

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 10TH JUNE, 2014, DRAFT MINUTES

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Jonathan Chown, Suffolk County Council Better Broadband for Suffolk had agreed to attend the meeting to speak with regard to concerns about connection of fibre optic cable to Walsham-le-Willows, unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances he was unable to come along. He did, however, send a very detailed explanation of the progress being made concerning Walsham-le-Willows, this was read by the Chairman and the gist of what was said will be outlined in the July Observer.

PRESENT Cllrs. Barber, Leake, Stebbing, Gorzelak, Bloomfield, Belson, County Councillor Jessica Fleming, District Councillor Derek Osborne & 6 members of the public.

THERE WERE NO APOLOGIES.

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 13th May, 2014 were confirmed and signed.

TO RECEIVE PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF MEMBERS.

Cllrs. Stebbing and Belson declared a non pecuniary interest with regard to tree sponsorship for Walsham Wild Wood.

TO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION. None.

PUBLIC OPEN FORUM.

The applicant of Planning Application No. 1323/14 outlined the plans to the Parish Council before discussion took place.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR DISCUSSION.

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 1323/14.

Proposal: Erection of two storey dwelling and creation of new vehicular access. Alteration of existing access for temporary use for the construction of the proposed dwelling. (Revised scheme to that approved under planning permission 1160/12).

Location: Land adjacent to The Elms, Badwell Road, Walsham-le-Willows.

2 Parish Councillors had no comment to make, 5 were against this application on the following grounds

1. It is an incongruous design within the conservation area.
2. There was concern that the low roof pitch was insufficient to support the pantiles.
3. The round window is not in keeping with any other development within the village.
4. The full length two storey windows going into the apex of the roof are too dominant a feature. The Juliet balconies were also considered incongruously out of keeping with the village.

The Parish Council however did applaud the green agenda.

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 1243/14.

Proposal: Form a new door opening through an existing internal wall.

Location: The Old Vicarage, Palmer Street, Walsham-le-Willows.

The Parish Council supported this application.

PLANNING OUTCOMES.

PLANNING APPLICATION NOS. 0834/14 & 0835/14.

Proposal: Conversion of outbuilding to form holiday let.

Location: Cranmer Farm, Finningham Road, Walsham-le-Willows.

Planning permission has been granted by Mid Suffolk District Council.

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 1276/14.

Proposal: Conversion of rear part of garage to form utility room and shower room.

Location: 11, Staple Close, Walsham-le-Willows.

Planning permission has been granted by Mid Suffolk District Council.

REPORTS

COUNTY COUNCILLOR JESSICA FLEMING

Cllr. Fleming report included an update on the Gas Fired Power Station, Suffolk's Nature Strategy, Business Support Grants, Energy Efficiency Improvements and Fostering.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR DEREK OSBORNE.

Cllr. Osborne reported that quotations for the work to complete the two footways at Elmside have been put out to tender.

POLICE. Not in attendance.

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH. Nothing to report.

PLAY AREA. Nothing to report.

FOOTPATH WARDEN. Nothing to report.

CLERKS FINANCIAL REPORT AND REQUEST FOR PAYMENTS.

A report of income/expenditure against budget to the 31st May, 2014 was presented.

All cheques were passed for payment and duly signed.

The Annual Return for the year ended 31st March, 2014 was duly completed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 13TH MAY, 2014.

COMMUNITY PAY BACK TEAM – WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE.

The team have returned and completed the rubbing down of the post and railings along Swan Path. They have strimmed away the grass and cut back part of the shrubs to enable just 1 worker, a painter by trade, to paint the railings.

FOOTWAYS AT ELMSIDE.

As reported by Cllr. Osborne quotations for the work have been requested by Mid Suffolk District Council.

PARISH WORK PARTY.

The next date for the work party to meet is Saturday 19th July, 2014 at 9.00 a.m. by the Jubilee Tree.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING WORKSHOP.

A report from Cllr. Gorzelak who attended a workshop held on the 13th May, 2014 at Icen House, Ipswich read as follows:-

“10 representatives from Parish Councils within the district attended this workshop, along with representatives from the Joint Emergency Planning Unit (JEPU) to discuss individual parish progress and any issues they were having with regard to their community emergency response plan in a sort of ‘self help’ style workshop, facilitated by JEPU representatives. It was felt that this supporting of each other approach was the way to go as real issues could be resolved with practical, tested solutions.

Following introductions and this ‘CEP surgery’, we had an update on changes to the JEPU support structure for CEP. It was disclosed that Central and West Suffolk were working together to share good practice and a common approach to CEP. In this new district (Babergh, St. Edmundsbury, Mid Suffolk and Forest Heath), 72 parishes (about 1 in 3) have a CEP in one form or another. (It was acknowledged that Walsham and Wattisfield parishes are in this group.

The Suffolk Community Emergency Preparedness website (www.getpreparednow.co.uk) was then introduced as a resource for parishes creating, updating or just reviewing the preparedness of the county. Additionally, copies of the 4th issue of the Community Resilience Newsletter was available. Electronic copies are available from emergencyplanning@midsuffolk.gov.uk

There is a renewed vigour about aligning the approach to CEP within the four council areas and to that end, a new steering group is being formed from two representatives from each area. This constitutional group will first meet on the 25th July to agree terms of reference for the group to enable it to drive improvements in community resilience planning. This will include funding, newsletters and content management, training and exercises, workshops and recruitment to fill gaps where parish councils have not embraced CEP.

I have been included in this steering group so will be able to feed back to the parish council further improvements in the co-ordination of CEP within our area.

The workshop concluded with a tour of the environment agency emergency planning room.”

TREES ON STREAM BANK. The Chairman reported that she is still trying to obtain a start date for this work.

LITTER BIN AT JUNCTION OF TOWNHOUSE ROAD/FINNING ROAD. No further progress.

LISTED BUILDING STATUS. No further progress on compiling the listed building map.

FOUR ASHES TRIANGLE.

The Clerk was instructed to arrange a site meeting with John Simpson, County Highways, County Councillor Jessica Fleming and the Chairman, Cllr. Barber to discuss options for improving the grass triangle where HGV's have rutted the verges. Concerns have also been raised about the lack of a footway to the bus shelter.

LETTERING ON WAR MEMORIAL. This item is ongoing.

MOLES IN CHURCHYARD.

The Clerk reported that a pest controller has been appointed and that the problem is being dealt with.

OVERHANGING TREES AT THE BUS SHELTER IN PALMER STREET.

The Clerk reported that this has now been dealt with.

WALSHAM WILD WOOD – TREE SPONSORSHIP FOR 2014.

It was proposed by Cllr. Barber, seconded by Cllr. Roberts and carried unanimously that the Parish Council sponsor 1 x Green Beech and a selection of small saplings up to the value of £150. Cllr. Belson and Cllr. Stebbing had declared a non pecuniary interest and took no part in the discussion concerning the amount of sponsorship.

CORRESPONDENCE. None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS/QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN.

It has been reported that the wooden railings on New Bridge have collapsed. The Clerk was instructed to report this to Highways.

Cheques passed for payment were as follows:-

T.Hunter £98.00p. (street cleaning). A.Clancy £312. 26p. (Clerks wages/expenses).

D.Goodwin £350 (Grass cutting in Churchyard). Brown's Tree Services £120 (Tree work).

Tomlinson Groundcare £229. 28p. (mower repairs). Clarkes of Walsham £20. 16p. (Sandpaper)

Annual donations of £25 each to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service, OPTUA, Headway, Citizens Advice Bureau (Stowmarket), Citizens Advice Bureau (Bury St. Edmunds), East Anglia Air Ambulance, EACH.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY 8TH JULY, 2014 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M. IN THE PRIORY ROOM WHEN SUNILA OSBORNE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER – RURAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND A REPRESENTATIVE FROM MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT HOUSING WILL ADDRESS THE MEETING.