

A Parish Council Meeting was held on Monday 8 February 2010 at Little Plumstead Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** Mr E J C Wiley (Chairman)  
Mr S A Vincent (Vice Chairman)  
Mrs K Bartram  
Mrs D Bensley  
Mr R Claxton  
Mr J Dixon  
Mr G Edwards  
Mrs M Palmer  
Mr A P Skipper  
Mr A Townly

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** The Chairman allowed public participation. The Chairman said that in future he would make a note of the comments received under Public Participation and raise under Chairman's Items or the appropriate Agenda item.

**010210 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE -** Councillor Cossey. No apologies had been received from Councillor Hamilton.

**020210 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2010.** These were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**030210 MATTERS ARISING.** The Clerk reported that the application for appropriate street lighting on the access road to the Primary School had been returned but the County Council have said that the standard lighting would have to be installed. Councillor Townly confirmed that the Padgate site plans had been passed on to Cllr Bartrum. The Public Consultation for the conservation area at Thorpe End was on-going. The Chairman introduced Mrs Jane Jones as the new Clerk designate. The Clerk reported that following the last meeting he had written to the owner of the private road outside Coppellas requesting that urgent remedial work be carried out as soon as possible. The Clerk said he understood that Mr Townly and the owner had had a site meeting with a contractor and estimates were awaited. The Clerk said he would be writing to the owner before the March meeting.

**040210 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** Councillor Townly declared his interest in Planning Application number 20100033 as this was his daughter's house.

**050210 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS.** The Chairman reported that following a request from Mr Walpole he felt it advisable to obtain and pursue the best options from the NDR for the benefit of local residents. Mr Peter Lanyon expressed his disappointment at the Parish Council's lack of opposition to the proposals of sub-urbanisation and also the lack of inclusion in the Parish Plan of this important matter. The Chairman stated that we were not sitting on our hands and in fact Cllr Townly was attending a meeting on 25 February to argue this point at an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held at Broadland District Council. Mr Walpole suggested that a feasibility study should be made with a view to creating a trust to take over areas of Little Plumstead Hospital. Following an enquiry from a resident it was agreed that small signs be placed on the verge adjacent to the play areas at the village hall. This was agreed.

**060210 CORRESPONDENCE AND ADMINISTRATION.** Permission was granted for the Eastern District Scout Group to hold a 5-a-side football competition on 20 March 2010. A modified Tree Preservation Order 2009 (No 32) for trees on land at the former Hospital Site, Little Plumstead had been made on 25 January 2010. A Road Closure Notice had been received affecting the C284 Honeycombe Road on its junction with the C874 Belt Road to a point 50 m northwards. Thorpe End Conservation Area – the Councillors who attended the Thorpe St Andrew Plans Committee on 11 January 2010 wished to applaud the proposal for the Conservation Area for Thorpe End Garden Village. The Draft Single Quality Scheme and Action Plan – this Bill sets out to strengthen protection, advanced equality and simplify the law – if you have any questions regarding this document please contact Sarah Jones Social Policy Officer on 01603 430635. It was agreed that we would not renew our membership to the Norfolk Rural Community Council. PCSO P McAllister reported only two crimes for last month.

**070210 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.** The Clerk reported the following items of **INCOME** Bank of Ireland interest January 2010 - 0.03, Broadland District Council Hire of St David's Church Hall - £73 (not applicable to the Parish Council to be reimbursed – see expenditure).

The following items of **EXPENDITURE** were approved by the full Council – Broadland District Council £73 – Hire of St David's Church Hall. Little Plumstead Village Hall – Hire of Hall 2009 £75. Thorpe End Village Hall Association – Hire of Hall 2010 £45. Zurich Insurance Company – Premium 2010/11 £1224.04. Norfolkbroads.com Ltd website renewal premium £55.81 includes £8.31 VAT.

## **080210 PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED. The following applications received no objections from the Councillors:

20100031 – Appletree Farmhouse, Smee Lane, Gt Plumstead – retrospective planning application for extensions to outbuildings to form two first floor bedrooms and on-suites.

20100033 – Copper Beeches, 18 Plumstead Road, Thorpe End – single storey extension to the rear.

The Clerk confirmed that Broadland District Council had written to us regarding the planning application number 20091566 22 Woodland Drive, Thorpe End saying although our comments had been noted but there were insufficient grounds to justify refusal.

**090210 COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT.** County Councillor Mackie presented the following report –

### **1. Highways Matters**

- As some may have seen, owing to urgent level crossing inspections the Norwich Road level crossing in Thorpe End for 20 metres there will be restricted access between the hours of 00:15 hrs and 04:00 hrs for a maximum of 21 days. The notice is attached.
- The 7.5 ton sign erection is currently on hold and the requested fees from the HA/Atkins is currently being investigated by senior management; I will update the Parish Council as soon as I get further information.
- I have been given an update by County Officials regarding the next stages of the Northern Distributor Road. I am also meeting a group of residents on Broad Lane to share the proposals. The proposals indicate that the NDR will cross next to the rail crossing on a raised landscaped bed, of 7 meters (20 feet) and a small feeder road and small roundabout will join Plumstead Road nearer Broad Lane. This will have the effect of slowing traffic down as they leave and enter Thorpe End via the small roundabout. Officers are also minded to lower the speed limit from Thorpe End to the small roundabout to 30 MPH. I have endorsed this action. The Postwick Hub, which has been funded by the Department of Communities and Local Government is due to begin later this year, with progress to Thorpe End in 2013.
- Should the Eco Town be progressed, consideration is being given to close the road on Broad Lane, near the Rackheath rail crossing, allowing for a faster train service to the town and Norwich. This should drastically reduce the number of cars and lorries using Broad Lane as a rat run north. I would appreciate the views of the Parish Council on this matter.
- As we are well aware, the bad weather has damaged many roads. It is important to report potholes that could be a real hazard to road users - especially cyclists and motorcyclists and pedestrians. For anything that is deeper than about 75mm - almost three inches – Norfolk County Council would like people to call the council on **0344 800 8009**. That way the Council can take action immediately, and usually that means making a temporary repair within a day. I have already reported the one under the rail bridge, Green Lane.

### **2. Council Tax 2010/11**

After a great deal of scrutiny and consideration across the council, the Cabinet is recommending to Full Council on 15<sup>th</sup> February a tax rise of just 1.9% for a Band D property. This is the lowest council tax increase ever. This is the joint lowest in the country, along with Essex. In 2010/11 we need to find around £40m to balance the budget, we have received a smaller than expected government grant, we will need to deliver savings of £19m, we are imposing a pay freeze for all staff and are embarking on Norfolk Forward, a major review of how and what we deliver, and by whom. With the addition of the council tax increase that will raise the necessary £7m needed to balance the books. The majority of our cost pressures come from increased demand, an additional £14m for adult social care and £8.4m in looked after children, we have seen a marked increase in reporting and investigation of child cases since the tragedy of Baby P. We also need to fund our capital programme, including the Little Plumstead Primary School grant. We have had numerous central legislative requirements to also support, such as landfill taxes and managing the Building Schools for the Future Programme. The increase in inflation will have an impact on many of the services we provide. These are difficult times, with difficult choices, but we are determined not to overly burden local taxpayers during the recession.

### **3. Little Plumstead Primary School - Update**

Planning continues for the new school. I have had correspondence regarding the ownership of various elements of the original hospital and Coftons site. This is being

carried forward via various parties at county hall under the control of NPS. Specifically there is some lack of clarity over the ownership of the bus shelter, the land registry does not show it nor does DeVirgos. It could be in the hands of Coftons-in-administration. Peter Cudby (Bus Passenger Unit) is investigating and a message has been left with Nigel Harriss at Broadland DC (who, as part of the planning authority has the majority of the planning and ownership information on the site). There may be scope for the site to be given to the Parish Council. The Parish Clerk has been contacted by Peter Cudby.

The Parish Council may wish to consider its approach to bus shelters in the area until confirmation of access roads and ownership of existing facilities/site has been confirmed.

#### **4. Local Government Boundary Review**

There are rumours circulating that the decision on the local government review will be to implement the original Norwich proposal on its existing boundaries and leave the rest of the county two-tier. I want to stress that these are only rumours at this stage, however a Ministerial announcement is expect this week. We are liaising with Whitehall to check these out and reiterate the evidence that has twice judged this option to have failed the Government's own criteria for change.

### **NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL**

#### **ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 14(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, the Norfolk County Council HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that owing to urgent level crossing inspections the use by vehicles of the C874 Norwich Road level crossing Thorpe End for 20 metres either side of the level crossing barriers (Grid Ref TG286:115) in the PARISH OF GREAT AND LITTLE PLUMSTEAD will be temporarily prohibited from 7<sup>th</sup> February 2010 from 00.15 hrs to 04.00 hrs for the duration of the works, expected to be about 3hrs 45 mins within the period. If necessary the restriction could run for a maximum period of 21 days.

The following alternative route will be available for vehicles: C874 Norwich Road, C258 Broad Lane/Green Lane East, C256 Salhouse Road, C874 Woodside Road/Plumstead Road East.

The person dealing with enquiries at Norfolk County Council is Martin Dixon (Planning and Transportation Department) Telephone 0344 800 8009.

Dated this 5th day of February 2010

**Victoria McNeill**  
Head of Law  
County Hall  
Martineau Lane  
Norwich

#### **100210 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT.**

The last full Council meeting was held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010. The next scheduled Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2010, at BDC Offices at Thorpe Lodge, starting at 7pm. An Extraordinary Council Meeting has been called for Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 to cover the Core Joint Strategy.

#### **Unitary - Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)**

Ahead of the Labour Government's forthcoming announcement on imposing unitary local government in Norfolk, Devon and Suffolk, I thought it would be useful to remind of the Conservative Party's ongoing stance on unitary local government.

They have consistently said, they will not support any further unitary restructuring. As they believe it is expensive, time-consuming, unproductive and divisive. The financial case for reorganisation has been comprehensively demolished by the respected academics Professors Chisholm & Leach in their book *Botched Business*. It is clear that Labour Ministers' mad dash rush to restructure before the general election is an irresponsible, politically motivated attempt to divide and divert Conservative activists.

They will oppose these latest unitary plans in Parliament. Should the legislation be passed before the dissolution of Parliament, an incoming Conservative Government will scrap this restructuring and abolish any shadow authority that may or may not have been elected. This will be a manifesto pledge.

A focus will be the need for more joint working, sharing of back office functions and greater cooperation between public authorities locally. Such initiatives are already being implemented by many councils, and Total Place and the Sustainable Communities Act have much potential to both devolve down power and save money on administrative duplication.

More information can be found on the website [www.broadland.gov.uk/lgr](http://www.broadland.gov.uk/lgr)

### **Parliamentary constituencies revised for next election**

At the forthcoming general election there will be nine MPs elected from Norfolk, previously there were eight because Norfolk voters have been under represented. Thus the parliamentary constituencies in Norfolk have been revised. There will be a new constituency called Broadland, our current MP Keith Simpson will be standing for this new constituency, which we form part of.

### **The Leaf Hit Squad**

The 200 locations on the Leaf Hit squad list are prioritised by areas with high pedestrian traffic, outside schools and outside residential homes and is run in addition to scheduled road and footway sweeping. This year the service ran through November and December, during this time they collected 261 tonnes of leaves.

### **New Business Funding Helps Unemployed**

£20,000 is on offer to help those facing redundancy start their own businesses in the Broadland district. The money is available as 20 Business Start-Up Grants which will provide an initial £500 and a further £500 twelve months later if the business is still trading in the area. Anyone can apply who has been registered as unemployed for a minimum of one month, is shortly to be made redundant or returning to work following a childcare break. The business must be their sole source of employment.

The money comes from a fund created by Broadland District Council specially to reduce the effects of the recession on residents. Application forms can be downloaded at <http://www.broadland.gov.uk>. The council provides a wide range of services for businesses and the Business Support Team can be reached on: 01603 430487 or email [business@broadland.gov.uk](mailto:business@broadland.gov.uk).

### **Help To Move On When School Is Not Enough**

The Mix-it E2E programme for 16 to 18 year-olds starts in February, offering individually tailored courses with a focus on Music Technology, Art and Design or Sports and Fitness. The vocational courses, run by Broadland Council Training Services (BCTS) are particularly suitable for teenagers who haven't found what they're looking for in school. Whichever vocational pathway a learner chooses they will take qualifications in Maths, English and Life Skills as well as sessions in Personal and Social Development and have the support of a mentor.

If anyone is interested in the MIX IT programme please contact Kathryn Starling, Recruitment and Development Officer, on 01603 785837.

### **Chance To Recycle Electrical Waste**

A series of events to collect waste electrical and electronic equipment for recycling are being held across Broadland. Residents can bring items such as: computers, televisions, children's toys, music systems, vacuum cleaners, small kitchen appliances, hairdryers, game consoles and telephones but not fridges, freezers, fluorescent tubes, commercial or industrial items or

large items that cannot easily be lifted. All items, working or broken, will be reused or recycled via local Norfolk County Council facilities.

Hellesdon	Community Centre Car Park	Sat 13th February	9:00-13:00
Taverham	Hinks Meadow Car Park	Wednesday 24th February	8:30 – 15:00
Coltishall	Village Hall Car Park	Saturday 27th February	9:00 -10:30
Buxton	Village Hall Car Park	Saturday 27th February	11.30 -1:00
Old Catton	Recreation Ground	Wednesday 3rd March	Tbc
Reepham	Market Place	Wed 17th March	Tbc

For more information about the day or recycling call 01603 430534 or email [environ.protection@broadland.gov.uk](mailto:environ.protection@broadland.gov.uk). Alternatively, all details are on our website: [www.broadland.gov.uk](http://www.broadland.gov.uk).

### **Planning Decisions**

<b>20091566</b>	Two and Single Storey Side Extension		
<b>Location</b>	22 Woodland Drive, Great Little Plumstead		
<b>Applican</b>	Mr & Mrs T Aldous	Planning Officer: Miss M Bowen	
<b>Decision</b>	Full Approval 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2010		

<b>20091591</b>	Single Storey Extension Linking Dwelling to Garage and Part Conversion of Garage into Habitable Accommodation		
<b>Location</b>	Little Badgers, Norwich Road, Little Plumstead		
<b>Applicant</b>	Mr & Mrs P Quantrill	Planning Officer: Miss M Bowen	
<b>Decision</b>	Full Approval 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2010		

#### **Next Planning Committee – 10<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

- Next Planning Committee will be on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February – on the published agenda there are no items affecting to our Ward.

#### **Planning Enforcement**

<b>2009ENF421</b>	Development Description Two Storey building without p.p.		
<b>Location</b>	Apple Tree Farmhouse, Sme Lane, Great Plumstead, Norwich, NR13 5AX		
<b>Actions</b>	Case Officer: Miss L Fawkes Under investigation – 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2009 Site visit has been undertaken Expected that will be resolved by planning application		

#### **TPO Little Plumstead Hospital - Appeals Panel – 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

- Council confirmed this Tree Preservation Order on 25 January 2010, subject to modification.

#### **For Information – Pending / Outstanding Planning Applications**

<b>20090886 Brook Farm</b>	Development of Sustainable Urban Expansion Comprising 600 Dwellings, Link Road, 14.6HA of Employment Land for B1, B2 or B8 Purposes, Local Centre (Including 1035M2 of A1 Retail/Community Hall), Site for Railway Halt and Associated Open Space (Outline)		
<b>Location</b>	Land at Brook Farm & Laurel Farm, Green Lane, Thorpe St Andrew		
<b>Applicant</b>	Lothbury Property Trust Company Ltd	Planning Officer: Mr B Burgess	
<b>Decision</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> July consultation until 5 <sup>th</sup> August 2009 – <b>Outstanding</b>		
<b>20100031</b>	Extensions to Outbuildings to Form Two First Floor Bedrooms and En-suites as Ancillary		

	Accommodation to Main Farmhouse (Retrospective)	
<b>Location</b>	Apple Tree Farmhouse, Smea Lane, Great Plumstead	
<b>Applicant</b>	The Trustees of TSA Group Ltd	Planning Officer: Mr C Judson
<b>Decision</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> January consultation until 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2010	
<b>20100033</b>	First Floor Rear Extension and Alterations to Roof	
<b>Location</b>	18 Plumstead Road, Thorpe End	
<b>Applicant</b>	Mrs S Howes	Planning Officer: Mr M Thirkettle
<b>Decision</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> January consultation until 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2010	

**110210 POSTWICK HUB.** Cllr Townly had circulated his submission for the Postwick Hub to all Councillors.

**120210 THORPE END – PROVISION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT.** An item under this had been raised by a resident adjacent to Padgate who said she was strongly opposed to play equipment being installed at Padgate, she also said that the hedges were not properly maintained. The Chairman replied that funding was not yet in place and also there was a question of whether planning permission was required. Cllr Bartrum was dealing with this.

**130210 THORPE END – PROVISION OF BUS SHELTER (Nr St Davids Church).** Cllr Townly and the Clerk updated the meeting and in view of the fact that a funding arrangement of £4500 had been agreed – the meeting confirmed that this scheme would proceed.

**140210 SELF HELP GROUP – LITTLE PLUMSTEAD.** The Clerk reported that Cliff Hurrell, who had maintained the area of land between Salhouse Road and Brick Kiln Road for many years had given notice of his retirement and it was hoped that the group could take this on. It was agreed that a thank you would be published in the Church & Parish Magazine. The Councillors were most appreciative of Mr Hurrell's hard work.

**150210 GREAT PLUMSTEAD – PROVISION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT.** Cllr Palmer reported that this was proceeding quite well and a further meeting had been arranged.

**160210 PARISH NEWS ITEMS.**

**Thank you, Cliff**

The council wishes to publically thank Little Plumstead resident, Cliff Hurrell for his devotion to keeping the flower beds, which separate Salhouse Road from Brick Kilns Road, neat and tidy. He now feels it is time to call it a day and Cliff deserves his well-earned rest, after many years of voluntary labour, keeping his village looking its best. Thank you, Cliff.

**Additional bus shelter – Thorpe End**

The council has secured the necessary grant-funding for the new bus shelter to be erected on the main road, opposite St, David's Drive.

**No parking – please**

Complaints have been received about the parking of vehicles, on the grass verge in front of the play-area, next to the village hall at Little Plumstead. This causes unnecessary damage to the verge and motorists are requested to refrain from parking there.

**Tell the police**

If you have concerns, have anything to report, or have any query, you should contact PCSO Paul McAllister, or a member of the team based at Acle police station, on 01493 333262, or e-mail [mcallisterp@norfolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:mcallisterp@norfolk.pnn.police.uk)

**Pot-holes? – Tell NCC**

The recent snows and ice have caused damage to many road surfaces. Norfolk County Council Highways ask you to report any such problems directly to them, with an undertaking that they will be attended to within a working day. Call 0344 800 8009 to report any holes deeper than 75mm (approx. 3 inches).

**Parish Council Website**

Here you can read, or download and print-off, all council meeting agendas and minutes. The Events' Diary has full details about what's going on throughout the parish. Any local club, group or society can have their activities displayed on the site at no cost.

There's comprehensive advice on planning procedures and you'll also find information on how to contact your ward councillors. The Parish Notice Board has information of interest to all residents. All this and much more is on **your** website:-

[www.greatandlittleplumsteadparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.greatandlittleplumsteadparishcouncil.co.uk)

#### **Little Plumstead 'Village Practical Group'**

Following my piece in last month's edition, almost no one wished to join a planning meeting for a group, but several people have expressed a practical interest in joining a working group in March, and to develop our plans as we work.

It seems wise to offer both a weekday and a week-end opportunity initially, and to see which is preferred.

Let us meet then on the grassed area, by the Little Plumstead village sign, at 10am, on Tuesday, 9 March and at 2 pm, on Sunday 14 March. There will be gardening to do, as Cliff Hurrell feels he must hand over his devoted attention to the beds there. Maybe we can also firm-up and tend some grass verge edges there and elsewhere; clear some litter, and perhaps respond to other suggestions then and there, while sharing ideas and developing some sort of administration.

Please bring diaries and If the weather looks

discouraging, ring Peter on 01603 722898, to find out whether a meeting is postponed or not?

Comments are welcome to the same number, or e-mail [p.lanyon@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:p.lanyon@tiscali.co.uk).

#### **Next meeting**

8<sup>th</sup> March - Great Plumstead Village Hall at 7.30pm. All parishioners are welcome to attend and have the opportunity to address the full council on any local matters of concern to them.

**170210 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS.** There were no matters.

Meeting closed at 9.23 pm.

**Date of next meeting Monday 8 MARCH 2010 at GREAT PLUMSTEAD Village Hall at 7.30 pm.**