

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8th JULY 2013 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

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

3 members of the public

APOLOGIES – Mr G. McEvoy, PCSO Steve Long, Councillor Marilyn Curran.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS –None

3. MINUTES – The minutes for the meetings held on 13th, 21st May and 11th June 2013 were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman reported that 106 money may be available for the village hall improvements.

The Highways dept. are going to look at the verge outside ‘The Gables’ where concrete and tarmac has been placed to protect the verge. They will report back to the Clerk as to what action will be taken.

Cllr Guy McGregor has approved the money for the ‘No Through Road’ sign at the junction of Metfield Road and the road to Docking Hall.

5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

This was deferred from the last meeting.

Mr R. Williams was nominated by Mr G. Elliott and 2nd by Mr P. Schwier. Mr Williams was elected unanimously.

6. REPORTS

PCSO STEVE LONG by Email

There was one reported crime since the last meeting. A cruelty to animal offence occurred after a cat was reportedly shot with an air rifle at The Duke William Tea Rooms on the 19th May.

5 vehicles and 3 sheds, all left unlocked were entered in Stradbroke on 26th June. A similar crime spree happened in Horham in April. Please ensure you make use of car locks and be vigilant about locking outbuildings.

Two new officers have joined the Mid Suffolk North Police Team. They will join the team in September, after training.

At the public meeting the Mid Suffolk North team have set 3 new priorities for the next 3 months.

1. To tackle the issue of speeding in Rishangles
2. To tackle the anti-social use of motor vehicles in and around Eye during the hours of darkness.
3. To tackle road safety and parking issues in Eye Town centre through enforcement.

There were no comments in OPEN FORUM

7. FINANCE

The following payments were approved. Proposed Mr Williams, 2nd Mrs Hatchman.

£105 – Joey Peck, grass cutting

£ 215 –Terry Scholey, maintenance

£248 – Terry Horton, maintenance and mower repair

It was decided to transfer £1000 to the Barclays Acc.

8. PLANNING

The Clerk reported that the application for Listed Building consent for Oak Farm has been granted.

Land to rear of Field Close – The appeal for a bungalow has been dismissed. The reasons given were

- a. The driveway and footpath would share a narrow piece of land and could cause a hazard.
- b. The driveway had no visibility splay and the applicants had no means of creating one.

Also the owners of Mill Villa are allowed to live in the garage building whilst the main house is being extended. It cannot however be let out as a dwelling in the future.

APPLICATION NO. 1657/13 HUNTSMAN AND HOUNDS COTTAGE –
Erection of extension and alterations to existing kitchen at rear following demolition of existing lean to extension

Mr Osborne explained to Councillors that the existing kitchen was very narrow and at a different level to the front of the house. The proposal would raise the floor and extend the back wall to make a wider room. The roof line would be more even as a result. He said that the Listed Building officer had been consulted.

Councillors looked at the plans and approved of the alterations.

The Clerk will make our comments on line.

APPLICATION NO.1692/13 DUKE WILLIAM – Conversion and extension of part of existing tearoom/restaurant to form 5 holiday letting units and bar/restaurant area.

The Chairman read out a letter from the Swan family as they could not be present. They explained that it is now designated A3 use and is no longer a pub. The holiday lets will run with the tearooms in the summer but in the winter months it is hoped to open some evenings, starting with ‘Fish and Chips’ on a Thursday.

Councillors commented that much as we would like it to be a pub the holiday lets would create some activity and perhaps visitors would use the shop.

Mr Elliott proposed that we accept the proposed plans. 2nd Mrs Hatchman. In a vote 7 councillors were in favour of the application being granted.

The Clerk will put this on line.

9. THE CEMETERY EXTENSION

The Clerk reported that although the cemetery is getting fuller there are still plots available on the present site.

10 reserved plots

17 plots available on rows already started and there will be 22 plots on the next row.

The Chairman said that although there were these plots available we should consider the adopting of the extension land at present farmed by the Eden family. He also put forward a suggestion that the extension could perhaps be along the road side i.e. Hunters Lane and not further into the field as registered. He stressed that this was only his suggestion to be considered. He asked Mr Eden for his thoughts on this idea.

Mr Eden said the family would consider the idea but that 3 points need to be addressed.

- a. The land would need pegging out and then they could see what impact this had on the view from the farmhouse.
- b. At present bees are kept in the corner of the field towards Fressingfield Road.
- c. Another idea would be to extend the cemetery land (as original plan) to the hedge line which would not leave the narrow strip at the farmhouse end of the plot.

Councillors felt that the idea was worth considering and agreed to peg out the area by Hunters Lane so we can see the size and the impact on views etc. The Chairman will arrange a time to do this and then we will consult with the family.

10. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Mr Schwier said that verges in Metfield and surrounding villages were getting very overgrown especially on corners.

The Clerk will ask Highways if they can be cut and what the policy is.

10. CORRESPONDENCE - Most of this was circulated among the Councillors.

The Clerk said she had a copy of 'The Good Councillors Guide' for councillors to borrow.

We have received information on Emergency Planning. Although Councillors felt this was a good idea they also thought help was already given by villagers where it was needed.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- Monday 23rd September 20123

The meeting closed at 8.45pm