

ROUDHAM & LARLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Roudham & Larling Parish Council on Thursday, 20 October 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in the Bridgham and Roudham David O'Neale Memorial Village Hall, Chapel Lane, Bridgham.

**Present Councillors Brendan Larwood (Chairman), Sarah Gosling (Vice-Chairman),
Brian Inglis, Louise Martin, Dudley Stammers.
Julian Gibson (Clerk)**

The Chairman had advised that he would be late arriving for the meeting, so the Vice-Chairman took the Chair.

- 1 Apologies for absence.** None.
- 2 Declarations of interest.** None.
- 3 Dispensations.** None.
- 4 Public participation session.** None
- 5 Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 22 September 2016 were **confirmed** and **signed**.
- 6 Matters arising.**
 - 6.1 [4.3] **Possible water leak on north side of Roudham Road.** Following the Clerk reporting this issue, Anglia Water visited twice, and cannot find anything wrong with the mains. So they have placed an order for some digging to try to identify the source of the water, which should be done by 28 October. If it is a fault their side they will fix it, but if it is from within the SHB site or a drain responsibility will be transferred to them or Highways as appropriate. Councillor Inglis was able to report that work has certainly started.
 - 6.2 [6.5] **ENF/192/16/PAR: Land to the west side of Roudham Industrial Estate.** Following the Council's letter, Breckland Planning Enforcement have again visited the two static caravans and discussed the issues with their respective owners. They say the one on the Valley Traction Services site showed no evidence of being used for residential purposes, and they accept it is only used as a rest facility for HGV drivers (which is a different story to that which they were told last time), and so is considered ancillary to the approved use of the site. The van adjacent to Unit 17 is being used residentially on a temporary basis by the owner while renovations works are carried out on his home. Enforcement has advised him that this is unlikely to be acceptable from a planning perspective and will write to him asking for the van to be removed within 28 days. If he does not do this or submit a planning application to apply for retention of the land for the caravan, they will consider formal planning enforcement.
 - 6.3 [8.1] **Anvil Park Stud, Sallow Lane, Larling.** Planning Enforcement have logged the Council's complaint under reference ENF/302/16/PAR, however the letter includes their standard statement that they are very busy and cannot give a time scale for investigation.
 - 6.4 [9] **Harling Road Airfield.** Kenneth Bannerman, Director General of the Airfield of Britain Conservation Trust is quite happy about the proposal to attach their plaque to the base of the Roudham Village Sign, and will arrange to meet with the Clerk in due course to measure up.
 - 6.5 [11] **External Audit.** The External Auditor has amended his comments, and the Clerk has published the documents as required.

- 6.6 [6.1, Minutes dated 21 July 2016] **Blocked gullies on B1111 south of level crossing.** It was reported that Highways had at last cleared these gullies, and they were now taking water away.

7 Correspondence. The following correspondence was **received**:

- 7.1 The Pensions Regulator: *Your staging date is approaching - what you will need to do next.*
7.2 Barclays Bank Plc: *Savings interest rates are reducing.*
7.3 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account statement - 1-30 September 2016.*
7.4 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Active Saver Account statement - 1-30 September 2016.*
7.5 Department for Communities and Local Government: *Re: Norfolk & Suffolk Devolution.*

8 Planning.

- 8.1 **3PL/2016/1114/HOU: Old Farmhouse, Watton Road, Larling.** Application for Barn/outbuilding. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objections.
8.2 **3PL/2016/0535/F: Catering Kiosk, Unit 10, Roudham Road, Harling Road.** Reopening of catering kiosk, new fence with door surrounding kiosk. Planning Permission dated 7 October 2016 was **received**. Condition 1 states that the land should be reinstated to its former condition on or before 1 October 2018, unless permission is granted beforehand for its retention. The Clerk was asked to tell NCC Highways that their fears that vehicles parking up to use the kiosk would damage the verge were already being realised, and to ask them to carry out repairs and charge the kiosk operator rather than the Norfolk taxpayers.

9 Breckland Local Plan Preferred Sites and Settlement Boundaries consultation. The Clerk explained that under these proposals the parish would come under Policy PD05B, and under these conditions development would be allowed where certain criteria are satisfied. Basically this involved (a) it being within a cluster of 10 or more existing dwellings on an existing highway, (b) with appropriate support of local communities, (c) infilling a small undeveloped plot by up to 3 dwellings, (d) when considered alongside expected development and any other commitments, the cumulative development level was within 5% over the plan period (2011-2036), (e) the proposal does not harm a visually important gap in the rural scene. Development in isolated parts of the open countryside would be resisted unless it satisfied four other criteria (affordable housing, re-use of a rural building, replacement of an existing dwelling, and required in association with an existing rural enterprise). After a discussion it was **agreed** that the Council was reasonably comfortable with the proposals. It was noted that no development sites are allocated within the parish.

10 Precept Consultation. A document giving legal advice on the Government's proposals for *Precept Consultation* from the Norfolk Association of Local Councils was **received**. It was **agreed** that the Council was opposed to these sections of the Government's Technical Consultation Paper on *The 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement* and the Clerk was instructed to respond accordingly.

11 Pensions Act 2008. The Council **noted** that under this Act the Council must put staff who (a) earn over £192 per week (or £833 per month), (b) are aged 22 or over, and (c) are under state pension age, into a pension scheme and pay into it ('automatic enrolment') and that the Council's staging date is 1 January 2017 (see item 7.1 above). The Clerk does not meet all of these criteria, but could ask to join a pension scheme, and within six weeks after the staging date the Council must write to ask him to tell the Council in writing if he wants to do this. Within five months after the staging date the Council must complete an on-line declaration of compliance.

- 12 **Roudham Village Sign.** It was **agreed** that it would be nice to have the area round the sign planted with daffodils, and Councillor Gosling was authorised to buy bulbs and plant them. Councillor Stammers will also get some beech saplings to fill in the gaps in the hedge behind the sign and plant them later in the year.
- 13 **Finance. Monthly**
- 13.1 **Replacement cheque.** It was **agreed** that cheque no. 100343 for £50.00 to The Poppy Appeal be signed to replace cheque number 100342 issued at the September meeting which was made payable to the Royal British Legion. This has been returned by the Appeal administrator advising that it should now be made payable direct to the Appeal.
- 13.2 **Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 30 September 2016 was **received**.
- 14 **Matters for consideration at next meeting.** Budget & Precept.
- 15 **Next meeting.** The next meeting will be on **Thursday, 17 November 2016**, at 7.30 p.m. in the Bridgham and Roudham David O'Neale Memorial Village Hall, Chapel Lane, Bridgham.

.....B. Larwood.....

Brendan Larwood, Chairman

15 December 2016

Future Meeting dates:

Thursday, 19 January 2017

Thursday, 23 February 2017

Thursday, 17 March 2017

Note: Meetings will only be called if there is business to discuss which cannot wait until the following scheduled meeting date.