

**Minutes of a Meeting of Knapton Parish Council held on  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 at 7.30pm in Knapton Village Hall**

**Present:** Alan Young (Chairman), Mary Allen, Andrew Claydon, Michelle de Vries, Peter Kaye, Pat Lee, Peter Neatherway, Dee Holroyd (Clerk). Cllr Nick Coppack, Cllr Ed Maxfield. Nine members of the public.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** none.
- 2. Minutes of the Meeting** held on 6<sup>th</sup> March were agreed with one amendment and signed by the chairman. Proposed MdV, seconded PK.
- 3. Matters Arising:** none.
- 4. Cllrs Nick Coppack and Ed Maxfield.** CllrNC gave his report: (to follow). Cllr EM had already sent his. He added that a £6000 grant was available for Highways improvements within his area. This was allocated on a first come first served basis, so if Knapton PC had any requests for funding, they should be made with all speed. PL stated that due to the new charge levied on DIY materials taken to the dump, fly tipping had already increased. EM asked the PC to report any further increase to him before next autumn when the budget for the following year would be set. AY asked what the Council were believed to be saving by levying this charge. About £280,000 for Norfolk.
- 5. Land off School Close: PF/17/1675:** AY circulated a site plan and drawings, available also on the NNDC website. The revised application by the Victory Housing Trust, for comment by 17<sup>th</sup> April, showed minimal change from 16 to 14 dwellings and no improvement in the architectural appearance. Highways were already concerned about the safety impact of the development and nothing had been done to address these concerns. NC asked whether Faith Davies should be invited to the next PC meeting. It was decided that this would not be helpful. NC said a site visit by the NNDC Development Committee had been set for 17<sup>th</sup> April (to be confirmed). As many villagers as wished should attend as

a silent protest. The application was expected to go to Committee in May and the Chairman of KPC, when two members of the public would have the right to speak.

As before, the PC supports the building of affordable housing but the proposed development was, ugly and too crowded for the site and would result in too large a population and traffic increase for a village the size of Knapton. PK said he believed that NNDC was selling the plots for an individual plot price of £12,500, well below market price. PN asked for a definition of affordable housing. `Houses could not be sold on the open market`. MdV asked about the possibility of the village of Knapton purchasing the land and finding a suitable, sympathetic developer. It was not believed NNDC would consider this. NC said since 2015, government grants to Housing Trusts such as VHT had been reduced. PL said the village needed younger residents. At the public meeting held in January, at which eighty village residents were present, not one knew of a relative wishing to move to Knapton. NC urged residents to once more put in their objections to this plan. All would be considered when it went to Committee. It was believed the decision whether to approve or reject was very close. MdV asked whether, as the plot price was so low, buyers could make a profit when they sold. Houses could not be sold on the open market for five years from time of purchase. MdV asked whether Southrepps PC had been approached. AY had spoken to the Chairman. Apparently VHT had amended their plan to build in Southrepps by replacing planned garages with parking spaces.

The PC agreed that a public meeting should be held. This was set for Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 7.00 in the Village Hall. MdV would do a flier for delivery to every house in the village. This would also go to those on the Knapton News mailing list.

NC suggested the PC do a census to determine how much traffic was using Hall Lane. There had been 7 accidents in the past 18 months in Hall Lane. This development could only cause addition to that number. Highways had been clear in their objections and PK asked how it was that they had been over-ruled.

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6. **Finance:** The clerk reported a current credit balance of £4,200 after cheques for £192 (removal of asbestos shed on PC land) and £100 (website) were agreed and signed. NNDC had made an error in determining the Precept, resulting in a 10% increase. NNDC had suggested either the PC retain the increase for this year only or ask for revised Council Tax invoices. It was decided not to accept the increase.

DH to contact NNDC to advice of this decision.

7. **Any Other Business:** PL would have maps printed for hand out at the proposed Village Walk on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May. Posters would be put up around the village. Refreshments afterwards in the Village Hall.

8. **Date of next Meeting:** Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm.