

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 8TH JULY, 2014

DRAFT MINUTES

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Sunila Osborne, Community Development Officer – Rural Housing together with Ian Tippet & Louise Barker, Housing Development Officers for Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils spoke with regard to affordable housing within our village and outlined the way forward if the Parish Council wished to proceed.

PRESENT Cllrs. Barber, Leake, Stebbing, Roberts, Bloomfield, Gorzelak, County Councillor Jessica Fleming and 1 member of the public.

APOLOGIES Cllr. Belson & District Councillor Derek Osborne.

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 10th June, 2014 were confirmed and signed.

TO RECEIVE PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTEREST OF MEMBERS. None.

TO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION. None.

PUBLIC OPEN FORUM. A member of the public reported a large pothole in The Causeway. The Clerk was instructed to report this, also blocked drains in Badwell Road outside The Elms.

PLANNING

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 1055/14.

Proposal: Insertion of stud walls on second floor. Installation of mechanical vent.

Location: Crownland Hall, Crownland Road, Walsham-le-Willows.

The Parish Council made no comments.

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 1530/14.

Proposal: Alterations to coachhouse to create annexe.

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

The Parish Council made no comments.

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 1751/14.

Proposal: Remedial works to timber frame and replacement of door to south elevation.

Location: Sunnyside House, Finningham Road, Walsham-le-Willows.

The Parish Council made no comments.

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 2054/14.

Proposal: Application to vary Condition 5 (Listing of approved plans and documents) of planning permission 1422/13 (Change of use of garden land to hardstanding for commercial use. Demolition of garage on site. Increase of height to part of the boundary wall and gates.

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

The majority of Parish Councillors objected in principle to the plans and also felt that the increased height of the wall is unacceptable and that it should be rendered in accordance with the original planning permission.

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 2084/13.

The Parish Council have been informed that an appeal has been made to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the site at Solcotts and Solcotts Barn, The Street, Walsham-le-Willows.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990.

Application for a certificate of lawfulness of existing use or development – change of use of part of building to use as a single dwelling house used for holiday occupation only.

Part of 2, Vine Cottages, The Street, Walsham-le-Willows.

Certificate of lawfulness for an existing use or development has been granted.

REPORTS

COUNTY COUNCILLOR JESSICA FLEMING.

Schools Education Leader Appointed

Suffolk County Council has appointed Nikki Edwards as Assistant Education Director. Nikki joins the council from Ofsted's school inspection contractor Serco on 21st July. She has 22 years' experience of working in education and as a teacher and head teacher.

Consultation on Change to Parking Standards.

Updates are proposed to the county-wide technical guidance relating to new developments. It also sets out advisory levels and characteristics of parking for particular types of schemes such as gyms, restaurants, care homes and residential dwellings. A key difference is that the new document sets minimum standards for residential developments as opposed to maximum.

Minor Road Verge cutting programme.

There have been some unforeseen delays to the verge cutting program for minor (C and U class) roads, which we regret. All minor roads should have been cut by 9th July. Please keep me updated on this issue.

The report also included an update on the Eye Gas Fired Power Station and substation, Business Support Grants and Energy Efficiency Improvements.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR DEREK OSBORNE.

“Update on footpaths on the Elmside Site.

Entrance from Townhouse Road. Putting a footbridge over the ditch into the site. Before work starts MSDC needs to find out if the ditch floods and if so will need to put a culvert in. They will keep me informed and I will update the Parish Council.”

POLICE. In the absence of PCSO Faulkner the Clerk read the following report:-

“CRIME STATS

In the past month there have been 0 crimes reported to the police.

PRIORITIES.

On the 1st July Mid Suffolk North held there priority tasking meeting at Worlingworth. It was decided that for the coming 3 months the following issues would be addressed.

1. To address reported problems concerning the anti-social use of motor vehicles by drivers, gathering in Palgrave Community Centre car park.
2. To help preserve the security of Schools during the summer period.
3. To address contraventions of the ‘Access Only’ roads in Wellington Road, Eye and Priory Road, Palgrave.”

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH. On the 19th June a speed watch was held in the Summer Road. 14 vehicles were clocked travelling in excess of 35 m.p.h. the highest travelling at 49 m.p.h.

PLAY AREA. It was reported that the basket ball board and hoop needs replacing and requests have been made for the provision of swings for small children. Cllr. Stebbing is to contact Quentin Cass.

FOOTPATH WARDEN. Nothing to report.

CLERKS FINANCIAL REPORT AND REQUEST FOR PAYMENTS. A report of income/expenditure against budget to the 30th June, 2014 was presented. All cheques were passed for payment and duly signed.

The Clerk reported that £337. 45p. was realized at the Annual Coffee Morning held in aid of Cancer Research U.K.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 10TH JUNE, 2014.

COMMUNITY PAY BACK TEAM – WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE. No further progress.

FOOTWAYS AT ELMSIDE. This is still ongoing as reported by Cllr. Osborne.

PARISH WORK PARTY. The work party are unable to carry out the removal of tree stumps on the stream bank and are now going to concentrate on cutting the hedge between the Church and Priory Room.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING WORKSHOP. Cllr. Gorzelak reported that he is working with Watisfield to come up with a reciprocal agreement regarding the use of village halls in an emergency.

TREES ON STREAM BANK. The Chairman has been in touch yet again with BTS who undertake work for U.K.Power Network, she was told that work would commence on 3rd July, 2014, however, some tree work was undertaken at a residential property only. On the 8th July the Chairman was informed that U.K.Power Network have sorted issues regarding switching off the power so that the work can take place. She was assured that this would happen within the next week or so and definitely by the end of the month.

A quotation from Brown’s Tree Service to fell and poison 2 dying Hawthorns covered in ivy. Coppice Alder and cut ivy at ground level on the Mock Orange and another Hawthorn. Remove waste from site for £300 was unanimously accepted.

LITTER BIN AT JUNCTION OF TOWNHOUSE ROAD/FINNINGHAM ROAD. Still ongoing.

LISTED BUILDING STATUS. Work is ongoing mapping the listed buildings with the village.

FOUR ASHES TRIANGLE. A meeting was held with John Simpson, Highways, County Councillor Jessica Fleming, Chairman Maggie Barber, Cllr. Roberts and the Clerk on the 27th June, 2014. The corners of the triangle will be reinstated and give way signs placed at the corners. The Chairman also raised the issue of heavy vehicles using the Ixworth Road and queried signage at either end.

LETTERING ON WAR MEMORIAL. Hubby Frost has sent a report stating that he has made enquiries regarding donations towards the cost of work to be carried out on the memorial, a mention of this will be included in his August Observer notes when he will ask the general public if they wish to donate to this project.

MOLES IN CHURCHYARD. Still ongoing.

WALSHAM WILD WOOD – TREE SPONSORSHIP FOR 2014. This is to be dealt with at the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

BETTER BROADBAND FOR WALSHAM As previously decided, Chair had forwarded to Jonathan Chown questions from the village. He has confirmed that Suffolk have received the offer of funding and are halfway through the procurement process. This will allow them to target the 'final 15% - places such as Walsham'. He is answering other queries and Chair will contact these people once his reply has been received.

A letter was received from Mr. & Mrs. Virtue regarding their planning application No. 1323/14 in which they raised concerns regarding the Parish Council's discussion of their application.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION. It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Suffolk Local Code of Conduct.

LIGHTS OUT. Parish Council have just received information concerning this initiative. LIGHTS OUT is an invitation to everyone in the UK to turn off their lights from 10 p.m. – 11 p.m. on the 4th August, 2014, leaving on a single light or candle for a shared moment of reflection marking the hour that Britain entered WW1 100 years ago. The Parish Council agreed to support this initiative.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS/QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN.

PRE-GARDENS WEEKEND LITTER PICK. The Chairman agreed to co-ordinate the pre-gardens weekend litter pick. This will be held on Sunday 17th August, 2014.

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that a **free micro-chipping for dogs event** has been arranged for Saturday 16th August in the Memorial Hall car park between 10 a.m. -12 noon.

Cheques passed for payment were as follows:-

A, Clancy £315. 97p. (Clerks wages/expenses).

T.Hunter £98. (Street cleaning).

Clarks of Walsham £65. 40p. (maintenance).

D.Goodwin £21. (Petrol for mower).

Cancer Research UK £337. 45p. (Proceeds from Coffee Morning)

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY 12TH AUGUST, 2014 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M. IN THE PRIORY ROOM.