

Present: Cllrs: A Steer, C Hammond, N Greenwood, W Martineau, R Baxter, C. Cllr J Spicer & B. Cllr Bull.

1. Apologies for absence. A Woodward, S Lusher

2 Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

2.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None.

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests. None.

2.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act. None.

3. Minutes - The minutes of the Wednesday 7th August 2019 meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. Meeting open to the public

The hedge at The Royal George is growing out into the road, as is the hedge at the Methodist Chapel. The Clerk will write to them and ask them to cut it back. **Action Clerk**

Members of Barningham Village Hall Committee thanked Cllrs Bull and Spicer and the Parish Council for purchasing them a new bowls mat.

5. Report from County Councillor: J Spicer

Cllr Spicer was unable to attend the meeting.

6. Report from West Suffolk Councillor: C Bull

Cllr Bull was unable to attend the meeting.

7. Report from Police

No report received

8.1 Chairman's report

8.1.1 Dog incident, Cricket Meadow.

A dog attacked a small dog and its owner on the Cricket Meadow. The dog sustained life threatening injuries and has undergone surgery. The woman was also bitten and sustained puncture wounds to her hand. Already a serious incident, this could have been far worse as the woman was walking her 3 week old baby, in a pushchair, at the time. The dog was loose and not under the control of the owner. The response from the police has been less than satisfactory and a visit was only made once Cllr Bull became involved. The Parish Council agreed that, with immediate effect, that all dogs must be kept on a lead on the Cricket Meadow. The Clerk will prepare a notice to this effect. She will also look into the legal aspect of this matter.

8.1.2 Parking and driving over the green, Bishops Croft.

This is becoming a bigger problem with more people parking or driving over the green. The clerk has written a letter asking people not to do this. They will be delivered to all the residents in that area.

8.1.3 Burglaries in the village.

There has been a spate of incidents in the area. Residents are reminded to be vigilant and that any such incident needs to be reported to the police.

8.1.4 Ixworth Reading Challenge Presentation invitation to attend.

Cllr Hammond has been invited to attend a reading challenge presentation.

8.2 Clerk:

8.2.1 Highway matters. To include SCC self-help update.

The Clerk met with Mary Evans and Mark Stephens at SCC to discuss the Self Help Scheme. Although not the outcome we were hoping a way forward has been potentially agreed. Anyone working on the highway will still need the chapter 8 training, but there will now be an additional element to the training that will look at, and advice on scenarios, and risk assessments, that are relevant to Parish Councils. We need to accept that Chapter 8 training is required. The Clerk thinks that we will see a change to other documents, i.e. winter maintenance to reflect this. Our contractor is having training on the 18th September. He has asked 'Do all staff on site need the qualification or just one person who is supervising? As the vast majority of the work is on the verge with fairly small machines that once off the road remain on the verge until the area is cut.' SCC replied that 'if you need to install traffic management equipment on the highway, at least one person qualified in signing, lighting and guarding must be present onsite at all times. As you are planning to cut highway verges using mowers rather than a tractor and flail, it may be best if they assess our proposed work locations together beforehand, in order to establish adequate safety measures. The situation around litter picking is still something under discussion but it would appear the onus is on the district Council to ensure anyone carrying out this operation has the correct training. This is a matter is being taken up directly with West Suffolk Council. The options of using another option for tackling remedial jobs in the parish, the use of village wardens. Sudbury Town Council have trained operators, can hire them to do remedial jobs, cutting back overhanging bushes, clean signs. The Clerk will continue to peruse this issue. Cllr Greenwood would be willing to undertake the Chapter 8 Training. The Clerk will speak to the village Caretaker about him undertaking the training also. **Action Clerk**

8.2.2 Defibrillator. To discuss installation.

The defibrillator has been delivered and the Clerk has taken it to the shop. Blakemore are going to install it. The clerk had a discussion about its position with the manager at the shop. They are both concerned about the lack of communication from Blakemore with the shop.

8.2.3 New streetlight for Bishops Croft, to note.

This matter is ongoing.

8.2.4 Councillor Training, Wattisfield.

Wattisfield have two councillors that would like to undertake the councillor training which is usually delivered by SALC at Claydon. However, SALC are willing to deliver this training locally and they are wondering if we have any councillors that would like to do the training to make this viable. The course is aimed at both new and existing counsellors and full details of the content is on SALC website. They would arrange for a venue locally depending on availability and the training would be in the evening on four consecutive Tuesdays (or maybe another weekday) and they are thinking of November time. The cost if they can get at least 10 councillors would be around £80 per head which compares to £120 if you go to SALC plus travelling costs and time is much less. Cllrs Green Woodward and Baxter would potentially be interested in attending this if they can.

8.2.5 Potential article in Suffolk Norfolk Life.

An OAP, who writes Bygone articles for Suffolk Norfolk Life, is putting together Bygone Barningham. He has several old postcards of the parish but there are a few on our web site that he would like to use. He has spoken to Brenda Last, who put the collection together, and she is quite happy for him to use any he wishes. However, she advised him to contact us as it is the Council's web site. The Parish Council are happy for the images to be used.

9. Finance.

9.1 The following payments were approved and signed by two signatories.

| | | |
|----------------|---|-----------|
| Admin | | £1,870.14 |
| Aggies | Countryside, conservation and tree services | £180.00 |
| Hedges | Countryside, conservation and tree services | £350.00 |
| Grass cutting | R H Landscapes | £480.00 |
| Bowls mat | Thurston | £604.75 |
| external audit | PKF Littlejohn | £240.00 |
| Donation | Barningham Village Hall Committee | £500.00 |
| Defibrillator | Community Heartbeat Trust | £1405.00 |

9.2 Bank reconciliation and accounts update.

The Clerk provided the Councillors with a bank reconciliation, income and expenditure account details and a budget report.

9.3 Conclusion of Audit

Notification of the conclusion of audit, with no issues, has been received. The Clerk will display this information as required.

Action Clerk

10. The General Power of Competence

Barningham Parish Council resolved to adopt the General Power of Competence. It was confirmed that the Parish Council meet the required criteria with at least two-thirds of the council being elected and the Clerk holding the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA)

11. Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee have informed the Parish Council about their intention to increase their hire fee.

The Clerk provided the Village Hall Committee with the following information: regarding Fit Villages: Fit Villages is a well-established and popular project that makes a real difference to local communities by bringing people together to socialise, have fun and become more active. The project, which is run by Active Suffolk and is supported by the National Lottery Community Fund, helps villages in rural locations to set up physical activity sessions by using village facilities such as community centres, village halls, libraries and playing fields. We have already helped many villages across Suffolk to set up a wide range of different activities including Pilates, Yoga, Table Tennis, Nordic Walking, Zumba, Badminton, Keep Fit, Tai Chi, Walking Football and many, many more! As part of the project, we consult with the local community to find what activities the residents would like to see and when they would like this to take place (which times and days are most suitable). This is done via a simple survey which can be returned to us by freepost or can be completed online. The survey needs to be distributed by the village and is either done as a leaflet drop by volunteers or placed in a village magazine/newsletter. We then analyse the results of the survey and match up the village requirements to the village hall availability. We then find a suitable instructor who we quality check (qualifications, first aid, insurance, risk assess venue and participants). We fund a 6 - 9 week period which covers the facility hire, instructor's fees, equipment, advertisement and refreshments. Each participant's weekly fee is also subsidised during this time. After our 6 – 9 week funded period, we hope that the instructor will take on the session as their own (providing it is financially viable for them to do so). The price per participant will rise slightly at this point as the instructor then has to run the class as their own and cover their own fees, hall hire etc. We are always on the lookout for new villages to get involved, so if you would like to see an exciting new activity come to your village then please get in touch

12. Neighbourhood Plan

The master plan will be available for inspection on the 25th September. The Clerk will arrange a meeting to discuss this document once it has been received.

The Clerk has received correspondence from two developers regarding the neighbourhood plan. As stated previously we are not in a position to make any decisions regarding site until considerably more work and consultation.

The Clerk will share the Suffolk Wildlife Trusts wildlife audit with the councillors. **Action Clerk**

13. Speedwatch/VAS

Cllr Steer has been in correspondence with a resident about speeding around the Pound Corner area. The Clerk will investigate the possibility of having a new post for the VAS in this area. She will also chase up the repair and new post promised by SCC. **Action Clerk**

Cllr Steer has set a live Speedwatch site. www.Barninghamspeedwatch.org.uk Once this is fully operational you will be able to report incidents, have news updates and contact the team.

The clerk will put a link from the website and we will ask Cllr Lusher to put something on facebook. **Action Cllr Lusher**

14. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

Discussions regarding the BMX track on the cricket meadow will be postponed until next month. This will give the young people, who want the track, time to put together a plan and for the Clerk to make sure the School have no objections. **Action Cllr Woodward/Clerk**

15. Aggies Piece No report this month.

16. Caretakers report

Following on from last month's report I have had a campaign of lopping, primarily at the coppiced bank and in the Lawn Cemetery. I have done some more tidying around the War Memorial and will return to this before Armistice Day. Weed-killer has been applied to the elevated path and the goal. As predicted, I did apply more grease to the roundabout in the Play Area; however, I think the excessive heat was playing a part in the problem just as it did last year. Also in the Play Area a recent inspection uncovered a broken wooden 'stepping stone.' The rot inside the wood was not apparent previously and so it may be that others are on the way out too.

17. Play area reports

Problem with stepping stones – One of the wooden 'stepping stones' in the Play Area has disintegrated. Cllr Steer will see if he can remove the rotten wood. **Action Cllr Steer.**

18. Churchyard/Cemetery

To discuss current cemetery fees.

Due to the lack of members present, it was agreed to postpone this discussion.

A request for further interment and inscription for the late John woods was granted.

19. Planning Matters

NMA(A)/19/0294 | Non-material amendments to DC/19/0294/HH - To remove the rendered, projected sections of walls to both the front and rear of the property and replace with Eternit style weatherboarding to match that on the new extension | 77 Millfield Road

No comments made.

20. Correspondence for information

20.1 West Suffolk - Atrial Fibrillation / Stroke Prevention Programme. Circulated.

20.2 West Suffolk Car park survey. Circulated.

20.3 Landscape Training - for Neighbourhood Planning Group. Noted.

21. Date of next meeting: 2nd October 2019

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.