

**Minutes of a Meeting of Knapton Parish Council held on Tuesday 4th April at
7.30pm in Knapton Village Hall**

Present: David Bishop-Laggett (Chairman), Mary Allen, Andrew Claydon, Pat Lee, Sue Wilkins, Alan Young, Dee Holroyd (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Peter Kaye
- 2. Cllrs Nick Coppack and Wyndham Northam:** NC reported (i) that paperless planning was now in place. Most PCs were linked and would receive all future planning applications on line. AY was concerned applications might not arrive, so would not be seen by the PC. It was hoped this would not happen, NC would check the procedure, possibly suggesting receipt requests for e mails sent. A request for paper plans could be made, especially as most village halls did not have equipment to show enlarged plans on screen. (ii) More Bagot goats had been released to keep the grass short on the cliffs at Cromer. (iii) Bradfield village had received a Big Society Fund sports award for outstanding contribution to cricket. (iv) No word had been received from Victory Housing Trust. NC would look in to the lack of response to a letter to Steve Blatch, sent by the PC in January. NC remains on the Development Committee and is in a position to assist the PC when the next planning application is made. Cllr Wyndham Northam was retiring on 3rd May at the age of 88. He reported that (i) the northern distributor road would open in December and it was hoped that it would bring extra visitors and business to North Norfolk, which was especially reliant on the tourist trade. (ii) Highways Maintenance had been split into new districts. Mr Chris Alston and Mr Steve White would remain Highways Engineers for the Knapton area.

The chairman thanked Cllr WN for his support and regular attendance at PC meetings over the years and wished him a very long and happy retirement. Cllr WN said he had enjoyed visiting Knapton PC and it was pleasing to see the support it received from members of the village. Cllr WN then gave a naval salute (his first for very many years) and left the meeting to much applause.

- 3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th March 2017:** were agreed and signed by the Chairman. Proposed MA, seconded AY.
- 4. Matters Arising:** (i) PL hoped that DBL would continue as Chairman. To be discussed at the May meeting.
- 5. Finance:** The clerk reported a current credit balance of £4402 with £2125 Precept due this month.

- 6. Big Society Fund - possible application for funding play areas:** new equipment was needed and the clerk had provided a price list which the Chairman read to the PC. This year the bark had been topped up and the PC would replace a broken gate post. New play equipment was needed. A ROSPA inspection was due in June. It was agreed that the clerk would discover what funding might be available from the Big Society Fund and report back at the May meeting. PL wondered from where Mundesly PC had received their funding. DH to ask the Mundesley clerk.
- 7. Madra Lease:** was with the Jonathon Care, solicitor. He was concerned that the lease could not be completed until the land in question was known to be registered. He was looking into this. PL asked for a clause making Madra responsible for the mowing of the land around the play area.
- 8. Correspondence Received:** DBL read out a letter he had received from Mr David Glaze, of The Old School, Knapton, concerning the East Border of the Parish Land behind School Close. DG was concerned that land was being cleared adjacent to his fence, compromising his privacy. Wooden structures and a bonfire depression have also appeared. DBL had been to see the people responsible and DH to write to all residents of School Close, pointing out the land did not belong to them and also asking them not to cut down any more trees on the PC land.
- 9. Any Other Business:** (i) DH to write to Cllr Wyndham Northam on behalf of the PC to thank him for all his help over the years. (ii) PL had attended the last Trunchonbury meeting. They have spent £15,000 on security for the festival in August. AC had had a meeting with them. Trunchonbury would be responsible for fencing off the footpath between Madra and Hall Farm and would bring in bowsers to provide water from the water tower. Water from the tower was not used in the village, so pressure would not be affected. (iii) Knapton Village Hall. A response to the survey was circulated, showing a 14% response, largely in favour of retaining a village hall. At this point the public joined in the discussions for the future of the hall. Liz Winter confirmed that (i) the excellent heaters from the Methodist Chapel had been gifted to the PC for the hall. These would be a great improvement. (ii) The hall had been very thoroughly cleaned by Mal Lees, one cupboard removed and replacement kitchen cupboards were coming from a member of the village shortly. AY suggested a public meeting for people interested in

retaining the hall. It was felt this had been covered by the survey. Funding was available for village halls. A suggestion had been made that the PC take a long lease in order to receive any funding but PL pointed out

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that that would make the PC responsible for future maintenance. Alternative positions were to be attached to the church or built on the Men`s Club premises. DBL suggested Madra could become a village hall now that football and cricket were no longer played there. AY suggested making an internet café within the hall would bring in more use. The hall is quite well used but by a very small proportion of the village.

The meeting closed at 9.15.

10. Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 7.00 pm on 2nd May.

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