

Cookley & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday, February 16th 2015 in the Pavilion, Walpole at 7-30pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. David Cask (Chairman); Cllr. Michael Bygrave; Cllr. Rob Chase; Cllr. Zoé Mair; Cllr. Mark Wenham; Cllr. John Winter and Cllr. David Whitwood:

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk) and District & County Cllr. Stephen Burroughes (until 8pm):

1) Apologies:

Cllr. Mike Porter (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. Nick Jarvis; Cllr. Ian Newton; Cllr. Anne Thomas:

2) To receive declarations of interest:

Cllr. Z. Mair – CEA and Allotments

3) To receive a report from the County and District Cllr. Stephen Burroughes:

Cllr. S. Burroughes said that he hoped everyone had seen his written report. He added that the Suffolk County Council's Budget had been passed with all frontline services not being affected and Highways, Children's Services and Education all being protected. He reported that Children's Services had gained a 'good' in their latest OFSTED Inspection and that the number of staff at the County Council was falling as those leaving were not replaced.

Cllr. S. Burroughes said that at Suffolk Coastal District Council he had allocated his Locality Budget and that its main offices were moving to opposite Melton Station. Cllr. D. Cask asked about 'affordable housing' and Cllr. R. Chase asked how closing fire stations would not put the public at risk. Cllr. S. Burroughes said that there were fewer fires now as homes become more fire resistant, there were to be more rapid response vehicles and further help could be called in if necessary.

4) Public Session:

As no members of the public were present, there was no public session.

5) To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on January 19th 2015:

The minutes were approved.

6) Matters arising:

The Clerk said that there had been Agenda Item No. 3 and 6 had been rewritten and Bank Account Receipts had been added to the Draft Minutes given out before the meeting. The Clerk also said that there was a typing error in the amount of the precept in Agenda Item No. 10a. The pence was not 19p but was 81p. The Contract with Will Austin was ending and the Clerk was asked to approach Will Austin about a new Contract including his price.

7) Planning Matters:

The Clerk reported as information the following planning application.

DC/16/0238/AME South View, Halesworth Road, Walpole, Suffolk.
Non-material amendment of DC/14/2781/FUL – New Residential Dwelling with detached garage and studio space (resubmission).

11) Emergency Officer:

Cllr. M. Bygrave and Cllr. M. Wenham had met with Cllr. Z. Mair to discuss the role. Cllr. M. Bygrave and Cllr. M. Wenham agreed to work together in the role and therefore both agreed to jointly be nominated to become the Parishes' Emergency Officers.

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair

Seconder: Cllr. R. Chase

It was agreed that the Emergency Plan would be updated.

12) Red Telephone Box:

Cllr. R. Chase reported that he was meeting Cllr. W. Shoote of Bramfield and Thorington Parish Council and an option was to put the defibrillator into the telephone box.

13) Village Green:

Cllr. Z. Mair said that the Village Green had been invaded by moles. She said that she had used a company to deal with her mole problem. It was agreed for Cllr. Z. Mair to contact the company.

It was also noted that a hole had appeared too for fibre optic wiring to be installed for Walpole.

14) Flagship Affordable Homes:

It was noted that Cllr. A. Thomas was still trying to contact someone at Flagship to discuss the affordable homes.

15) Highways:

As Cllr. M. Porter was not present, there was no report. Whilst it was noted that Highways had repaired some road issues, it was agreed to ask Cllr. M. Porter to contact Highways over the verges being eroded by traffic as they pass one another on narrow roads.

16) Footpaths:

As Cllr. N. Jarvis was not present, there was no report. The Clerk reported that he had received an email from a Walpole Resident about a culvert blocked under a footpath in Walpole and would pass it on to Cllr. N. Jarvis.

17) Trees:

Cllr. Z. Mair reported that a five page report had recently been published.

18) Cemetery:

The Clerk reported that there had been an ashes interment and an addition was to be made to an existing memorial. The Clerk said that he had received a reply regarding the tree in the top area of the cemetery which thanked the Council for agreeing to the tree which would now be purchased with the Council taking up responsibility once it is planted.

19) CEA & Allotments:

Cllr. Z. Mair reported that the Lease for the land on which the secure electric bike shed is sited has been agreed and signed by Trustees of the Playing Field Trust as well as two members of CEA. She said that the Treasurer had made the annual return to Companies House and the accounts have been audited and searches are being conducted regarding the piece of derelict land that lies between the playground and the houses west of the Peasenhall Road. Cllr. Z. Mair said that Cookpole Energy Action (CEA) would like to carry out woodland conservation work here which would include pollarding and willow growing.

20) External Meetings & Training:

It was agreed that the Clerk would find out when the next 'New Councillor' Course was taking place and he would send this information to Cllr. M. Wenham.

21) Matters of Information from Members:

There were no matters of information from Members.

22) To receive agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting to be held on March 15th 2016:

It was agreed to discuss Tables, the Asset Register and Defibrillator at the next meeting and that they should be on the Agenda.

The Meeting ended at 9-55pm.

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