

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2012 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

1. PRESENT- Mr P Mortimer, Chairman, Mrs S. Hatchman, Mr G. Elliott, Mr P. Schwier Mr T. Godbold, Mr B. Williams.

District Councillor Marilyn Curran

2 .APOLOGIES – Mrs B. Vidion, Mr G. Elliott, Mr P. Schwier. PCSO Long

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Mrs L. Silvester –tree on village green

4. MINUTES – The minutes for the meeting held on Monday 17th September, 11th October and 16th October 2012 were approved and signed.

5. MATTERS ARISING - None

6. REPORTS

PCSO Steve Long (by email)

There were no reported crimes since the last meeting.

Operation Drawbridge is aimed at reducing the number of house burglaries happening in the county. It is hoped to achieve this by encouraging householders to take simple measures to protect their house. The campaign coincides with the end of ‘summertime’ and homeowners are reminded to light up their homes and deter would be burglars. There will be dedicated teams working across the county with high visibility patrols in affected areas. County wide 158 burglaries occur every month.

The Mid Suffolk North Safer Neighbourhood team currently has 3 new priorities for the following 3 months.

1. To promote road safety for all users including cyclists and pedestrians.
2. To address illegal drug dealing in Eye Town.
3. To target the theft of heating oil from both domestic and commercial tanks during the winter months.

Finally a reminder that on the 15th November a Police and Crime Commissioner will be elected and will take up office on the 22nd November.

DISTRCT COUNCILLOR MARILYN CURRAN

Mrs Curran told the meeting that Tier 5 posts (operational delivery teams) in the district council are now decided and their roles will be subject to 90 days consultation from December.

The Community consultation was a success and some good ideas were put forward. Implementation depends on the finance available.

Mrs Curran said that the planning applications for the new house, the pub and the land on Harleston Road were progressing and a site visit should be made soon.

The Broome recycling site is still open but needs support. The clothing/ fabric recycling scheme is working well.

There were no comments in Open Forum.

7. FINANCE

a. The following payments were approved. – Proposed Mr Godbold, 2nd Mrs Hatchman.

£540 – Suffolk County Council for street lights (included £90 VAT)

£20 – Lotteries Licence

£84 – Terry Scholey –Maintenance

£84 – Terry Horton - Maintenance

b. BUDGET – The Clerk introduced the budget document and the main items of expenditure and donations for the next year.

The maintenance of the cemetery and children’s playground is over the budget allowed for last year, but this was expected. We have received the bill for the installation of Intelligent Lighting Systems for the street lights but not for the other work to be carried out. We are promised the bill for the yearly maintenance contract and electricity in December so we can finalise the budget for next year at the January meeting.

As our expenditure this year is above the budget allowed for, the Chairman put forward the suggestion that we should increase the precept for the next year. It has remained at the same level for several years.

The precept can be decided at the next meeting in January.

8. PLANNING

The applications for the Pub and Land on Harleston Road have not yet been decided despite the date having passed. A planning officer will visit the sites soon. We understand the pub application may go to Committee later this month or in December.

The dates for decisions on the other applications pending are

a. The Perch – 26th November

b. North View – 28th November

c. New house- 28th November

The legal work is nearly complete for the Deed of Grant for the right of way to the substation and for the underground power lines at St John’s Meadow. The Chairman and Clerk have signed the Deed and we are waiting for the finished document.

The Chairman said that there is a possibility that the small cherry tree near the substation will have to be moved.

9. TREES ON VILLAGE GREEN.

Mr Krutysza has reported that the tree on the triangle outside the church needs pruning to give better visibility to vehicles turning onto the B-road. Peter Cook, the tree warden, has agreed to do this.

Mr Krutysza also told the meeting that the Horse Chestnut tree on the green has canker. This may result in the tree dying quite soon but also it may live a few years. He said that he is willing to replace and replant a tree in its place.

The Chairman felt that as the tree is in a prominent position and in the conservation area we should consult David Mitchell, the Tree and Landscape officer for his opinion and advice.

The Clerk will contact him.

10. There were no MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

11. CORRESPONDENCE – Most was circulated among Councillors.

Metfield Parish Council

- a. The Parish Liaison meeting will be on the 28th November. As the Clerk is unable to attend another councillor may attend with the Chairman
- b. The Nationwide Building Society is closing in Harleston.
- c. The council will replenish the grit bins and heaps ready for winter.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- Monday 7th January 2013

The meeting closed at 8.25pm