

CHEVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st January 2016 in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr J Melero (Chairman), Cllr A McCormack, Cllr C Thurston and Mr C Lewis (Clerk/RFO).

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllrs' D Doyle, N Melero & A Job.

2. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations.

3. Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on 10th December 2015

These were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

Item: 4 Satellite Navigation issues – the National Trust had now confirmed that it would do everything possible to encourage visitors, tradespeople and those holding and attending events to access Ickworth Park via the main entrance via Horringer. It was agreed that a copy of their response should be forwarded to Mr & Mrs Bragg who had previously brought the matter to the Council's attention. **Action: Clerk**

Item 9b Re-surfacing the pavement in Church Road - Suffolk County Council had advised that whilst the works referred to were in their programme they were not high priority, hence no estimate could be given as to when they might start. C Cllr Clements noted that the advice from the Council did not include a named signatory. He felt this was wrong and indicated that he would query this with the Leader of the Council

Action: C Cllr Clements

Item 9c Litter-pick

Item 10c Queen's 90th birthday celebrations

Item 10d Suffolk Fit Villages

The above items were awaiting feedback following the publication of notices in the Benefice News. It was agreed to defer discussion of these items until the next meeting.

5. Chairman's Report

Cllr J Melero referred to correspondence from Suffolk Constabulary which indicated that due to funding constraints it was envisaged that up to sixty- eight PCSO posts would be removed across the county. However, to ameliorate the effects of this in the rural areas, parish councils were to be offered an opportunity to fund (wholly or in part) up to 6 PCSO's in 2016/17. The funded posts would be dedicated to the area agreed by those providing the finance.

The cost of a fully funded PCSO from April 2016 would be around £31,972. In view of this, sponsorship would only be viable if a number of parishes agreed to jointly meet the costs involved. It was felt that this would be an appropriate item for discussion at the forthcoming St Edmundsbury Parish Conference (see item 10(e) below) **Action: Clerk**

6. Borough Councillors Report

B Cllr Rushen's report had previously been circulated. There were no issues arising but by way of an update, B Cllr Rushen confirmed that the borough would be introducing charges for brown bin collections from 1 April. The cost was expected to be in region of £40.00.

7. County Councillors Report

C Cllr Clements report had previously been circulated. He commented that funding for next year was extremely tight and that more funding was needed for adult care, including mental health.

8. Police Report

There was no police presence at the meeting and no report had been received.

9. Parish Councillor Reports

- (a) Overflow from the sewage pumping station in Church Road (Cllr Doyle)
- (b) Blocked ditch drain opposite two and three Church Road. (Cllr D Doyle)

(In the absence of Cllr Doyle, discussion of both items was remitted to next meeting)

- (c) Overgrown hedge - Chedburgh Stud, (Cllr J Melero) – concern was expressed about a hedge along the Chedburgh Road that needed to be trimmed so that it would not be a hazard to traffic. It was resolved that a letter be sent to the landowner, Chevington Stud, asking them to arrange for the necessary works to be completed. **Action: Clerk**

10. Clerk's report

- (a) Tree Pruning: Barnfield - St Edmundsbury Borough Council's Tree Officer has examined the tree and considers the need for cutting is not urgent. However, the matter would be kept under review. The Borough Council had also agreed to accept responsibility for the maintenance of the tree and would schedule the work as and when this was deemed necessary. **Action :St Eds BC**
- (b) Agreed meeting dates 2016 - forward dates were confirmed as:- 25th February; 14th April; 11th May (annual) 28th July; 15th September; 27th October & 8th December.
- (c) Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations – HM Queen will reach her 90th birthday on 21st April. A discussion took place as to what kind of event should be held. It was thought that cream teas at the Village Hall might be viable, but it was recognised that the weather could be poor at this time of year. It was agreed to check with both the Erskine Centre and the WI to check whether they were planning their own event. Should this be the case, the Parish Council may offer its support via a financial donation. It was agreed the Clerk would investigate what other events were being planned and report back at the next meeting. Responses from the notice in February's edition of the Benefice News could also be reviewed. **Action: Clerk**
- (d) SALC – launch of new website - it was reported that the new website went live on 4 January. (see www.salc.org.uk)
- (e) St Edmundsbury Parish Council - this is to be held on Monday 11th April at 6.00pm. The venue had still to be finalised.
- (f) SALC Area Meetings – these were scheduled for 8 March; 14 June; 13 September and 6 December.
- (g) Vacancies for Parish Councillors - it was understood that a parishioner had already expressed an interest in joining the Council. This was welcomed. However, pending a formal approach from the person concerned, it was agreed to implement the normal vacancy filling procedures. **Action: Clerk**

11. Suffolk Age UK - application for grant under Section 137 of LGA 1972

The Suffolk branch of Age UK had requested a donation to help support their work with the county's elderly. Following a short discussion, it was agreed to award the sum of £50 to support local group activity. *This was proposed by Cllr Mc Cormack and seconded by Cllr Thurston –all agreed*

12. Planning

An application for a change of land use from amenity to garden land adjacent to **No 1 Factory Lane (DC/15/2539/FUL)** had been referred to the Parish Council for comments. There were no objections to the proposal.

Councillors also noted that planning consent had been refused in relation to development at **Mill Lane Bungalow**, due to access concerns (ref DC/15/1981/OUT). In addition, an application to reduce the overall size of a London Plane tree by 50% (the subject of a Tree Preservation Order) at **1b Barnfield** was also refused (ref DC15/2355/TPO).

13. Parish Council Finances

(a) The following payments had been received:-

Ref	Invoice date	Payee	Activity or Service	Cost (£)
	15/12/2015	Fulchers (Undertakers)	Burial fee for late N Anthony esq	250.00

(b) The following invoices were approved for payment:-

Ref	Invoice date	Payee	Activity or Service	Cost (£)
31	21/01/2016	Chris Lewis (Clerk/RFO)	Clerical and admin services from 30 Oct 2015 to 10 Dec 2015 including non-taxable expenses.	273.26
32	21/01/2016	HMRC	PAYE income tax on Clerk's Salary	60.68
33	21/01/2016	Suffolk Age UK	Donation – Section 137 LGA 1972	50.00

(c) **Lloyds TSB Bank Treasurer's Account** balance on 31/12/2015 amounted to ££26,822.40

14. Correspondence

The following correspondence was circulated for information, after the meeting:-

- (i) Stay Warm this Winter NHS leaflet *information leaflet*
- (ii) Suffolk Community Planning Newsletter *information for those involved in emergency planning activities*
- (iii) Suffolk County Council -Consultation *Shaping the future of Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service - details of public meetings planned for 2016*
- (iv) West Suffolk Councils *Consultation on operational hub- Hollow Road and other sites. Consultation ends 19/02/2016 (see www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/wsoh)*

15. Any other business/ urgent matters

There was no urgent business

16. Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be held in the Village Hall on Thursday 25th February at 7.00pm
There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.10 pm.

Chairman