

**Present:** Cllrs: C Hammond, J Crittall, S Lusher, C. Cllr J Spicer & B. Cllr Bull

**1. Apologies for absence.** Cllrs. R Baxter, M Dolan, W Martineau & E Sier

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

**3. Minutes** - Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017 signed and approved as a correct record.

Meeting Adjourned

**4. Meeting open to the public**

Roy Snowling, from Pigeon development came to the meeting. A resident from Hepworth raised concerns regarding the possible increase in traffic, if the development goes ahead. along the Hepworth Road. She pointed out that this is a very popular route for horse riders as it makes up part of the Stanton Rides. In addition, another resident wanted residents in the village to be aware that if the pigeon development were to go ahead, that the community building would only be partially, around 1/3 funded by Pigeon. The remainder of the funding would have to be found elsewhere. The building could cost somewhere in the region of 1 million pounds. Road improvements were also discussed as was the best way to consult with local parish regarding our Neighbourhood plan. The Clerk would ensure that all these points are considered by the Neighbourhood Plan Working parties next meeting.

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

Cllr Spicer reported that the long-awaited re-organisation of staff has taken place and she was pleased to report that Guy Smith will be heading up the Western area team, based at Rougham. Antony Smith will be the contact for our area. She is now able to set up a meeting to discuss outstanding matters in the village. This will include looking at the possibility of changing the sign at Pound Corner from a give way to a stop sign. Regarding any proposals coming forward from Pigeon, or indeed any other developers, would need to take in to account all highway safety implications. SCC have indicated the proposed roundabout does meet the relevant design standards, although land ownership is still unclear. The Chairman raised concerns about the number of road signs that are currently obscured by overgrown hedges/trees etc, not just in Barningham but across the county. It is the landowner's responsibility to cut back hedges/trees etc but it is SCC responsibility to ensure that all highway signs are visible. Cllr Spicer reported that there is going to be a big blitz on cutting back growth both on verges and in front of road signs shortly.

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

Cllr Bull reported that the decision regarding the new waste hub in Bury has been deferred until September. This is to allow highways to address crossing and safety issues. As discussed previously St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Forest Heath are merging. There is a consultation available on line at [http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/single\\_council](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/single_council) which we are all encouraged to complete.

**7. Police Report**

The latest report was circulated.

Meeting reconvened

## **8. Progress reports. For information, from:**

### **8.1. Chairman**

#### 8.1.1 Pigeon Public Exhibition

The Chairman reported that, as your councillors we are your elected representatives. We have a responsibility to represent the views of the whole parish. It would not be appropriate to make comments, on this concept plan, at this time. We are in the process of preparing a, very comprehensive, questionnaire. This will seek the views of the entire village. To be fair most people that have been attending the meetings are against the proposal and it is only fair that we seek the opinion of **all** those who live in the village. We are under no immediate threat from Pigeon, or indeed any other developers, regarding the development of the land highlighted in Pigeons concept plan. The site proposed by Pigeon is not allocated in the Rural Vision Local Plan (adopted 2014). The proposal is therefore contrary to the current Local Plan. The policy position can only be changed through: 1 A Local Plan Review (anticipated to commence early 2018 with the West Suffolk Local Plan), 2. If the Borough Council does not maintain a 5-year land supply which would deem the Local Plan out of date regarding its housing policies. St Edmundsbury Borough Council maintains a five-year land supply therefore the current adopted Local Plan remains up to date which new proposals are considered against; or 3. Through the preparation and adoption of a Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council has commenced work on a Neighbourhood Plan and it is now for the community, as well as land owners, organisations, businesses etc. to decide how we would like to shape the Parish in the future. With this in mind it is vital that you complete the questionnaire when it comes through your door. This will probably be in the Autumn now as we must make sure that this document covers all important questions as this will go forward to form the basis of the Neighbourhood plan which, once adopted, becomes a legal document which carries weight against which planning is decided.

#### 8.1.2 Report from PPG, Stanton Surgery

A virtual PPG group has been in existence for some time now but had not really got off the ground. However a new Practice Manager has started at the Stanton Practice and she recently held a meeting of the group. The Chairman attended and reported that there were several things discussed. Firstly, the new manager told everyone that she was very unhappy with how things had been in the past. She reported that a letter was being sent out asking people to opt in or out of allowing their medical records to be accessed electronically. An application for a new portacabin has submitted. This would enable extra rooms for administration. The Chairman will continue to represent Barningham on the group.

### **8.2 Clerk:**

#### 8.2.1 Highway matters.

To include: 8.2.1.1. Bardwell Road, congestion and parking in Mill Road.

The Clerk has spoken to the shop and Cllr Spicer has spoken to the school and ask people to be considerate when parking in Mill Road and to ensure that they are not in any way obstructing residents driveways.

#### 8.2.2. Sign for cricket meadow, Play Area & Aggies Piece

Cllr Dolan is handling this matter but he was unable to attend the meeting.

#### 8.2.3 New streetlight, update.

Adrian Last, SCC Engineer, has spoken to his install team and reported that they are waiting for UKPN to carry out the electricity connection works. As soon as he has a planned date he will let the Clerk know.

#### 8.2.4 Hedges/Bank maintenance.

The Clerk has contacted Mark Bleay and asked him to cut the path at Aggies and reduce the height of the hedge in the Lychgate Cemetery. The Clerk has written to the resident, who live adjacent to the footpath in Millfields, asking him to cut back his hedge. She will also report this to SCC.

**Action Clerk**

### 8.2.5 DPD, invitation to attend meeting

The Clerk has written to John Sheridan to invite him to attend the September meeting to discuss the problem [posed by some DPD vans travelling through the village.

### 8.5.6 Lychgate Gate.

The Clerk has been trying for some considerable time now to get the Lychgate replaced at the Lychgate Cemetery. Cllr Sier has been contacted by a local resident who may know someone who could carry out the work. This will be followed up. **Action Cllr Sier/Clerk**

## 9. Finance.

The following accounts were approved for payment and the cheques signed by two signatories.

9.1 S Wilson, wages for July	101672	£236.51
9.2 V Gay, wages for July	101673	£1133.09
9.3 HMR&C, tax & NI	101674	£339.46
9.4 V Gay, expenses	101675	£57.74
9.5 M Bleay	101676	£60.00
9.6 Vertas, Cemetery	101677	£148.80
9.7 LCPAS, Subs	101678	£100.00

### 9.2 Bank Reconciliation.

The Clerk had prepared a bank reconciliation. Currently the council holds £47786.34 in its accounts.

### 9.3 End of year Accounts.

These have not been received back from BDO yet.

## 10. Village Hall.

Prior to the meeting the Chairman and Clerk meet with members of the village hall committee. It was agreed that the option to change the exit into an entrance/exit should be explored. To this end the Clerk will look in to a cost. The Parish Council would be happy to make a contribution towards these costs. It is likely that funds will also be available from SEBC and SCC. Havebury will also be approached once a price has been sought. **Action Clerk**

## 11. Neighbourhood Plan

11.1 The working party have been working on the questionnaire. They are planning to meet again on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. The following items will be on the agenda: The Conduct of members outside of the confines of the working party. The Questionnaire, update on progress so far and the Inclusion, in questionnaire, of information gathered by Pigeon Development following their public event. And the Landscape Character Assessment, LCA. To discuss progress so far.

### 12. Update on Community Speed watch and Aggies Piece:

Aggies Piece has been cut and cleared. Due to the current cost of hay it was agreed that the Clerk should pay the contractor directly and make no further payment to the Parish Council.

### 13. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

It was reported that the road sign, at the top of Sandy Lane is incorrect. It should include numbers up to 27 but only includes numbers up to 20. The Clerk will investigate further.

**Action Clerk**

The horses have now been removed from the meadow but the kissing gate is still broken. The Clerk will report this again. **Action Clerk**

#### **14. Caretakers report**

This has been the quietest month for some time. The only extra work was trimming the brambles hanging over the back row of the Lawn Cemetery and there was one bins-only week when I went away for a few days. The last of the surplus spoil from the cemetery should have been removed by now but workmen at the Church have heaped soil on top of it following trenching works.

The heap of soil is still in the churchyard. It also looks like the contractors left some waste cabling in the church car park. The Chairman will deal with this matter **Action Chairman**

#### **15. Cemetery**

No report this month.

#### **16. Planning Matters**

**16.1** DC/17/1448/HH Willowdene Bardwell Road Barningham Householder Planning Application - (i) Single storey side and rear extension (following demolition of side utility) and; (ii) 1no. attached double garage (following demolition of detached double garage and shed) No **Objection**

#### **17. Correspondence for information**

None received.

**18. Date of next meeting:** 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017

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

20.1 Personnel Issues. None.

20.2 Legal Issues. None.