

GREAT & LITTLE WHELNETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Whelnetham Community Centre on Wednesday 14th September 2011.

Present

Chris Thomson Chairman

Howard Singh Vice- Chairman

David Howes

Christine Peck Parish Clerk

In attendance

Terry Clements joined meeting at 7.45 pm

1. Apologies for Absence

Peter Royce Tim Webber

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 13th July 2011

Minutes having been previously emailed to Members were signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes

Chris proposed to report and deal with matters under their appropriate headings.

4. Members Declaration of Interest

Howard Singh is a member of the Community Council Committee.

5. Police Matters

Police not present. However, their emailed details reported that there have been no crimes of note in either parish since our last meeting. Scrap metal theft is on the increase in the county. Members are invited to sign up to Police Direct – the high tech messaging service provided by Suffolk Constabulary policedirect@suffolk.pnn.police.uk to receive latest information on local crime, warnings of bogus callers, crime reduction advice etc.

6. Correspondence

The Clerk had received details from Suffolk Council of road closures for the Tour of Britain Cycle race.

7. Finance

Current total bank balance	£ 12,343.44
Current account £12,213.14	(reconciled with bank statement number 23)
Instant Access account £130.30	(reconciled with bank statement number 38)

Expenses to be agreed –

St Edmunds Borough Council grass cutting	£167.76
Suffolk Acre insurance	£240.83
HMRC PAYE re. Clerk's employment	£ 84.00

The Clerk reminded that we still need to amend the bank account signatory and David Howes agreed to replace Steven Hagger and the appropriate form was completed.

The external audit is still outstanding but the Clerk had received a telephone call from BDO querying the payment for replacement windows and doors at Community Centre suggesting this should be in the asset column. However, when Clerk pointed out Parish Council did not own the property it was agreed this had been done correctly.

8. Updates

PLANNING -

Clifford Faiers, Langdale, Low Green, Little Whelnetham
Erection of dwelling with garage attached to existing dwelling.

Mr & Mrs Allingham. Drury House, Hawstead Lane, Sicklesmere
Replacement of garden room roof and new oak flooring to same

Mr M Jones The Laurels, Sudbury Road, Sicklesmere
Erection of extension to rear, installation of dormer and bay windows to side elevation on first floor.

GT WHELNETHAM SCHOOL - No further information received on parking, awaiting report from Dominic on outcome of meeting with school governors.

However, it was decided a turning circle would not be appropriate. Terry stated that parking was a common problem at most schools.

David suggested that a replacement school could be incorporated with the community centre and the existing school be replaced by housing. Terry suggested this was an idea to feed into the Rural Vision 2031 project.

TRANSPORT -

No report available from Peter.

Chris stated that there had been speed cameras in various spots around the village.

HOUSING –

No further information but demand remains for 15 additional houses. It seems land is still the problem. Terry stated that funds being spent on additional housing in town

RAILWAY WALK –.

All in order following removal of fallen trees by Barry Colson. .

PLAY AREA –

All repairs now complete. Chris thanked David for organising the repairs.

9. Any other business

The Clerk has chased St Edmundsbury with regards to the ongoing sale of furniture outside property in Sudbury Road. The matter is now in the hands of Planning Officer to discuss with the owner planning application. Highways not concerned as location is situated on straight road. However, David stated that it was dangerous and difficult to see when turning out of Cocks Green Lane if vehicles were parked at property concerned. Chris suggested Clerk should write to St Eds and express concerns over inappropriate use of land and danger. Meanwhile we would log activity at premises.

Grass cutting – Howard confirmed Probation Service had cut the grass on day of meeting. Chris asked if all happy with this service and it appears they were in agreement for this to continue. Chris thanked Howard for arranging this.

Howard reported that work was being carried out on damaged vehicles at very late hours at the back of his property by the garage in Sudbury Road. Chris suggested this should be monitored.

Howard had attended a SALC meeting where the main focus was on the use of land by gypsies. This could be of particular local concern as a piece of land owned by a gypsy was up for sale. Chris checked that the main entrance gate to the railway walk was locked. Howard confirmed it was.

Chris and Howard will be attending the St Edmundsbury Parish Conference to be held at Great Whelnetham on 20th October.

Terry reported that Nowton Park is being developed and links are coming together regarding a possible cycle route which could well link in with our proposal for a route from Whelnetham to town.

Terry produced a questionnaire on The Budget Challenge for re-producing and completion from anyone interested.

10. Confirmation of Future Meeting Dates

The remaining meeting for the year will be on Wednesday 9th November 2011.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Signed Chairman

Date

All Members of this Parish Council hereby agree to adhere to implement the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council.