Council about its Emergency Plans and forward the details to Jeremy to help him formulate the Village Plans.

xi) Sally had had talks with Stuart Nairn about the possibility of housing other activities in the church, but for many seemingly insurmountable problems, this is very unlikely to happen.

Action - Sally will follow this up at a later date.

xii) Sally admitted not having contacted the Borough Council re the current local housing policy.

Action - Sally to do this before the next meeting.

xiii) It was decided to put a notice in the Nar Valley News inviting people in the village who need help with transport to contact the Parish Clerk, as should anyone feeling vulnerable and in need of general help.

Action - Sue to include these matters in the next Nar Valley News article.

Minute 4 To discuss matters of finance

Sue introduced the new application form for the coming year's precept. Despite receiving a Borough Council grant of £60, it was decided to keep the precept constant at £750.

Minute 5 To discuss the Casual Vacancy.

Despite having been advertised for several weeks there have been no applications to become a Parish Councillor

Action - Sue to remind everyone of the vacancy in the next Nar Valley News, making sure that the position didn't sound too onerous.

Minute 6 To discuss Communication in the village.

Methods of ensuring that as many residents as possible are contactable were discussed.

Action - Sue to put a request in the Nar Valley News for residents to send her their email addresses to facilitate fast and efficient contact.

Minute 7 To view displayed correspondence.

As most of the correspondence is now sent electronically, there were only a few items and these were displayed at the back of the room, as usual

Minute 8 To receive Any Other Matters for Discussion

Henry was asked about the matter of felling trees on the Priory Land. After much discussion Henry stated that anyone with issues on this matter should phone him. He will be marking the trees that he feels will need felling to protect the archaeological treasures beneath the land and will then be inviting comments from residents.

Action - Henry to mark trees likely to be felled.

Colin proposed thanks to Ralph for turning out twice on icy mornings to grit the village. The councillors responded unanimously with their thanks.

Henry asked the council to consider paying for membership of Norfolk Rural Community Council.

Action - the council agreed to wait until after the Joint Meeting of PC and VHC to make a decision on this.

Jim mentioned that he had details of Sports Funding available.

Action - Jim to send these details to Sue for forwarding to council members.

Minute 9 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting. -This was confirmed as Monday 29th April 2013 at 7pm at the Village Hall.

Action - All matters for inclusion on the Agenda should reach Sue by Monday 15th April 2013.