

## **D R A F T**

### **Minutes of a Meeting of Knapton Parish Council held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 7.30pm in Knapton Village Hall**

**Present:** David Bishop-Laggett (Chairman), Mary Allen, Andrew Claydon, Peter Kaye, Pat Lee, Sue Wilkins, Alan Young, Dee Holroyd (Clerk). Cllr Nick Coppack, 9 members of the public.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Northam Wyndham
- 2. Councillors Northam Wyndham and Nick Coppack:** reported that (i) NNDC had rejected the proposed devolution for the region. (ii) Following NNDC`s decision not to continue with shared services the heads of Finance and HR had resigned to take up positions at Great Yarmouth. (iii) Proposed Boundaries Commission changes would reduce the number of District Councillors and the Gaunt District boundaries would be redrawn, excluding coastal properties and including Felmingham and Suffied. Possibly to be re-named Trunch District. (iv) All NNDC car parks would be free on Remembrance Sunday. (v) NC hoped that people had seen the provisional plans for the Millennium Field. VHT are open to the views of the Knapton residents and may change their current proposals prior to applying for planning permission.
- 3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October:** were agreed and signed by the Chairman. Proposed MA, seconded PK.
- 4. Matters Arising:** None.
- 5. Budget and general Finance:** The Clerk circulated a Financial Report showing a current credit balance of £4918, a breakdown of spending to date for the current year and the Budget. The budget showed an anticipated credit balance for November 2017 of £5712. On this basis all agreed the Precept should be kept at the current level of £4250.
- 6. Madra Lease and Playground:** AY to arrange for the delivery of the bark before Christmas. PL would take down the fence to allow for this.

- 7. Correspondence Received:** an appeal for funding for Community Transport was circulated. Appeals to be decided at the December meeting.

1

- 8. Any Other Business:** AY had been to look at the Methodist Chapel, which was for sale by tender, offers of £65,000, or more. This could provide an alternative to the Village Hall, which belonged to the church. Any money spent on repairs would be lost to the village if the church took the hall back. The Methodist Chapel was slightly smaller. There was no parking but it was understood that a neighbouring field might be available. It was in good condition. SW thought the PC would regret letting this opportunity go without further investigation. It was agreed that AY should talk to the selling agents to ask whether the Methodists would take the property off the market for a while to allow the PC to decide whether it would make an appropriate Village Hall, and to seek funding.
- 9. Millennium Field:** The Chairman told the meeting that there had been a presentation of proposed plans by Victory Housing Trust, in the Village Hall. This showed 16 dwellings, housing 50 plus people. Eight were for shared ownership. (SW pointed out that this was probably a good thing as the occupiers would have their own money invested in their home, and therefore take greater care of it). The buildings now covered the entire field. Despite repeated requests made to VHT for bungalows, the two highest buildings were positioned at the Hall Lane end of the village. The car park had been repositioned and both it and the new footpath were unacceptably far from the Village Hall. PK believed the PC should act when a planning application had been put in. PL was concerned about traffic. Cllr NC (Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee) recommended that, having read the feedback from the VHT presentation, the PC write to VHT listing what they wished to see in the Development and objections. DH would put this in a letter form and circulate to the PC and to Cllr NC, before sending.

The meeting closed at 8.25 to allow comments from the floor. These were: (i) The roads were unable to cope with the extra traffic flow and the layby/disabled parking shown in Hall Lane was in a dangerous position. (ii) The car park should be left in its present position. (iii) Houses, as opposed to bungalows, should be at the west, or far end of the development. (iv) The

2

reason the speaker wanted to live in Knapton was its unspoilt charm. This was a totally unsympathetic development, where no concession to the environment had been made. VHT developments tended to be ugly. (v) There were no facilities in Knapton. (vi) Bungalows over the whole site, which stood high before being built on, would be preferable. (vii) The water pressure in School Close was extremely low and no mains drainage. (viii) There were currently 27 cars in School Close which was struggling to cope. The new development would bring in a great many new cars, all exiting onto Hall Lane, which was already carrying a great deal of traffic and the junction with Hall Lane was narrow. (ix) VHT did not appear to have taken existing trees into account on their plan. (ix) Cllr NC suggested that it would be interesting to know Highways views on the development.

DH would include the above points in the proposed letter to VHT.

DBL told the meeting that VHT were aware that the field, owned by the PC and currently leased to Madra, could possibly be available as an alternative site to the Millennium Field. VHT had expressed interest. DH to look up the terms under which the land was gifted in the first place, which may have a clause excluding building on it. A member of the public said that the village must have a say in what became of this land.

Cllr NC would ask for someone at NNDC to speak on behalf of the village at any Planning Committee meeting concerning a planning application for the Millennium Field.

AY suggested the PC invite Faith Davies of VHT to the December meeting.

Other points from the floor. Liz Winter told the meeting (i) that the church repairs were a little behind owing to extra work having to be done and services had had to be cancelled. It was hoped it would be ready for the Arch Deacon`s service at the end of November. There would be a short service in Mundesley on 11/11. (ii) She reminded people of the Wine and Cheese evening at the Village Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> November. (ii) Items for the Knapton News to be in by the coming weekend.

3

A question was asked as to whether Hall Lane was a `Quiet Lane`. It was, which meant traffic should give way to pedestrians and horses, but there was no speed limit.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

4