

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

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs M Dolan & W Martineau

2. **Co-option of new Parish Councillor**

Anthony Steer was co-opted on to the Parish Council.

3. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

3.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. Cllr Crittall declared an interest in item 17.1 & 17.2 and left the room during the discussion.

3.2 None declared.

3.3 None declared.

4. **Minutes** - Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 13th September 2017 approved and signed as a correct record.

Meeting Adjourned

5. **Meeting open to the public**

The problem of speeding was discussed again. There are a number of things that could be done, these include the use of white lines and zig zags, white picket entrance gates etc. All these options are already being investigated by the Parish Council. The new light has still not been connected. The Clerk will chase this up. The hedge adjacent to the Royal George, facing on to Mill Road, needs to be cut back. The Clerk will write to the landlord about this.

Action Clerk

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

Cllr Spicers big item for discussion was school transport changes. Essentially there is a proposal to go out to consultation on a proposal for SCC to provide school transport only to the nearest school. For families in Barningham, around 50 children, this would be transportation only to Ixworth Free School and not to Thurston Community College. It is also going to be proposed to remove the current subsidy for Post 16 school travel. All this would not happen, if it does, until 2019. It goes without saying that Cllr Spicer is very unhappy with this proposal which hits her division far more extensively than any other. She does accept the need to make savings in many areas, but this is not the way to do it. Cllr Spicer has already met with the Head teachers at Ixworth Free School and Thurston CC and hope they can agree some options to submit to the council. This item will go on a future agenda for further discussion.

Action Clerk

Suffolk County Council Highways are still in a state of confusion - although Guy Smith has been appointed to cover all west Suffolk there is no engineer to cover Cllr Spicers area.

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

Cllr Bull reported that the planning application, discussed at our last meeting, for 59 Millfield went to delegation panel and will be going to committee in November. This will mean that there will be a site visit.

The next step towards Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury becoming one council, likely to be called West Suffolk Council, has taken place with both Councils agreeing to the merge. An application will now be made to the Secretary of State to approve the new council

Meeting reconvened

8. Progress reports. For information, from:

8.1. Chairman

The Chairman had no report to make.

8.2 Clerk:

8.2.1 Highway matters. To include:

8.2.1.1. Bardwell Road, congestion and speeding.

Following on from a discussion, at the last meeting, the possibility of white entrance gates in Bardwell Road and Sandy Lane was discussed. Also, the change to the signage at Pound Corner from Give Way to Stop was raised. There is currently no one in post at SCC to take these matters forward. The Clerk and Cllr Spicer will continue to work towards resolving this matter.

Action Clerk

See also under item 5

8.2.1.2 Notification of road repairs to Sandy Lane, with works starting on the 16th October for 3 days, was noted. Works are to improve the existing road surface and prepare for surface dressing taking place at a later date.

8.2.2 Concerns were raised at the last meeting about the condition of the road surface outside the shop, in Church Road. The Clerk has reported this and SCC have assessed the situation and informed the Clerk they will not be taking any action at this time. They will however add this location to their routine inspection to monitor.

8.2.3 Damaged Street Sign, Millfield Road and incorrect numbering Sandy Lane

A works ticket has been issued for the repair of the sign at Millfield, this will be chased with the contractor. The new sign, for Sandy Lane, is yet to be ordered but should be ordered in the next couple of weeks.

8.2.4 Despite reports on their website to the contrary, the bollard at the junction with the B1111 and Church Road has not been repaired. Although they have filled in the hole. The Clerk will report this again to SCC.

Action Clerk

9. Finance.

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

9.1 S Wilson, wages for September	101684	£246.70
9.2 V Gay, wages for September	101685	£876.63
9.3 HMR&C, tax & NI	101686	£169.62
9.4 V Gay, expenses	101687	£136.74
9.5 BDO	101688	£360.00
9.6 C Hammond, Chairman's expenses	101689	£10.00

9.2 Budget

The Clerk has prepared some figures for consideration, these included an up to date bank reconciliation. The budget will be discussed further at the November meeting.

9.3 End of Year Accounts

These have been received back from BDO and the Clerk will action the relevant paperwork

9.5 Barclays Bank, Mandate update,

It was agreed to add Cllrs Lusher and Crittall as signatories. The Clerk provided the necessary paperwork.

10. Village Hall.

Steve O'Kane, from SCC, has been in contact regarding the meeting to discuss the parking arrangements at the Village Hall. He will be making further contact next week to take the matter forward.

The Village Hall Committee are arranging a Halloween Party on the 27th October. They have also sent out a questionnaire to all the households in the village.

11. Neighbourhood Watch

Nick Greenwood, a resident in the village would like to try to extend the areas covered by Neighbourhood Watch in the village. He would like to encourage more people to get involved.

An article to this end will be included in our next newsletter.

Action Cllr Baxter

12. Neighbourhood Plan, Update on:

12.1 Feedback from Pigeon for possible inclusion in NHP questionnaire

Cllr Hammond and Steer met with Pidgeon Development to discuss the outcome of their public consultation event. They will take the information to the working party so that it can be included in the questionnaire if it is felt appropriate.

12.2 The date of the next meeting is still to be arranged.

13. Update on Community Speed watch and Aggies Piece:

Following Cllr Siers resignation both these responsibilities need to be reassigned. The Clerk will include this on the next agenda.

Action Clerk

14. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

Cllr Baxter asked for ideas for the next newsletter, Cllrs can email her any ideas.

Action All

The old phone box is still in situ. The Clerk will see if BT are planning to remove it. If they are not, it was proposed that it could be used as a book exchange.

Action Clerk

It was proposed that we have a bench in Aggies dedicated to Eddie Sier in acknowledgement of all his hard work.

Action Clerk

15. Caretakers report

The Lawn Cemetery has taken a lot of my attention this month with the need to liaise with the grave-digger over the next plot and where to leave the spoil. The spoil has now been removed from site at a cost of one and a half hours of overtime. I have also cut back the brambles overhanging the rear row of graves.

I similarly needed to tackle the brambles around the litter bin on the corner of Church Road as well as the nasty little spikey plant which keeps re-emerging in the bed opposite the Spar shop. I have given the lower bearing of the roundabout in the Play Area another dose of grease. There was one bins-only week this month when I went away on holiday.

16. Cemetery

A Grant of burial rights and permission for a memorial stone was granted to relatives of the late Gladys Lamplough.

It was noted that Malcolm Adnet would be arranging for the Lychgate gates to be removed for repair. It was agreed that we would not need to fence this area off as no additional hazard would be created by their removal.

17. Planning Matters

17.1 DC/17/1750/FUL | Planning Application - 1no. dwelling with detached garage | The Rowans Sandy Lane, Barningham **The Parish Council do not support this application as they object to back land development and the proposal places the property too far back from the existing properties.**

17.2 DC/17/1911/FUL - 1no. dwelling with attached garage and vehicular access. | Land adj The House, Sandy Lane, Barningham. **No Objection**

17.3 The retrospective application for Rectory Cottage has been granted by St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

18. Correspondence for information

18.1 SALC, Local Councillor

19. Date of next meeting: 1st November 2017.

It was agreed that the next October (2018) meeting would not be held on the first Wednesday but would be held a week later to accommodate the Clerks holiday.

20. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items: 20.1 Personnel Issues. 20.2 Legal Issues