

HOLME-NEXT-THE-SEA PARISH COUNCIL

JANUARY 2013 MEETING

There was an interesting presentation by Gary Hibberd (NWT Warden) and Kevin Hart (Head of NWT Nature Reserves North Norfolk) about the Holme Dunes Reserve illustrating how the site and habitats have been changing over the last 30 or 40 years. Work has been done by the Environment Agency to stabilise the dunes near to the Visitor Centre and some of this area will be fenced in the summer to protect it from public use. Changes in the atmosphere are causing increased vegetation and in order to maintain the habitats for rare species on the reserve, that vegetation needs to be controlled. Various systems have, and are being, investigated and the use of Konik or Dartmoor ponies to graze specific areas is the favoured option. The Visitor Centre development is currently 'on hold' although the two composting toilets should be installed, near the Information Board, before the summer. They will be operated on a token system through the Visitor Centre and will only operate between 10am and 5pm, the same as the Reserve. The NWT is hoping some work will be done to the road in the spring with a review of the speed bumps at the same time.

The Council have been notified by the contractors carrying out the work, that in the early part of the year, weather permitting, the embankment between the Visitor Centre on Broadwater Road and Staithe Road, Thornham will be subject to complete repair and re-profiling which will involve a full closure when the work is done to aid the safe and efficient movement of diggers and dumpers.

Councillor Watson was unable to attend the meeting but had sent notification that the Borough will again be freezing Council Tax for 2013/14. The Police Liaison Officer had submitted a report stating that within the period 2nd October 2012 to 7th January 2013 there had been a number of calls to the police resulting in four crimes being recorded - one attempted burglary, one assault, one theft of a motor vehicle and one burglary.

A design amendment to a previous Planning Application was discussed but there were no further planning issues.

Financial issues included the fact that the Council were pleased to agree that no Precept be set for 2013/14 and payments were agreed including Clerk's salary, street lighting maintenance, emergency telephone and grass cutting at the Village Hall.

The February meeting will be held on Tuesday, 12th February at 7.30 pm, in the Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and put their comments and questions to Councillors during 'Public Participation'.

Christina Jones
Clerk to Holme-next-the-Sea
Parish Council