

# ROUDHAM & LARLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Roudham & Larling Parish Council on Thursday, 17 September 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in Bridgham & Roudham Village Hall, Chapel Lane, Bridgham.

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

- 1 **Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to accept the reason for absence offered by Councillor Nelstrop.
- 2 **Declarations of interest.** None.
- 3 **Dispensations.** None.
- 4 **Public participation session.**
  - 4.1 Breckland Councillor Ellen Jolly reported on the meeting held in Harling to discuss issues relating to HGVs (see also item 6.3 below). She said that she had been chasing Environmental Health about the unpleasant mess that drivers leave when they are parked on Roudham Road (see also item 6.1 below). She had also attended a meeting about the biomass power station development at Snetterton, where reassurance was given about a large number of the issues raised. With regard to the Solar Farm in Bridgham, it appears that no appeal against the refusal of permission has been lodged.
  - 4.2 Concern was expressed about the large advertising signs appearing on the verge of the A11, not about any individual sign, but about the proliferation of them. The Clerk will try to contact the relevant authority.
- 5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 20 August 2015 were **confirmed** and **signed**.
- 6 **Matters arising.**
  - 6.1 [4.1] **Lorry parking on Roudham Road.** County Councillor Steve Askew has again chased Highways about the possibility of having a parking restriction and yellow lines on the road. The response is that "it is likely that funding for even low cost traffic management measures (such as yellow lines) will not be available next year." This will not be confirmed until the budget is set in February 2016, and if funding is available Highways would be willing to see if yellow lines would be appropriate. However, "in the short term, from a Highways perspective there is nothing we can do to prevent this." It was pointed out the Barry Germany of Foulgers Transport had once said that he would be willing to pay for yellow lines to be painted, so if this offer was confirmed, this could be done at Nil cost to NCC.
  - 6.2 [4.2] **Rubbish burning on Roudham Industrial Estate.** The Environment Agency has said that due to limited resources it is unable to investigate this incident. However, it then received a further report, providing the name of the company involved, and will now write to them. If they receive reports of subsequent fires they may review their enforcement response.
  - 6.3 [10] **HGV Routes Working Party.** Councillor Gosling had also attended a meeting and was able to tell the Council the results of the traffic count last week from 4.30 am to 7.30 pm. At the busiest time 68 lorries went through in 1½ hours, the week averaging at 361 HGVs a day. She suggested it would be interesting to know how many went in and out of the industrial estate.
  - 6.4 [12] **Clerk's salary payment.** The Clerk had realised that the standing order had been set up without taking into account the deduction of Income Tax, and the



requirement that this be paid to HM Revenue & Customs. Accordingly an instruction to Barclays Bank to cancel the standing order was signed. The Clerk will look further into how to do this, and bring the matter back to a future meeting.

6.5 [13] **November meeting.** This has been booked for Friday, 20 November.

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

- 7.1 Mid Norfolk Citizens' Advice Bureau: *Appeal letter*.
- 7.2 Planning Services, Breckland Council: *Letter re: contributions from developers for open space/pay equipment*.
- 7.3 *Clerks & Councils Direct* - September 2015.
- 7.4 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account statement* - 1 July - 28 August 2015.
- 7.5 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Active Saver Account statement* - 1 July - 28 August 2015.

**8 Planning.**

- 8.1 **3PL/2015/0715/F: Swallow Aquatics, Harling Road.** Application for Enclosure of existing external garden centre & retail sales area. It was **noted** that the Clerk has responded "No objection" under delegated authority.
- 8.2 **3SR/2015/0015/SCR: Bridgham - adj. Camp Farm.** Scoping Option for Anaerobic digestion plant & feedstock facility. Notice that no EIA is required dated 4 September 2015 was **received**.

**9 Bridgham & Roudham Village Hall.**

- 9.1 **Name.** The Clerk to Bridgham Parish Council had asked for this Council's thoughts about the possibility of changing the name from *Bridgham & Roudham Village Hall* to *The David O'Neale Memorial Village Hall* in remembrance of a much loved and respected resident who had made a significant contribution to Bridgham and the surrounding villages. The Council had no specific objection to the principle, but felt that Mr O'Neal, having himself been a historian, would not have been happy that the hall should lose the historic link with the two villages from its name, and suggested that Bridgham Parish Council revisit the idea and see if a way could be found to link both the two villages and the memorial idea.
- 9.2 **Charging structure.** The Village Hall Management Committee had advised the Council that as the hall was running at an operating loss, the Committee had reviewed its fees policy, and that from 1 September (three days before the letter advising the change) it would charge the Council £20 per usage, to increase to £40 from 1 April 2016. The Council felt that it should support the hall which bears the parish name as a valuable facility to the parish and parishioners, but it also had to be mindful of the way it spent the taxpayer's money. The Council had received an offer of the use of an excellent venue within the parish free of charge for its meetings, and therefore the demanded amount appeared excessive. It was **agreed** that the Council would pay £20 per usage, but no more, and the Clerk was asked to write to Bridgham Parish Council (as owners of the hall) accordingly.

**10 External Auditor's report.** The External Auditor's "clean" report for the year ended 31 March 2015 was **received**. The Clerk will now display the Annual Return and statutory notice on the parish notice boards.

**11 Finance.**

- 11.1 **Clerk's salary.** It was **resolved** that cheques numbered 100316 & 100317 totalling £412.25 (salary for 1 July 2015 to 30 September 2015: £358.16; Mileage Allowance Payment for 15 July 2015 to 8 September 2015: £54.09 of which £2.55 is the reclaimable VAT element) be signed. (*Local Government Act 1972 s 112(2)*)

- 11.2 **Clerk's reimbursement.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100318 for £8.82 (Postage & telephones) to the Clerk be signed, as reimbursement for items paid on behalf of the Council for 16 July 2015 to 8 September 2015. (*Local Government Act 1972 s 111*)
- 11.3 **Royal British Legion.** In accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, it was **resolved** that cheque number 100319 for £50.00 to the Royal British Legion be signed as a donation, which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area and its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 137*)
- 11.4 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 31 August 2015 was **received**.
- 12 **Matters for consideration at next meeting.** None.
- 13 **Next meeting.** The next meeting will be on **Thursday, 22 October 2015**, at 7.30 p.m. in **Bridgham & Roudham Village Hall, Chapel Lane, Bridgham**.

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

**Brendan Larwood, Chairman**

22 October 2015

**Future Meeting dates:**

Thursday, 22 October 2015

Thursday, 17 December 2015

Thursday, 18 February 2016

**Friday, 20 November 2015 \***

Thursday, 21 January 2016

Thursday, 17 March 2016

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