

GREAT & LITTLE WHELNETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at Community Centre on 10th January 2018 at 7.30pm.

Present

Cllrs Peter Royce (Chairman) PR
June Attwood JA
Terry Clements Borough Councillor TC
Howard Singh HS
Tonie Armstrong TA
Stephen Smith SS
Tim Webber TW
Diane Everitt Parish Clerk DE
Others - 4 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Karen Soons County Councillor KS

2. Public Question time.

Concerns raised about the footpath and litter along the main Sudbury to Bury Road. This has been raised with Suffolk County Council and some work has been done. Funding for the play area, and 106 monies, will be discussed later in the meeting.

3. Borough Councillor report – Terry Clements

TC said that he has some money in his locality budget and can contribute a sum towards the local play area, this would need to be done by March 2018. He spoke about the Suffolk Needs Met trial currently being done in Horringer, if successful this would be rolled out to other villages. This is around mental health issues.

County Councillor report – Karen Soons

KS had given apologies, but monthly newsletter received, this has been forwarded to all Councillors, and is filed with the minutes. It contained details of a Surface Water Mapping Scheme, 5 villages have been selected for a 'flooding/surface water survey' pilot scheme that is running for the first time, if the pilot is extended to next year other villages will be put forward. Suffolk school travel consultation launched, this is to try and find a long-term solution to providing affordable home to school transport. Suffolk has been chosen as one of only 10 pilot areas to retain 100% of business rates. Her report also has an update re fully funded first time central heating systems for Suffolk residents. There is a reminder about the deadline for applications for primary School places, and a high needs funding consultation for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Ground investigations for Ipswich's Upper Orwell Crossings will begin this year.

Chairman's Report- Peter Royce

There are still problems with parking outside the school, and with people complaining. Children are getting out of cars on the roadside, vehicles are also parking facing the wrong way. There are also issues with cars parking on the road, facing the wrong way near the Erskine Lodge development. Update re Dog Bin this is now in place on the Green, Raynsford Road. Contact made with County Council over removal of Disabled bay Raynsford road, we were told this is advisory only and will fade with time. They said it would cost money to remove.

Action: Clerk to contact Planning Authority re restrictions on work start times and parking at the Erskine Development.

4. Minutes of previous meeting dated 8th November 2017 to be agreed (any matters arising to be discussed during course of meeting).

Minutes from November meeting agreed HS proposed TA seconded all in agreement.

5. Declarations of interest – Howard Singh Member of SALC

6. Police Matters – SNT report sent to all Councillors. Clerk will forward dates of May meeting for SNT attendance.

7. Updates

7.1 Planning – DC/17/2503/FUL change of use of ground floor from retail to offices Page Russell Ltd, premises Tom Keanes Antique Trader Sudbury Road, no concerns. DC/17/2374/FUL change of use of part of horse barn from storage to essential workers accommodation and associated works, the Grove Equestrian Centre Bury Road Sicklesmere, comments made and information requested, restriction to essential workers only, concerns that it could be used as precursor to development of housing, also size of accommodation. DC/17/2636/HH garage, Flints, Hawstead Lane, Sicklemere, no concerns.

7.2 Gt Whelnetham School and Parking – Still ongoing issues with parking, Suffolk County Council has been offered land for access and car parking at school but refused. Also, footpath widening has been requested over the years but declined as not cost effective, no money in budgets, proportionately not used enough. Will need to get School and County Council support to move issues forward, suggestion made that parents get petition up, which the Parish Council would support as this may have more effect.

7.3 Railway line – Pictures of signs, containing bylaws, have been sent to Councillors these have been agreed and Clerk will arrange for them to be put up at both ends of the walk. Discussion around quotes for work to be done by Borough Council to address an issue regarding overgrown areas. Work had been quoted earlier last year which did not involve flailing, however this work had not been performed and it was unclear as to why, but as a result, in order to make the maintenance of the line manageable flailing was proposed to be used to reduce the overgrowth to a height at which it could be more readily managed. JA asked for it to be minuted that she had queried the differences in the costs of the 2 quotes. And why the original work had not proceeded. The Borough Council has recommended that this work be done now. A vote was taken by Councillors over the decision to flail the whole line now, and in the new financial year to create the 3 areas on the line proposed by JA last spring, and to check the effectiveness of the treatment to prevent the growth of Hogweed. Result 5 for 1 against, clerk will contact Borough Council.

7.4 Transport and VAS speed signs – Signs currently in Little Whelnetham and by the School. Information has been downloaded and can be forwarded to Suffolk County Council. No update re proposed new Bus Stops. It was considered better not to have defined Bus Stops as any buses will then stop on demand. There was no update on the pot holes in Cocks Green Lane as KS not at meeting.

7.5 Proposal to avoid double election costs – Currently with NALC. There is no update and Parish Council has not received any charges.

7.6 Playground report/fence, playground equipment replacement seats and maintenance – The latest Playground report has been circulated to all Councillors; there is nothing outstanding and it is minimal/low risk. Parish Council is looking to update current equipment and purchase new, 106 monies are available also locality budget money from TC. TA has made contact with several companies who supply playground equipment. This project should have community engagement.

7.7 Improving Local Communities – No update.

7.8 Membership update and co-operation of additional councillors – No update

7.9 Battle Over Beacon – TA has details, estimated cost for basket without post or fitting £600. More details required, also work with Community Centre, as Village event.

8. Correspondence – Letter from SALC re invitation to Royal Garden Party in May 2018. They have 3 tickets and are looking to do a draw. Decision made to put Howard Singh forward.

9. For consideration –

9.1 Budgeting ideas for next year – Councillors asked for ideas and to bring to next meeting

9.2 Possible crossing by the Post Office where the buses stop also the extension of the layby outside the Post Office - After discussion by Councillors crossing to be taken off agenda, but extension of layby to be moved to main part of agenda.

9.3 Defibrillator – This to be put on main agenda for next meeting. PR to find out more details. This will be placed on outside of the Village Hall.

10. Finance

10.1 Payments since last meeting and bank reconciliations- As attached on bi monthly accounts. Balances current account £13072.79 Instant Access account £1133.71 total in bank £14206.50 less cheques to be presented as below £452.17

10.2 Payments for approval- Hall rent £198.00, SALC AGM expenses HS £10.00, clerk expenses £124.98, SALC training data protection £26.40, SALC local council administration book £73.60, Webb fees PR £19.19. – **all in agreement**

10.3 Projected expenditure for rest of year – Clerk presented spreadsheet of project costs to end of year total approximately £3871.

10.4 Precept setting for 2018-19 – Decision made to keep precept the same as last year – **all in agreement**

11. Matters for consideration at the next meeting

Village Sign
Pebbles on pavement from the drives in Raynsford Road
Parking opposite people drives Raynsford Road

Meeting finished 9.40pm Next meeting 14th March 2018 at 7.30pm

Signed Chairman Date

DRAFT