

Present: Cllrs: C Hammond S Lusher & A Steer & B. Cllr Bull

1.1 Apologies for absence Cllrs: N Greenwood, W Martineau, R Baxter & C. Cllr J Spicer

1.2 Resignation. Sadly, Mark Dolman has decided to resign from his position as a Councillor on the Parish Council. He feels that he can not give the time required to carry out the role at this time. The Clerk will make the arrangements to advertise the position. **Action Clerk**

2. Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

3. Minutes - The minutes of the Wednesday 4th July 2018 meeting was agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. Meeting open to the public

Peter Kerry came to discuss the future of Aggies Piece with the Parish Council. The Councillors need to decide what they want from the area. It was agreed that it was important to find a balance between provide a wildlife haven and an amenity for the village. It was proposed that we try to put together a 5-year plan and to the end the Clerk will meet with Mr Kerry to progress the matter forward. **Action Clerk**

5. Report from County Councillor: J Spicer

Cllr Spicer was unable to attend the meeting.

6. Report from Borough Councillor: C Bull

Cllr Bull is arranging for someone from St Edmundsbury to discuss the trees on Bishops Croft. She reported that we will have to pay for our play equipment inspections within the next two years. The deadline for response, for the current Boundary Review is the 27th August 2018. The details/documents can be viewed online at <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/13251>. The Parish Council support the plans, which are to keep the Ward as it currently is. The Clerk will submit the Parish Councils response. With the creation of a new West Suffolk Council in April 2019, there is an opportunity to redefine the arrangements for civic leadership. The new arrangements need to look to the future while recognising and building on the traditions of the past. At present, the focus of civic leadership for Forest Heath is the Council Chairman, and for St Edmundsbury, the Mayor. Civic leadership has a particular focus on representing, supporting and promoting local organisations, businesses and communities, as well as chairing council meetings. Regardless of whether focus of civic leadership in the future is a Mayor or Chairman, the civic leader will be a figurehead for the council, supported by their deputy and all councillors. The decisions about future civic leadership will be taken by the Council, but they are keen to ensure that a wide range of views are heard in order to ensure the future arrangements reflect the needs and aspirations of their communities. We are invited to give our comments and opinions on the issues in hand by completing a short online survey. The survey will be running from Monday 9th July 2018 to Sunday 2nd September 2018 and it can be found at the following address; <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/civicleadershipsurvey/> Cllr Bull and C. Cllr Spicer have agreed to meet with Pigeon, at West Suffolk House.

7. Report from Police

Paul Fox is unable to make tonight's meeting but will try to come to our October meeting. Cllr Greenwood went to the Police Open meeting in Bury on 12/7/2018. The meeting was very Bury centric, but he was able to question Mr Passmore, the Deputy Chief Constable and the Bury SNT about the appalling level of service the village and BPC receive. His questioning was both during the "open " session and after the meeting was concluded. He was promised a better service once the new Policing Plan was released. He will give you a fuller update at the next meeting. Interestingly St Eds Borough Council are funding 2PCSO's to deal with parking only issues he wonders if we will see them. Cllr Greenwood feels that as we already pay for Police in our Council Tax we should not/ must not pay twice just because the local Police think they can get away with not providing us with a service.

8. Progress reports. For information, from:

8.1. Chairman

Cllr Hammond reported that a big tractor had been using Bishops Croft to practice driving, they have made a mess of the newly laid tarmac.

8.2 Clerk:

8.2.1 Highway matters. Including purchase of another SID & adhesive speed signs. We have a meeting planned for the 7th August to be given a demonstration of a SID.

8.2.2. Sign for cricket meadow & Aggies Piece

The company giving the SID demonstration also provide road signs. The clerk will discuss our requirements with them.

8.2.3. Bollards B1111

These have now been installed

9. Finance.

9.1 The following accounts were approved, and the cheques signed by 2 signatories:

9.1.1 Administration £1939.53

9.1.2 Garden Services, grass cutting, £430

9.1.3 M Nunn, Bollards, £1652.62

9.2 Signing arrangements, Barclays Bank

It was agreed that Tony Steer will be added next as a signatory. The Clerk will arrange the paperwork.

Action Clerk

10. Data Protection

To discuss ongoing arrangements to comply with new Data Protection laws.

The Clerk continues to ensure we are working towards compliance.

11. Village Hall

The Village hall have got a price to put up a fence to give an outdoor secure area. It was suggested that they may be able to get a better price than the one quoted. The clerk will pass on some details for alternative contractors to try.

Action Clerk

12. Speedwatch

Whilst Cllr Greenwood will help move the SID he cannot take on Speed Watch. Therefore, we are still looking for volunteers to help with the scheme.

13. Neighbourhood Watch

No report this month.

14. Neighbourhood Plan

Update on progress and to inform Councillors that Pigeon would like to attend the September meeting to keep the channels of communications open.

The group welcomed a new member, Jean Pearce. Sadly, Trevor Elliot has decided, that due to personal circumstance, he will need to leave the group. His input will be greatly missed. We can no longer get technical support package to produce a Character Assessment, but funding should be forthcoming to pay for a consultant. To this end a meeting with meeting with Ian Poole has been arranged for the 7th August.

Tony Steer has done some work putting the information from the questionnaire together.

There is still some work to do before we can take any of the results forward.

Pigeon would like to attend the September meeting to keep the channels of communications open.

15. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

There have been some issues with the website. The clerk will see if Cllr Lusher can be added on as an administrator to help address these.

It would appear that the bus service has been cut back again with some of the bus only traveling as far as Stanton, with no onward travel to Barningham. We will discuss this matter with Cllr Spicer at the September meeting.

Action Clerk

16. Aggies Piece

Cllr Greenwood has received a letter from a 15-year-old female resident regarding the state of Aggies. She is offering to help in any clean up. He will pass the letter on once he returns to Suffolk. – See also under item 4.

17. Caretakers report Circulated

Extra work this month has been confined to the play equipment. The problem with the roundabout, which I raised last month, seems to be related to the excessively hot and dry weather so I will re-visit it later. Having received two completely contradictory reports about the state of the play areas I tried to address some of the concerns.

I was unable to find several of the snags raised by the annual report, but I was due to clean some of the units and the swing seats in any case and this had been mentioned so I did it. On the Cricket Meadow I found one of the loose fixings raised in the report and tightened it. I had two short trips away during the month so there were two bins-only weeks.

18. Play area reports

No additional comments to make.

19. Churchyard/Cemetery

The Clerk has written to the deed holder of the grave with the wood chippings, she is waiting for a response.

Ongoing issue with spoil dumped by cemetery hedge.

Request for internment of the late Dennis Parberry

Request for inscription for the late Ernest Robert Snelling.

Request for internment of the late Roland Nice

20. Planning Matters

None received.

21. Correspondence for information

21.1 West Suffolk Civic Leadership Review. See under Cllr Bulls report.

22. **Date of next meeting:** 5th September 2018 7:30

23. **To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:** 23.1 Personnel Issues. 23.2 Legal Issues.