



## Holkham Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Keith Leesmith  
31 Dogger Lane  
Wells-next-the-Sea  
Norfolk NR23 1BE  
01328 710261 keith@leesmith.co.uk

2014/03

### Minutes of meeting held at the Estate Office Tuesday 11 March 2014 at 1900

**Present** Jane Berwick, Paul Bloomfield (Chairman), Harvey Gunhouse, and Emma Sargent  
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Marie (& Mike) Strong (NCC) Peter Terrington (NNDC)

- 1) **Apologies** Stephen Frary, Jonathan Savory (NNDC), Safer Neighbourhood Team
- 2) **Declarations of Interest** None
- 3) **Minutes of the Meeting held 14 January 2014** Agreed and signed

#### 4) **Reports**

##### a) **Norfolk County Council**

Burglars, who are thought to have carried out many crimes in the area, have recently been caught at Langham, following a pursuit involving a police helicopter. Several local Parishes are to benefit from this year's *Parish Partnership Scheme*, for local footpaths and vehicle operated speeding signs. The *Better Broadband* programme is currently ahead of schedule, and an extra £5.9m grant from central government will assist with the "hard to reach" areas such as Quarles and New Holkham. NCC has now recovered £29m of the £32.5m lost in the Icelandic banking crisis. Assessments are currently being carried out of damaged defences following the December flood-surge. NCC will be paying for the reinstatement of the North Norfolk Coastal Path between Blakeney and Cley. Householders who suffered damage can claim up to £5000 from the government.

##### c) **North Norfolk District Council**

PT's comprehensive report is attached to these minutes. Of local interest there is soon to be a site meeting to discuss the proposed leaning centre on Lady Anne's Drive, the Co-op definitely intend to build the fuel station on The Polka in Wells, although they are still searching for an operator, and the search also continues for a suitable alternative coach and lorry park. There is no further news regarding the *Gifts Galore* site although following the recent resurfacing, the road cannot be dug up for at least two years. The owner of Clarence House has agreed to carry out necessary repairs but no solution has yet been found to the problems of the Maryland Industrial Estate or the old grain store.

##### c) **Safer Neighbourhood Team**

The Team had sent a report which KL read. There had been four calls to police in the last two months;

- i) Burglary – theft of wood
- ii) Harassment – no further details will be given
- iii) Theft – found to be a civil matter
- iv) Found dog

Of these only the first was recorded a crime. The police would like it known that thefts of heating oil are still occurring in the area and ask people to be vigilant.

#### 4d) Parish Clerk's report

KL had attended a meeting at Binham on 27 January at which the current state of the *Better Broadband scheme* was advised. Most of Holkham will be "wired" at the same time as Wells, and this should take place between the middle and end of this year. However, New Holkham and Quarles will not have a fibre-optic connection, but will instead be offered a different system (possibly satellite) which will still have a minimum of 2Mbs guaranteed.

KL also attended a meeting at Blakeney, which enabled local Parish Councils to quiz Victory Housing on their current policy of selling old housing to build new. Holkham is however, one of the few Parishes without any Victory housing stock.

#### 5) To discuss any Planning matters to hand

a) Demolition of garage and erection of sectional building to house de-purification plant for processing shellfish (oysters) at Snuggle Cottage, Dale Hole.

It was resolved to support this application as Councillors liked the idea of a traditional small industry being established in the area. However, they would not like to see the proposed building converted at a later date to residential accommodation, and would like a condition disallowing this.

b) Erection of learning centre – Lady Anne's Drive.

A site meeting would take place on Thursday 13 March and this Council was invited to attend to reiterate its support for the project. KL would attend for this purpose.

#### 6) To discuss financial appeals from local organisations.

During the year appeals had been received from six Norfolk-based charities. However, as in previous years, Councillors decided to donate the whole budgeted amount to a very local organisation. It was therefore resolved to donate £100 to *Homes for Wells*. [NB despite the name, the charity also operates in Stiffkey, Warham, Wighton and Holkham, in addition to Wells.]

#### 7) Financial Report and Accounts for Settlement

No bank statement had been received, as there had not been any movements on the account since the last meeting.

The following were approved for payment:

Keith Leesmith	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter salary and contribution to expenses	444.00
HMRC	PAYE on above	107.20
Homes for Wells	as above	100.00

#### 8) Minor Matters

The entrances to the car park at New Holkham still need attention; the undersides of some cars are scraping on the roadway. JB would ask the Estate to attend to this again. There is a large pot hole on the Burnham Market Road just south of the junction with the Coast Road. KL would ask highways to attend.

#### 9) To confirm date of next meeting

Tuesday 13 May 2014 at 1900 at the Estate Office

**The meeting closed at 2010**