

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 11TH MARCH, 2014.

PRESENT Cllrs. Barber, Leake, Roberts, Belson, Bloomfield & Stebbing.

APOLOGIES Cllr. Gorzelak, District Councillor Derek Osborne.

Minutes of the meeting held on the 11th February, 2014 were confirmed and signed.

TO RECEIVE PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF MEMBERS.

Cllr. Stebbing declared a non pecuniary interest concerning Planning Application No. 0428/14.

TO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION.

None.

PUBLIC OPEN FORUM.

No comments.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR DISCUSSION.

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 0314/14

Proposal: Erection of replacement dwelling (following demolition of existing sub-standard dwelling). Erection of detached garaging outbuilding. extension of existing access (including removal of collapsed building in area of new garaging and change of use of land to domestic curtilage) and associated works..

Location: Solcotts, The Street, Walsham-le-Willows.

The Parish Council supported this application.

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 0428/14.

Proposal: Lime Tree (T1) Remove decayed stem over roof and reduce remaining canopy by 30% to balance crown.

Location: Maltings House, The Street, Walsham-le-Willows.

Before this was discussed by the Parish Council information has been received from Mid Suffolk District Council that they did not wish to object to the works described.

PLANNING OUTCOMES

None.

REPORTS.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR JESSICA FLEMING.

Deadline for travel pass renewals – Eligible residents should renew free-travel bus passes or travel vouchers that expire on 31st March, 2014. If you do not receive a pass or renewal form from SCC Passenger Transport phone 0845 600 0659 after 31st March, 2014. As an alternative, the Council offers Travel Vouchers to be used towards the cost of community transport, taxis or private hire vehicles. Voucher-holders will have

H Barber
8.4.14

received a renewal form for completion before 31st March, 2014, or renew vouchers online at: <http://www.suffolkonboard.com/concessionary-travel>

Consultation on Suffolk Records Office (SRO) – Accessibility.

Through this consultation Suffolk County Council is seeking views on the following proposal:

SRO branches to open for 35 hours a week offering full access to collections from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

On Wednesdays staff will digitise catalogues and scan documents and photographs enabling many more people to make use of and enjoy Suffolk's collections – available at SRO branches in Bury St. Edmunds, Ipswich and Lowestoft.

The consultation takes place between Monday 10th March and Friday 4th April.

www.suffolk.gov.uk/consultations

Energy Efficiency Improvements.

SCC and Districts are offering funding and advice for the installation of energy efficiency improvements like replacement boilers, loft insulation, solid wall insulation and even solar panels funded via the national Energy Companies Obligation (ECO). Residents can request an appointment by calling Suffolk Energy Action on 0800 840 90 90 (Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm). For further verification, and all other queries, please contact: Matt Hullis, Head of Environment Strategy, ESE.

Email: matt.hullis@suffolk.gov.uk Tel: 01473 264444.

Reminder – Consultation – Home to School Transport 2014/2015 and 2015/2016.

There were further updates on the following:-

Better Broadband News.

Internships & Apprenticeships.

Agri-Tech Grants.

Gypsies and Travellers.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR DEREK OSBORNE.

Cllr. Osborne reported that there has been an increase of 5p. per week on band D of the Council tax. This is the first increase for 4 years.

Council house and garage rents are to be increased. The Tenants Forum were in favour of raising Council Tenants rents by a small percentage as they appreciate that it was going to be re-invested in Council properties.

POLICE

Not in attendance and no report received.

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH.

In the absence of Paul Leake the Clerk read the following report:-

FEBRUARY 2014.

One speed check was carried out during February on The Causeway. This resulted in 4 vehicles in excess of 35 mph. The low number relative to Summer Road is due to the straightness of the road and thus the distance that drivers are able to see the high visibility jackets. The fact that we catch anyone is purely down to the drivers' inattention.

Cllr. Bloomfield is to meet with Chris. Wilder to receive training on setting up and use of the Variable Speed Equipment.

PLAY AREA.

Cllr. Stebbing had nothing to report.

M Barber
8.4.14

FOOTPATH WARDEN.

A finger post at Wattisfield Road by the allotments has rotted off and has been reported to Suffolk County Council.

CLERKS FINANCIAL REPORT AND REQUEST FOR PAYMENTS.

A report of income/expenditure against budget to the 28th February, 2014 was presented. All cheques were passed for payment and duly signed.

The Clerk requested that the internal audit be carried out by SALC. This was agreed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 11TH FEBRUARY, 2014.**COMMUNITY PAY BACK TEAM – WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE.**

The Chairman reported that work will soon recommence to complete the unfinished work left during the winter months.

FOOTWAYS AT ELMSIDE.

No further information. The Clerk was instructed to contact Jack Wilkinson, Enforcement Officer at Babergh District Council for an update on progress.

PARISH WORK PARTY.

A date for the next work party will be arranged at the April meeting.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING WORK.

In the absence of Cllr. Gorzelak there was nothing to report.

TREES ON STREAM BANK.

No further progress.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

Cllr. Stebbing requested that Sunila Osborne the lead on Affordable Housing for Community Action Suffolk be asked to attend a meeting in the near future. This was agreed.

LITTER BIN AT JUNCTION OF TOWNHOUSE ROAD/FINNINGHAM ROAD.

This is still ongoing.

LISTED BUILDING STATUS.

Still ongoing.

BIG COMMUNITY SWITCH SCHEME.

It was decided not to take this any further.

BETTER BROADBAND FOR WALSHAM.

As previously reported Jonathan Chown, Suffolk County Council Better Broadband for Suffolk has agreed to attend the next meeting on the 8th April, 2014.

FOUR ASHES TRIANGLE.

The Chairman reported that County Councillor Jessica Fleming is arranging a meeting here with the Highways Department but will probably have to wait for the better weather.

STREET LIGHT IN WATTISFIELD ROAD.

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Street Lighting and have received a reply stating that following deterioration of the unit and its age profile, it can no longer be repaired and requires either replacement or removal.

The cost of replacing the isolation box, bracket and installing an 18 LED lantern is estimated at £1007.82p and it was agreed to have this replaced.

H Barber

8.4.14

CORRESPONDENCE.

None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS/QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN.

The Clerk said that she had reported the blocked gully in Ixworth Road and the pothole on the Summer Road junction outside the Six Bells. There are several potholes within the village and these will be reported next week.

Cheques passed for payment were as follows:-

T.Hunter £122. 50p. (street cleaning).

A.Clancy £298. 80p. (Clerks wages/expenses).

H.M.Revenue & Customs £42. 80p. (Clerks income tax).

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

M Barber
8.4.14