

Great Ellingham Parish Council  
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council  
held at the recreation centre on Wednesday 21 September 2016 at 7.30pm

In Attendance: Cllr T Betts (Chairman) Cllr T Getley, Cllr S Banks, Cllr D Howe-Li-Rocchi, Cllr J May, Cllr S Mellor, Cllr N Perkins, Cllr D Simpson, Cllr G Snelling

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner  
County Councillor Cliff Jordan  
5 members of the public

- 1. Open Forum – An opportunity for any parishioner to speak on parish matters and to hear reports from District and County Councillors, if available** – A member of the public asked if, as the 40 new houses allocated for Great Ellingham within the Breckland Local Plan will be more than satisfied with the Orbit Homes and Mellor Metals developments, the parish council will be revising its criteria for assessing planning applications. The Chairman confirmed that the 40 homes quoted in the local plan are a minimum and, although planning applications will continue to be submitted, the parish council will consider this at the next meeting.  
Another member of the public asked why the parish council wastes its time discussing planning applications, when their viewpoint seems to be ignored by Breckland District Council. The Chairman advised that, although the final decision relating to planning lies with Breckland, it is worthwhile submitting the views of the parish council, on behalf of the residents. The same person also asked about a bin at the Deopham Memorial site and asked why this had not been progressed. The clerk advised that when this was last discussed Cllr Mellor suggested that Cllr Banks may like to contact the USAF base to see if they would consider providing a bin at the site. The bridleway between Bow Street and Wood Lane was reported as being in an overgrown state. The clerk will report this. The advertising on the railings was mentioned and the Chairman confirmed that, in line with parish council policy, this will be removed again. At the request of a member of the public, the parish council will confirm this policy and the reason for it, in the Pump.  
A member of the public noted her appreciation to the parish council and the time given up by Councillors. It was asked if a challenge could be made against the Orbit Homes appeal ruling, on the grounds of Highways safety. The improvements that have been made at the junction so far were those pushed for by County Councillor Jordan, they were not initiated by Orbit Homes. The Chairman advised that for the ruling to be challenged, there has to be a legal issue with the information contained within the appeal ruling. It was noted that a full risk assessment of the road network has not taken place.  
A member of the public also raised concerns about the anticipated increase of traffic from the relief road around Attleborough. There is no pavement or path on Long Street to make it safe for pedestrians and school children.  
The representative from the Petanque club reported that planning permission is needed for the floodlights, the application will shortly be submitted. If it is approved, the total cost for the floodlights will be £197.00.  
County Councillor Jordan reported on the progress of devolution. Public opinion seems to approve of the devolution process but the public seem less keen on the idea of the role of mayor. A further decision has been postponed to the end of November.

**2. To consider apologies for absence - None**

3. **To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda – None**
4. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 17 August 2016 –** The minutes were approved without alteration and signed as correct by the Chairman.
5. **To report matters arising not on the agenda and hear the Chairman's report** The Chairman reported on the following:
  - An appeal has been lodged in respect of the planning application for four detached dwellings at Highcroft, Attleborough Road
  - The possible transfer of Westcarr to join Great Ellingham (for governance purposes) will not be considered by Breckland DC until 2018
  - Norfolk County Community Safety Partnership have launched a campaign to highlight domestic abuse issues [www.iwalkedaway.co.uk](http://www.iwalkedaway.co.uk)
  - Norfolk County Council have launched a new recycling campaign "know before you throw"
  - There was a recent break in at the recreation centre, part of a series of break ins at village halls and social clubs. Police advice is that the assailants are dangerous and should not be approached but members of the public should dial 999.
  - Part of District Councillor Smith's report this month includes the fact that he has requested a policy review on the street naming policy at Breckland DC. The developer of the Town Green / Long Meadow site will be putting forward the name of Melton Meadows for part of the development, in recognition of Evelyn Melton. They asked the parish council for suggestions for the other part. After discussion, the name of "The Hops" was agreed upon.
6. **To consider information relating to a judicial review process –** The Chairman advised that, in order for the Orbit Homes appeal to be overturned, the parish council would need to identify a legal issue or show that the judgement was flawed or inappropriate in some way. If the plan would be to do this on the grounds of highways safety, this raises a problem in that Breckland did not refuse the application on the grounds of highways safety. Norfolk County Council highways declared the junction safe. The Chairman proposed that he investigate this further. County Councillor Jordan also reminded councillors and residents that Breckland planning officers recommended the application be passed but it was actually refused by Councillors at a meeting of the Planning Committee. The decision of the planning inspector is a professional document and there would need to be firm evidence that a misjudgement had been made. Cllr Howe-Li-Rocchi suggested that, if the development does go ahead, it may be time to work with the developers to ensure that the outcome is the best it can be. Cllr Howe-Li-Rocchi also asked if some of the S106 funds could be used for highway improvements but the Chairman advised the monies available from S106 were not likely to be anywhere near the cost needed for a major change at the junction. The Chairman also noted that, in the presence of the planning inspector, Orbit Homes had confirmed that phase 2 of the plans would not be proceeding. The Chairman is in receipt of the revised plans, which no longer show phase 2. Cllr Banks asked if priority could be given to local people for the housing and the Chairman confirmed that Orbit Housing policy allocates their affordable housing on a radial basis.
7. **To hear of planning decisions and other information**
  - a) **32 Chequers Lane – New access & parking – approved**
  - b) **5 & 6 Watton Rd – Rear extensions – withdrawn**

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- c) **White House Farm (plot 1 revised application new design) – approved**
- d) **Bow Street – Erection of one dwelling and cart lodge – refused**
- e) **Orbit homes planning appeal decision**

**8. To consider planning applications, including:**

- a) **3PL/2016/0981/HOU – 6 Rectory Lane – rear and side extension to bungalow** – Following discussion, it was agreed that Councillors had no objections to these plans, although the lighting clause would be included in comments.
- b) **3PL/2016/0914/F – Land between Cannells Farm and Mayben Lodge, Bow St – Demolition of workshop and erection of a dwelling** – Following discussion, it was agreed that Councillors would object to this application on the grounds that it is outside of the settlement boundary and unsustainable.
- c) **3PL/ 2016/1044/HOU – 5 & 6 Watton Rd – rear and side two storey extensions** – The Chairman confirmed that he had visited neighbours, who all seemed happy with the plans. Councillors raised no objections to this application.

**9. 3PL/2016/To receive the financial report and consider the following payments:**

The financial report, circulated prior to the meeting, was approved.

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100492	£152.68	A Rayner	September 2016 salary
100493	£114.60	Post Office Ltd	Clerk tax Q2
100494	£150.00	T Betts	Refund – equipment hire for appeal
100495	£462.00	T Betts	Refund – defibrillator cabinet

**10. To consider and note correspondence received, including:**

- a) **Norfolk & Suffolk ALC response to the devolution consultation** – Noted
- b) **Breckland Devolution Consultation feedback** – Noted

**11. Highways issues and suggestions for improvement measures on Bow Street** – The diversion along Bow Street, whilst road works were being undertaken, caused considerable issues for residents. A member of the public contacted the parish council, Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Police to voice concerns and ask for some issues to be considered. Amongst these was the suggestion for Bow Street to be designated a “Quiet Lane” and a trod path along Hingham Road be installed. Although it was noted that most of the problems have ceased now that the diversion has finished, Councillors agreed to look into both of these requests. The Chairman noted that a planning application may be submitted in due course relating to a plot of land on the corner of Bow Street, which, if passed, would include the provision of a 1500mm pathway from Bow Street to opposite the first house in Hingham Road (Fred’s house).

**12. To hear information concerning Breckland annual statement of five year housing supply** – Breckland have 3509 deliverable units within 5 years. There are four different methods of calculating housing supply and by using the “Liverpool” method, Breckland can prove that they

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have 4.7 years. The District Council state that new targets show a vastly improved picture and they are confident that a 5 year supply will be achieved in the near future.

13. **To consider the naming of the developments on the Town Green / Long Street triangle** – dealt with as part of the Chairman's report.
14. **To consider the formation of a speedwatch group** – Cllr Howe-Li-Rocchi has agreed to manage this. Cllr May will pass his contact details on to the relevant group at the police and they will contact him as soon as they are ready to proceed. The delay is as a result of finding the staff time to carry out the initial safety assessments and approve the sites. The Chairman asked that Watton /Attleborough Road, Long Street and Hingham Road be given particular consideration, when the group is up and running.
15. **To consider items from Councillors**
  - a) **To consider a request from the pre-school group for wi-fi** – Cllr Snelling reported that a quote has been received from BT for the installation of a phone line into the hall. This is £158. The three parties requesting the wi-fi (Chit Chat Club, pre-school and under 5's) are asking the parish council to pay the cost of the line installation and the groups will share the cost of the on-going line and broadband charges. Cllr Mellor suggested deducting the cost of the installation from the grant given to the recreation centre. This will be fully considered next month.
  - b) **To hear information from the latest SNAP meeting** – Cllr May reported that Gt Ellingham will continue to receive speeding patrols whenever possible as the police are concerned with the highways and traffic issues in the village. There has been a spate of thefts of trailers, residents are asked to remain vigilant. The public enquiry desk at Thetford will be closing, with residents being asked to log their complaints on a PC at the library. Public support will be needed to keep the desk open and Inspector Jo Walmsley can be contacted with concerns about the closure. Unfortunately, abuse of the 999 and 101 numbers continues.
16. **To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 19 October 2016 to be held at the Recreation Centre commencing at 7.30pm.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25pm.