

Present: Cllrs: C Hammond, E Sier, J Crittall, R Baxter, S Lusher & W Martineau

1. Apologies for absence. Cllr M Dolan & C. Cllr J Spicer.

2. Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: None

3. Minutes - Minutes of the meeting of Thursday 11th May 2017 signed and approved as a correct record.

Meeting Adjourned

4. Meeting open to the public

John Sheridan from DPD, although he contacted the Clerk to ask if he could come and speak to the Councillors about vehicles in the village and community involvement, did not attend the meeting.

5. Report of County Councillor: J Spicer

Cllr Spicer was unable to attend the meeting.

6. Report from B. Councillor: C Bull

Cllr Bull was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report: St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath are looking at forming one Council. To date both cabinets are supporting this and it will be going to both Full Councils shortly. I will update you on progress and what it all means at the next meeting.

The West Suffolk Waste Hub planning application will be going to full committee at an extraordinary Planning Committee meeting on 19th July.

I note that the first successful St Edmundsbury prosecution for dog fouling was in relation to an incident in Barningham!

Work has started on upgrading the Cullum Road/parkway roundabout in Bury and there is likely to be severe disruptions particularly at peak times for some months

I am pleased to report that the Hepworth Road planning application has been allowed but with the house setback to be less overbearing and with obscured glass in the side window in response to some concerns. The planning officers shared your concerns.

7. Police Report

The latest report was circulated.

Meeting reconvened

8.1 Chairman

8.1.1 Bees on Cricket Meadow

We had a swarm of bees on the meadow, by the zip wire. Cllr Sier arranged for a local bee man to come and take them away. It was noted that Cllr Baxter holds bee equipment if a similar problem were to arise.

8.2 Clerk:

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

As Cllr Spicer was not able to attend the meeting, due to a prior engagement, the Clerk has already suggested to her that we arrange a site meeting, with residents from Mill Road and Bardwell Road who have expressed concerns over parking around the school. The Clerk is waiting for Cllr Spicer to come back to her regarding this.

Action Clerk

8.2.1.2 Drains Hopton Road

This problem has now been rectified.

8.2.2. Sign for cricket meadow & Aggies Piece

The Clerk has contacted SCC about a brown road sign for Aggies. A brown tourist sign carries a £75 application fee plus the cost of design and then the cost of the sign itself. This seems a very expensive option. It was decided to investigate other options. There are 3 signs needed. One on pound corner, for Aggies Piece. One at the entrance to the Cricket Meadow, off Church Road, this sign needs to show the public that they have access to the field and that it is open at all times to the public. And a third one on the B1111 pointing down Sandy Lane towards the children's play area. Permission to erect the signs will need to be sought.

Action Clerk

8.2.3 New streetlight, update.

SCC have chased Kier this for an update on this, as they thought the works had been completed. Once they hear back from them they will update us again. The Clerk will continue to chase this.

Action Clerk

8.2.4 Gate at play area

The posts on the big metal gate seem to have moved together a bit since installation but they are completely secure. The gate hasn't been closed for years which has probably not helped and means it wasn't noticed sooner. If someone closes the gate it will bolt itself and it is then very difficult to unbolt and probably needs levering open with a crowbar or piece of wood. It should not be closed in this condition. It was agreed that it would be worth sawing the bolt off – if it ever had to be locked in future we could use a chain and padlock. Cllr Baxter will make arrangements to have the bolt removed.

Action Cllr Baxter

8.2.5 Play area surfacing

The soft surface on the swing unit, which you had re-poured a while ago when the edge started lifting, is lifting badly again and it is only a matter of time before it becomes a trip hazard and dangerous. We will keep an eye on this. The roundabout in the play area is very stiff. The Clerk will ask the caretaker to have a look at this.

Action Clerk

8.2.6 Hedges

The Clerk will contact Mark Bleay about the bank opposite Church Gardens. Cllr Lusher will look at cutting back at bushes on the corner of Church Road opposite the Spar.

Action Cllr Lusher/Clerk

8.2.7 Lychgate gate

We are still waiting for the Lych gate to be replaced. The Clerk will contact the contractor about this.

Action Clerk

9 Finance.

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

9.1.1 S Wilson, wages for March	101655	£236.51
9.1.2 V Gay. Wages for March	101656	£1158.68
9.1.3 HMRC	101567	£356.79
9.1.4 V Gay, Expenses	101658	£43.19
9.1.5 LCPAS, internal Audit	101659	£150.00
9.1.6 S Wilson, expenses	101660	£18.87
9.1.7 C Hammond, box – Cricket med	101661	£6.50

9.2 End of year accounts

The accounts have been audited by the internal auditor. They have been sent off to BDO for the external audit. The recommendations made by the internal auditor will be noted and actioned if they are deemed appropriate.

9.3 Issues with online banking

Barclays bank have decided, after many years of allowing us access to online banking, that we now need to complete a form. They have suspended our access until this form is returned. The form was completed and signed and the Clerk will return it to Barclays. She will also put in a claim for compensation for the inconvenience caused.

Action Clerk

10. Village Hall.

The Chairman and Clerk have met informally with the treasurer of the new village Hall Committee. It was agreed a more formal meeting, with some members of the parish council and the new committee will be arranged so a good working relationship can be formed.

11. Future Village Events To discuss:

11.1 Community Event

There is going to be a meeting held next week to discuss the event,

12. Neighbourhood Plan. Update on:

12.1 Update from working party

The working group met again and have finished analysing the information from the open public event. This information will form the basis of the household questionnaire. Some members of the group are looking at putting together a draft questionnaire for consideration. The group is also looking at options for producing and analysing the data collected. They will also begin work on the landscape assessment shortly.

12.2 Service Level Agreement with SEBC & working party's terms of reference.

Both of these documents have been circulated for adoption.

Action All

12.3 Funding update

Funding of £7369 has been applied for and awarded. There is still some work to do before the funds are released.

Action Clerk

13. Policy Review & adoption

The following documents were reviewed and adopted:

13.1 Standing Orders

13.2 Financial Orders

13.3 Risk Assessment and Financial Risk Assessment

13.4 Internal Financial control

14. Update on Community Speed watch and Aggies Piece:

The Clerk has been in contact with the contractor about cutting and baling Aggies Piece

It was agreed that Cllr Sier should be reimbursed for any electricity costs he incurs whilst recharging the speed watch equipment.

15. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

The kissing gate, in the field opposite Aggies, is damaged. This has been reported but will be reported again.

Action Clerk

Cllr Crittall has completed and sent off a First responder application and is waiting for a response. Cllr Hammond had some information regarding defibrillator. This will be forwarded to Cllr Crittall.

16. Caretakers report

This has been a very quiet month with the only extra work being in the Lawn Cemetery. I barrowed the spoil from the most recent burial to the Hippo bag; this work is not part of my routine hours but paid as overtime. I have also been tackling the monster mole-hills in the cemetery and using them to level-up the back row of graves. There was one bins-only week when I went away for a few days.

17. Cemetery

A request for the internment of the late Dorothy Lodge was received. This was approved.

We will continue to monitor the mole situation in the Lawn Cemetery.

18. Planning Matters

18.1 Ref No. DC/17/0561/FUL dwelling house and single garage, following demolition of out building, Larche House, Hepworth Road, Barningham

The Clerk contacted the planning department with the following concerns and received the reply shown in bold below:

I have just had a look at the amended drawings for this application and the only change I can see is a reduction in the height? Although I can't see a height on the original drawing. We were particularly concerned about the big window overlooking Barn View and this doesn't seem to be addressed at all.

The window you are referring to is a landing window. The applicant/ agent has agreed that they would accept this to be obscure, which can be secured by condition.

19. Correspondence for information

19.1 Suffolk View. Circulated.

19.2 Merchant Navy day. Circulated

19.3 Parish Conference 19th June 6 till 8 Hyndman Centre, BSE. Circulated

19.4 Temporary road closure. Circulated

20. Date of next meeting: 5th July 2017

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

21.1 Personnel Issues. None.

21.2 Legal Issues. None.