

Neatishead Annual Parish Meeting

8pm, Thursday 18 April 2013

Councillors Present:

Patrick Palgrave-Moore
Martin Arnold
Brian Wigglesworth
Steven Luxford

Officer

Lauraine Arnold - Clerk to the Council

In Attendance - no parishioners attended

1	Apologies: Gareth Pritchard and Daphne Pritchard.
2	Election of Chairman: The chairman of the parish council was present and chaired the meeting.
3	Minutes of previous meeting: The minutes of the 2012 Annual Parish Meeting were approved by those who were present at the meeting.
4	<u>Report from the Chairman of Neatishead Parish Council</u> For most of the year we have operated with only five councillors, but following the recent co-options of Daphne and Gareth Pritchard, we brought our numbers up to full strength. The highlights of the year were: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) The Chairman represented Neatishead Parish Council at the 200th anniversary celebration of the Neatishead Baptist Church.2) The allotments have not only been fully used during the year, but also maintained to a high standard.3) The council run shop committee expanded into an independent committee which was successful in purchasing the freehold through loans and subscriptions and, largely through the efforts of councillors Arnold and Wigglesworth, established a viable business enterprise.4) Efforts were made to list the vacant White Horse Inn as a community asset.5) Public footpath signs were re-erected.6) A memorial bench was erected at the Staithe.7) Contact was established between the Council and representatives of two new businesses at the Granary site.8) Routine risk assessments were carried out as required resulting in new fencing being erected at the sandpit site and molehills cleared on the playing field and School Green9) Local charity payments were made to NABS, the Bowls Club and for maintenance of the Neatishead Churchyard.10) Following a government initiative, an energy box with details of saving energy was agreed to be available at the shop.11) Flooding of roads by excessive rainfall during the year prompted Council to

	<p>clear the ditches alongside the playing field.</p> <p>12) Work has begun on preparing early council records for deposit at the County Record Office for safe keeping.</p> <p>In addition to revising all standing regulations, policies and procedures we have continued to be vigilant on all matters concerning the local community including planning application and councillor training and have carried out maintenance and repairs in those areas for which we are responsible.</p> <p>Two contentious matters arose during the year: Complaints continued to be made about the illegal use of a field in King Street. Following Council's action, a planning contravention notice was served. Following complaints, Council also acted over a post obstructing a public footpath resulting in an enforcement notice being issued and the post removed.</p> <p>I can also report that all items of council business were conducted within the guidelines of best practice and thanks are extended for the hard work put in by councillors during a busy year. Congratulations are also due to our hard-working Clerk who achieved the CiLCA qualification making her one of the best qualified clerks in the County, easily verified by the effort and enthusiasm she has put into the role to make the running of our council the envy of others.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Report from the Responsible Financial Officer:</p> <p>The end of year balance is £6,437 which includes £4,413 in earmarked reserves.</p> <p>The bench which required replacing at the Staithe was paid for as a memorial to a parishioner, therefore there have been no purchases out of capital this year.</p> <p>Daffodils planted last year under every road sign to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee are once again making a welcome appearance, apart from the ones stolen from under the Three Hammer Common sign. The new road signs erected for Hall Road and Common Road are also without bulbs.</p> <p>VAT recouped was £225, which although slightly more than the forecasted budgeted amount, was a great deal lower than last year due to less expenditure.</p> <p>Norfolk Association of Local Councils has approached North Norfolk District Council with a view to putting the date for the precept request back. This would assist in setting the budget as currently only 6 months of actual figures are available when the budget for the following year is set.</p> <p>The budget for 2013/14 includes ring-fenced reserves for replacement of assets and earmarked reserves for training and community events as well as grounds and general maintenance. A dog waste bin has been removed from the Staithe to try and reduce the annual cost which rose last year from £490 to £764.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>There being no items from the agenda from parishioners and no parishioners attending, the meeting closed at 8.25pm</p>