

CLAYDON & WHITTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Claydon & Whitton Parish Council was held on Monday 20 January 2014 at 7.30 pm in the offices of Suffolk Association of Local Councils, Hill View Business Park, Old Ipswich Road, Claydon

Present: Cllrs A Dunford (Chairman – part meeting), CJ Studd (Chairman - part meeting), JRG Williams (Vice Chairman), F Blastland, G Cornish, B Fotheringham, L Fotheringham, N Gutteridge, M Le-May, J Whitehead, M Redbond (District Councillor), PCSO Phil Brill, Sgt Kieron Pederick and two members of the public

1. PUBLIC FORUM

John Tuppen referred to Cllr Field's report wherein he stated that some of the potholes in Church Lane had been filled in and he thanked Cllr Field for taking this action. John Tuppen was concerned that Church Lane is always on the agenda and the problems are serious. He referred specifically to HGV's, rubbish on the road, standing water by the Old Rectory which has never been fixed, accidents by Corner Cottage where the road is falling away, cars dumped and burnt. The list is endless and the Planning & Amenities Committee will again discuss these problems at their next meeting. They will also be asked to arrange for an updated traffic count, speed of traffic and police presence at busy times. Cllr Studd will meet a representative from SCC along with Cllr B Fotheringham near to the Rectory to explain the problem with water.

Maureen Swale was concerned that the bus shelter had still not been cleaned and the clerk pointed out that this was due to the fact that Mark Worby had been unwell for several weeks and was unable to carry out any extra work.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllrs S Herbert (prior commitment), J Rose (family commitment). These reasons for absence were accepted. J Field also apologised due to having two other meetings to attend.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2013 were approved and signed.

4. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr B Fotheringham declared an interest in item 10 (c) Conservation Area.

Before the following item Cllr Dunford explained her reasons for stepping down as Chairman. She also thanked members of the public, councillors and the clerk for all their help and encouragement during her time as Chairman.

5. NEW CHAIRMAN

The clerk explained that Cllr Dunford would like to come off the Planning & Amenities Committee but remain on Finance. She would also cease to be a SALC representative. She would like to continue to work with the Community Emergency Plan, maintain the Twitter account and stay on the PCSO Tasking Group. Parish Councillors were in agreement with these suggestions.

Cllr Williams proposed Cllr Studd as the new Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr B Fotheringham and unanimously agreed. Cllr Studd signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

As the new Chairman did not wish to use the gavel, this was handed over to Cllr Williams for safe-keeping on behalf of the parish council.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) No Cold Calling Zones

PCSO Brill had made contact regarding setting up zones but had no further details. He will report to the next meeting,

(b) Claydon & Whitton – Logo

Claydon High School students are in the process of designing a logo and Cllr Williams suggested the parish council presents the winner with a certificate.

(c) Community Achievement Awards 2013/14

The clerk will contact MSDC regarding this.

(d) Village Recorder

An article will be placed on the website and in the “In Touch” magazine in an endeavour to find a replacement for Trevor Messenger, who no longer lives in the Village.

(e) SALC Website of the Year Competition 2013 - Certificate

Claydon & Whitton came third in this competition (in the Larger Council category) and have received a framed certificate. Cllr Dunford presented the certificate to John Tuppen and thanked him for all the work he does on the website. The Village Hall Committee has agreed that this may be hung in the Village Hall.

(f) Buckingham Palace Garden Parties

If selected, Cllr Dunford would like to attend on behalf of the parish council and will complete and return the nomination form.

7. PLANNING & AMENITIES REPORT

(a) Update on the untidy approach to the village

SCC will be asked to tidy up the approach to the village.

(b) Update on the washing down of and tidying around the existing bus shelter

Dealt with under item 1 – Public Forum.

(c) Whitton Hill bus lanes concerns

Cllr Field would be asked to report back on what progress is being made.

8. FINANCE REPORT

(a) The draft minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2013 had been distributed and no questions were raised.

(b) Precept 2014/15

Cllr Gutteridge proposed that we approve a budget of £34,581 for 2014/15, requiring a parish precept of £45.42 which is an increase of 2.47% on the previous year. This was seconded by Cllr Williams and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Guteridge also recommended that the parish council notifies MSDC in writing that it reserves the right to revise its precept figure if the proposed council tax increase triggers a referendum. This was seconded by Cllr Williams and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Gutteridge explained that a lump sum had been included in the grants which will support organisations in the village and charities who are involved in the village. This will be finalised at the next finance meeting in February and approval will be sought at the March main meeting. Grants will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

The chairman closed the meeting to allow John Tuppen to ask for information regarding the grants. Cllr Gutteridge explained that we will allocate a lump sum and he would explain the position to organisations now if they wished.

The chairman reconvened the meeting.

9. QUESTIONS ON WRITTEN REPORTS

(a) Police

Copy of PCSO Brill's report is appended in the minute book.

Phil Brill reported that a Priority Setting Meeting had been held in Elmswell and it had been agreed that the priority is now traffic control.

He has carried out speed checks on Ipswich Road.

Cllr B Fotheringham reported that the yellow lines need replacing outside the One Stop Shop.

Tasking Group Meeting

Cllr Dunford stated that Cllr Le-May would be circulating her notes on the recent meeting.

(b) County Councillor

Copy of Cllr Field's report is appended in the minute book.

Cllr Dunford was concerned at the changes to the bus routes and Barry Moore will be asked to try to find out what is happening.

(c) District Councillor

The District Councillors' report is appended in the minute book.

(d) Village Hall

No report was available but this was due to the clerk having the wrong email address.

(e) Recreation Ground

Copy of Kevin Kitchen's report appended in the minute book.

Volunteers are required to keep the Recreation Ground clean as the two ladies who have carried out this task for many years have now retired from the committee. The parish council are unable to assist and suggested that maybe somebody on the football committee could assist and an advert in the "In Touch" magazine and the website may help.

(f) SALC Area Meeting – 5 December 2013

Cllr Dunford's report is appended in the minute book.

The question of a Food Bank will be referred to the Planning & Amenities meeting.

(g) Emergency Plan

Cllr Dunford's report is appended in the minute book.

10. PENDING ISSUES

(a) SnOasis/Rail Station

The railway station will only be built if SnOasis goes ahead, which is very unlikely.

A Neighbourhood Plan meeting is being held on 3 February. Jonathan Free (Head of Communities) and Nick Ward (Heritage) from MSDC will be coming along to the meeting to talk about neighbourhood planning.

(b) Bus Shelter

Pending

(c) Conservation Area

Work had been carried out to make the tree safe and Keith Prentice had sawn the trunk into logs. Cllr B Fotheringham would like to pay the parish council to use it as firewood and a figure of £20 + VAT was agreed to remove the 30 logs.

Cllr B Fotheringham will take the notice down.

A lot of the top of the tree is left behind which needs to be burnt. Cllrs B Fotheringham, L Fotheringham and F Blastland will organise this in the drier weather.

(d) Village Sign

It is hoped that the village sign will be removed and repainted in the near future.

(e) Claydon & Barham Community Centre

Cllr B Fotheringham can stand as a Director on the Community Council and can also remain as the Parish Council representative.

Cllr Williams stated that there will be no conflict of interest, so Cllr B Fotheringham will probably become a Director at the AGM in March.

11. WEBSITE QUESTIONNAIRE – Feedback and Footpaths

A footpath goes across the A14 and is very dangerous. SCC will be asked whether this can be stopped at the A14.

The chairman closed the meeting to allow John Tuppen to explain the route of the footpath.

Two signs will be required and the clerk will obtain costs.

Cllrs B Fotheringham and L Fotheringham will walk the footpath at the top of Hazel Rise and report back to the Planning & Amenities meeting.

Planning is now on the website.

John Tuppen would like an article about and a plan of the Conservation Area.

The chairman reconvened the meeting.

12. SUCH OTHER BUSINESS THAT IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIRMAN SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

(a) Twitter Account

The parish council are only giving information and facts and our insurance company have stated that we are covering everything necessary.

Cllrs Dunford and Whitehead will run the Twitter account together.

(b) Recycling Area

The two large bins in the recycling area are the property of Veolia and they will be asked to remove them. Once these bins have gone the area needs cleaning up so that only recycling bins are in situ. This will be discussed further at the next Planning & Amenities meeting.

The meeting closed at 09.25 pm

Chairman