

Minutes of Barningham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at 7:35pm in Barningham Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs: C Hammond, E Sier, J Crittall, R Baxter, W Martineau, Cllrs S Lusher & B. Cllr Bull & C. Cllr J Spicer.

**1. Apologies for absence.** M Dolan

**2. Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None.

**3. Minutes** - Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016 signed and approved as a correct record.

Meeting Adjourned

**4. Meeting open to the public**

A member of the public expressed concerns over how overgrown Green Lane from Aggies Piece through to Hollow Road is. He has reported it to SCC. It was also reported that the footpath, in front of the copse of trees, towards Coney Weston, has been ploughed up. It is understood that the farmer has a period of time to re-instate this. Cllr Baxter will check to see that this has happened.

**Action Cllr Baxter**

Residents with mirrors outside their homes have been written to by SCC asking them to remove them from SCC land. There was some concern over the tone of the letter and the fact that many of the mirrors have been in situ for many years. Cllr Spicer apologised on behalf of SCC but clarified that SCC do not authorise mirrors on SCC land. A member of the public congratulated the Parish Council on the Cricket Meadow Project, residents were reminded that they are all invited to attend the official opening of the equipment on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 3pm. Mr Elliot raised concerns over the scale of the plan produced by Pigeon and offered his help if we proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan. The residents of Lingwood Close are still waiting for their road to be adopted by Suffolk County Council and for a street light to be moved. Cllr Spicer will chase this matter up. Following discussions last month, regarding the reduction in buses from the village, Cllr Spicer informed those present that the contract was recently renewed and that there has been a reduction in buses but, prior to the renewal, some buses were being subsidised by up to £500 per day. Since the new contract this figure has dropped to around £100 per day. However it would appear that it was not fully appreciated the huge time difference some of the changes has resulted in. Now this matters have been brought to the Contractors attention they will take them in to consideration when reviewing the routes later in the year.

**5. Report of County Councillor: J Spicer**

Cllr Spicer congratulated the Parish Council on the completion of the Cricket Meadow project. Cllr Spicer has met with a resident of Bardwell Road, Mr Milton, to discuss the problems of cars parking there. Cllr Spicer will speak to the school about their hedge and see about getting the yellow zig zags re-painted. She will also speak to the school about

use of the pub car park. The Clerk will write to the landlord of the pub to ask them to cut back their hedge, that borders Mill Road, as it is growing out over the footpath.

## **6. Report from B. Councillor: C Bull**

It is now clear the doctors at Hopton do not wish to remain in the village. Hopton Parish Council approached them and offered a proposal which they rejected. As expressed previously concerns have been raised over how the closure has been handled. This is currently under investigation with the Health Scrutiny Committee making many recommendations, not least recommendations regarding having a good patient participation group and making arrangements for dispensing of medicines. There are plans for a new surgery in Stanton.

## **7. Police Report**

The latest newsletter was circulated but it was noted once again how poor the local information is.

Meeting reconvened

### **8.1. Chairman**

The Chairman made no report.

### **8.2 Clerk:**

8.2.1 Councillor training. Update following training.

The recent training event, held in the village hall was considered to be a success and we will look at doing a similar event again in the future.

8.2.2 Bench, outside shop, to agree design.

The position has been agreed with the shop. It will be against the wall, on the grass to the left of the shop entrance. The Clerk has prepared some information, regarding different designs, which will be circulated amongst the Councillors so they can choose the most appropriate bench.

**Action All Councillors**

8.2.3 Highway matters.

See under items 4 and 5.

8.2.4 Lychgate gate, replacement.

The Clerk is still arranging a site visit with the contractor.

8.2.5 Streetlight B1111, position and recommendations

The Clerk met with a SCC officer and the resident of Bramley Cottage, to discuss the position of the new light. It was agreed that a back shield would be installed from the outset and that the light would be part night lit, turning off at midnight.

## 8.2.6 Website

It was agreed that, following consultation with CAS regarding ongoing support, we would use for the service for the next 12 months and review the situation again then. CAS informed the Clerk that, regarding support, Community Action Suffolk will provide a dedicated telephone helpdesk (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday), as well as a range of training and support materials. They already provide IT and technical support to the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector in Suffolk, so have a lot of experience in this area. The Clerk will attend a 'How to be more effective online course' in November.

## 9 **Finance.**

**9.1** To consider payments. The Following payments were approved and signed by two signatories.

9.1.1 S Wilson, wages for August	101590	£233.98
9.1.2 V Gay. Wages for August	101591	£864.04
9.1.3 HMRC tax & NI for August	101592	£168.92
9.1.4 V Gay, Expenses	101593	£95.83
9.1.5 VERTAS, Cemetery & Cricket Meadow	101594	£607.03
9.1.6 Came & Company	101595	£224.72
9.1.7 M Bleay, Aggies	101596	£180.00
9.1.8 HAGS, Cricket Meadow	101599	£20,320.00
9.1.9 HAGS, Cricket Meadow	101560	£50,000.00
9.1.9 Market Weston Parish Council	101561	£1000.00

**9.1 2017/18 Budget** to consider budget for 2017/18.

This matter will be discussed again next month once further information has been gathered.

## **10. GP Surgery at Hopton.**

See under item 6.

**11. Cricket Meadow.** Update on installation.

The new date for the official opening of the Cricket Meadow equipment was confirmed as the 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 3pm. Cllr Bull will provide a gazebo and the Clerk will arrange some refreshments. The following matters are still outstanding but will be dealt with as shown: Table Tennis Table – the firm will be coming back to make the repairs to the chipped parts when they are next in the area, which is 2-3 weeks' time.

Fitness Sign – New artwork is being done and a new sign ordered.

Freestyler damaged seat – A new one is coming

Litter Bin – Keys are on their way to Urban Forestry.

Due to the fact that there still some outstanding issues with the installation at the Cricket meadow and we are still waiting for the money from St Edmundsbury to be put in the account, it was agreed that a payment of £50,000.00 only should be made at this time. The balance will be paid on satisfactory completion of the project

The Clerk has been provided with a maintenance DVD

## **12. Review of Emergency plan**

There is still a little bit of work to be done to finalise the plan. Some additional items are needed for the emergency box; Cllr Baxter will source these. Cllrs will provide their mobile numbers purely for use in the plan. We would still like to locate a generator in the village for use in an emergency.

## **13. Village Hall / Sandy Lane Parking**

Cllr Bull, the Chairman and the Clerk met with a SCC officer to discuss options for the village hall car park. It was agreed to get some prices for any works that are needed before any further discussions are had.

**Action Clerk**

## **14. Neighbourhood Plan**

Following some training, from a planning Officer at St Edmundsbury Borough Council, the Parish Council have decided to go ahead with a Neighbourhood Plan for Barningham. They are aware however that they can only carry out the plan if they have enough volunteers from the village to take the plan forward. To this end a short survey, asking for volunteers to help with the plan, will be produced and delivered to all the houses in the village. A box will be placed in the local shop for returns. It was agreed that it should be stressed how important this plan is for the future development of the village.

Barningham is a well-served village and, as such, it is vulnerable to future development. Although the Parish Council are not opposed to some development they feel that it is important that it is the right development for the village. A Neighbourhood Plan is a community led planning framework for guiding the future development and conservation of an area and would form a legal document, which would in turn form part of St Edmundsbury Borough Councils Local Development Framework. This would mean that Barningham could shape future development from within rather than having it forced upon them.

## **15. Update on Community Speed watch and Aggies Piece:**

The hedges and paths in Aggies Piece have been cut by a local contractor. It was agreed that this should be carried out on an annual basis and should be budgeted for accordingly. It was further agreed that a survey and any necessary work, especially on the roadside, should be carried out as soon as practical. It was agreed that extra signage should be tried at Aggies before a new dog litter bin was introduced. The Clerk has some literature from 'The Dogs Trust' that can be used.

**Action Clerk**

## **16. Councillors reports and items for future agenda**

The bench on Sandy Lane, towards Coney Weston, has become overgrown. Cllr Sier will cut back the overgrown vegetation.

**Action Cllr Sier**

## **17. Caretakers report**

There is little to report this month. Extraneous work has consisted of snipping away at brambles and trying to carve a footpath through the wilderness at Aggie's Piece (although I believe this matter has since been placed in professional hands). Sweeping

season will soon be upon us as the copper beech at the Lychgate Cemetery has started to shed its load onto the pavement.

## **18. Cemetery**

The memorial repairs have now been completed.

## **19. Planning Matters**

19.1 DC/16/2001/TE3 | Notification under section 4 of the Communications Act 2003 - Removal of public payphone | Telephone Box Barningham Road Stanton Suffolk. **No Objection.**

19.2 DC/16/0925/FUL | Planning Application - proposed bungalow - revised scheme of SE/12/0217/FUL | 15 Hopton Road Barningham Suffolk IP31 1BU. **Although no objection, there are concerns about the closeness to neighbouring properties.**

## **20. Correspondence for information**

20.1 Precept Consultation. The clerk will respond to this consultation expressing concerns regarding proposal for an automatic referendum triggered by a percentage increase.

**Action Clerk**

20.2 CGR. Circulated.

## **21. Date of next meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016**

## **22. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:**

22.1 Personnel Issues None

22.2 Legal Issues. None