

Minutes of Parish Council on 13th March 2019

Attendees: Parish Councillors; M Halliday, A Williamott, S Craig, D Rowe, P Rudd, R Silver and Ed Gittins. Borough Councillor; Peter Stevens and Chris Turner (Clerk). 3 Parishioners.

Welcome from the Chair, Malcolm Halliday.

Apologies – None.

Open Forum- There were two issues, one related to the bell ropes in the church, the other the lower green and car parking thereon.

A note was provided, to the Council, of the current position relating to the ropes in the church. They need replacing and the cost of ropes and putting them up together with any necessary repairs was relatively high. Monies have been raised of approx. £600 with more to come from the Community Council. There will be a shortfall and they would welcome a donation from the PC. This will be discussed at the next meeting in May and a decision made.

The lower green outside Waver House has a problem with cars parking on the green and turning it to mud. A suggestion has been made as to placing an object/objects on the edge to ensure the vehicles stay on the road and don't ruin the green. A couple of issues with this and agreed we would give it some thought and make this an agenda item for the next meeting.

The 3 parishioners then took their leave, which left the Councillors and Clerk to complete the full PC meeting.

Meeting closed for Parish Meeting.

- 1 Minutes of last meeting approved by all and signed off by the Chair.
- 2 The clerk gave an update of the actions taken on outstanding matters that arose from the previous meeting. The broken rail on the footpath on Water Lane has been fixed. Work continues on the Memorial Hall with more to follow. Clerk now has the address for the Trustees of the Pamela Matthews Trust so will be contacting them to ask for financial assistance for the Hall repairs. No action as yet on the drains opposite the Bull PH, to chase Highways, there are other drains in Melford Road that are blocked, they were reported, and we have now been told that the regular cleaning and maintenance will take place shortly. New speeding sign ordered, and this is to be erected shortly.
- 3 Financial Report- Report to 28th February accepted and agreed with payments made in the period. A few queries answered by RFO, clerk. Accounts signed off. The Council will have a surplus this year as not all work completed on the Memorial Hall and this will be carried forward.
The renewal of the Councils Insurance policy has been received. This was looked at, and agreed that it was in order, and can be renewed under the current terms for another 12 months.
- 4 Planning- We had received an e mail from a resident of Ducks Hall Lane regarding a proposal to change agricultural buildings into 3 new properties. We were not approached for a comment by the Borough Council as it was under special rules for agricultural property. However, at the request of the resident of the village we had had a look at the plans and felt that we should make a comment as there are a few points we were unhappy about. The planning No. was DC/19/0290/P3QPA. All Councillors in agreement that the proposed comments should be sent to the case officer.

Meeting Closed:

Cllr Stevens, who had been detained, arrived at the meeting and gave a report as follows: Brown bins cost has increased by £3 per bin to £43pa, there has been a good take up. The Borough Council are sponsoring "litter picks" and have equipment if needed. The car parking charges in Bury St Edmunds are changing hopefully to an automated system of number recognition. The West Suffolk waste operational hub is on schedule to open in the Autumn, on budget. Peters locality budget was all spent in this financial year and the village has derived some benefit from this. It is the last St Edmundsbury Council meeting on 18th March with the next one being after the local elections in May when it will meet as West Suffolk. Our Ward is changing for the May elections with Cavendish being moved into a ward with Clare, Hundon, Stoke by Clare, Poslingford and Kedington, with 3 Councillors to be appointed. Peter dislikes this arrangement whereby we will be unsure who represents the village and has decided not to stand locally but in a different area. He was thanked by the Chair for his work in the village.

4 Planning (continued)- There were three other planning applications which were still open for comment:

DC/19/0330/HH- Addition to already proposed extension of cart lodge-Westhaven, Poole Street.

DC/19/0352/FUL- Planning application, new dwelling on land adjacent to 19 Peacocks Road.

DC/19/390/HH- Two storey detached outbuilding at Fir Trees Cottage, Stour Street.

The Council had no comment to make on any of these applications

5 Councillors Reports- Cllrs Williamott and Rowe have been looking at the area of the cemetery extension. They suggest that we put a gate in the fence at the top of the public footpath that is beside the current cemetery, this will help people visiting graves in the extension without going all through the older part of the cemetery and give better access, no objection from Councillors present. Currently we have nowhere for Ashes to be buried except into a large plot. The churchyard have made a part available for Ashes and it was felt that perhaps we could do the same in either one or two areas. No dissenters and the 2 Councillors will report back with further plans/suggestions. Cllr Craig did mention the re-slabbing of the steps or wider steps by the bottle bank. No other reports made by Councillors.

6 Chair's report/update- He started with the Memorial Hall, the left-hand gable has been completed, unfortunately the cost was more than expected as there were problems with rotting timber, asbestos which needed removal, etc. We have agreed that the Jubilee room rendering can start on 8th April when the pre-school children are on holiday and at the same time scaffolding will be erected for the front gable repair. That was agreed and the quote accepted. Formal notification and confirmation to be sent to Marjoram the builder. We have received a quote for the drain repair needed to the front car park and all in agreement that we should appoint IJ Landscapes to deal with this. Cllr Craig to liaise and hopefully agree with repairer that this will again be done when the children are on holiday. Two quotes for internal redecoration have been received and we are to seek a third. We are also looking at the booking and payment of the rental of the hall to see whether it can be done on-line. We are making more use of the website and would be willing to contribute towards costs. He has attended a variety of meetings recently, the banning of through traffic of HGVs, yet to hear anything concrete; a police meeting with Cllr. Gittins where they met our new local police community officer; and the meeting on the Community Shop. As that is a commercial enterprise, we might find it difficult in getting too involved.

7 Policies of Council to be adopted and placed on village website- There are a number that we need to look at and make a policy decision. These are: Access Request policy, Freedom of Information, Equal Opportunities, Electronic Communication, Complaints and Code of conduct. Clerk to circulate proposals for next meeting.

8 End of financial year requirements- We went through the Asset Register for 2018/19, we will continue to use the insurance valuation for 2017/18 and add any additional assets purchased in the year. This has not been the case for 2018/19 so the register shows no changes from the previous year. All in agreement, Register signed by Chairman and RFO-Clerk. We also completed the Financial Risk Assessment which again was signed by the Chair and RFO. Finally, we completed the Internal Control statement for 2018/19.

9 Correspondence etc.- Letter received about The Orchard and whether we had planning in place if something happened to our present carers of this area. Our suggestion would be to ask the Horticultural Club to assist if possible

10 Forthcoming elections- Clerk gave details of the timeframe for the elections. These would be posted on our notice board as well as on the web page and the village Facebook page. Nomination papers handed out to current Councillors if they wished to continue as Councillors. Further extra copies are held by clerk.

Next PC meeting on 8th May at 7.30 Memorial Hall. This will include the Councils Annual General Meeting and will follow the local elections. Annual Parish Meeting date 22nd May 2019.

C R Turner-Clerk

NB The following report was received after the meeting from our County Councillor Mary Evans:

Dear All,

I am sorry I have got delayed tonight – and have 4 pc meetings to get round. In case I don't get to you in time – here's a report:

I had a catch up with David Chenery today re the ETO on the A1092 he is awaiting the evidence from Clare Town Council so I have emailed them asking for it to be forwarded I was pleased to attend the shop meeting on Sunday. I did email on Monday offering support from the SCC grants/business advice teams but haven't heard back

1. I am setting up a councillor review group to look at Highways issues such as the reporting tool. One of the other areas we will be assessing will be this year's winter gritting programme and the grit bin policy. Do please send me your comments.
2. Suffolk County Council has now set its budget for the year at £520m. Council tax will increase by 2.99% and we will also be levying social care precept of 1% - the total increase is 1% less than last year. The budget for adult social care is £243m and we are spending £111m on children's services.

3. The fire service is consulting on a range of issues in its Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) such as the size of crew needed for responding to road traffic accidents and whether they could change their response to automatic fire alarms. Currently a high proportion of call outs are to automatic fire alarms where there is no fire. The proposal is to respond to alarms from office and business premises during working hours only if the alarm is backed up by a telephone call. Premises where there are vulnerable people or the possibility of people sleeping – such as hospitals and care homes would still get a fire crew turning out in response to an automatic alarm without a telephone call. The fire service will be out meeting the public to explain the proposals and hear their views:

- **14 March** Haverhill: Sainsburys, Haycocks Road
- **21 March** Newmarket: Tesco, Fordham Road
- The consultation runs to Sunday 7 April 2019. The draft IRMP, supporting documents and online consultation are available at www.suffolk.gov.uk

4. Suffolk is the first authority in the country to develop a county-wide quality standard on exercise referral schemes which enable GPs and health professionals to refer patients with long term health conditions to a fitness programme based within the community, to increase their physical activity levels as part of a healthy lifestyle – which is preferable to prescribing medication.

Research by Suffolk County Council's Public Health team has found that current Exercise Referral Schemes are not widely used in Suffolk by referrers. The reasons given for this have been a lack of awareness among GPs of referral schemes, variations in referral protocols and an uncertainty as to whether schemes are operating in line with recommended National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidelines.

The new quality standard for exercise referral in Suffolk has been developed with input from operators, GPs and health professionals, alongside QUEST, the Sport England recommended Continuous Improvement Tool for leisure facilities, to address these issues.

5. SCC highways won a grant of £4.4m from the Government for pioneering project to develop "smart" streetlighting. The project will see the introduction of streetlights equipped with wind vanes and solar panels, so they generate rather than consume energy – highways' electricity bill is £2.3m and set to rise so anything that reduces the bill is very welcome.

The street lights will be equipped with sensors to measure traffic speed and volume; road temperatures – so gritting runs can be better targeted; whether nearby grit bins need filling and gullies emptying. They can also be adapted to act as wi-fi and 5G transmitters. Mary Evans.

Payments made in period from 1/1/19 to 28/2/19

DATE	TO WHOM		AMT
07/01/19	HMRC re PAYE to 31/12		321.80
ditto	C Turner Pay Dec 18		447.33
ditto	J Murcott Hall cleaning Dec		91.90
ditto	Maestro Tree Svcs re Green		180.00
ditto	D Kirkman Inv 8/9		237.65
14/01/19	Waste Memorial Hall		45.24
ditto	Waste Allotments		22.62
17/01/19	Haven Power re hall		218.28
20/01/19	C Turner Pay Jan 19		447.13
ditto	D Kirkman Inv 10/11		221.44
ditto	S Letten re Speedwatch		12.74
08/02/19	re Asbestos/Office365		299.99
ditto	D Kirkman Inv.12/13		221.44
ditto	J Murcott Hall cleaning Jan		92.95
ditto	M J Maynard Elecs re hall		158.40
ditto	PRS PPL re hall		149.23
ditto	DM Drainage re Hall drains		300.00
ditto	Marjoram re hall		7126.02
28/01/19	Chubb re Hall		16.92
14/02/19	Waste Memorial Hall		0.00
ditto	Waste Allotments		0.00
ditto	Dog Bags		80.00
28/02/19	Chubb re Hall		16.92
27/02/19	D Kirkman		249.11
ditto	C Turner Pay Feb 19		447.33
ditto	J Murcott Feb 19		85.80
ditto	Haven Power re hall		143.79
	Total		11634.03