

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2013 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

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

3 members of the public

APOLOGIES – Mrs B. Vidion and Mr G. McEvoy

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS –None

3. MINUTES – The minutes for the meeting held on 23rd September 2013 were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Hedges – The letters were written to Mr and Mrs Grant –Thomas and Mr McKee. Both hedges have been trimmed a little.

Street light outside Church Cottage – this has been reported 3 times now.

5. REPORTS

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR- Marilyn Curran

Mrs Curran had attended a meeting between the Village Hall Committee and officers of Mid Suffolk about funding for the alterations to the hall. The Committee were given information as to how to apply and to whom to apply for grants.

Mrs Curran gave the Clerk bags for textile recycling. These will be left at the shop for villagers to collect as they need them.

PCSO STEVE LONG – by email

The Parish had no reported crimes since the last meeting,

The two new priorities for the Mid Suffolk Team are – To investigate and address road safety issues involving cyclists riding without lights in the dark and to pro-actively target thefts of domestic and commercial heating oil.

Crime in Suffolk continues to fall while more is being solved. (an overall detection rate of 33.6%. It has fallen for the seventh consecutive year. The force has already made 75% of the £17.3 million total savings it needs to find by 2015.

Mr Mortimer said that a Special Constable had visited his farm to give him a leaflet on how to protect property. This is something that could go in the Information Box or the shop.

Mr Schwier said that he had reported hare coursing to the police recently. He had been told to dial 999 if it is seen again as the chances of catching offenders are greater than reporting on the non emergency number 101.

OPEN FORUM

Mr Scholey told the meeting that a tree had come down in the cemetery and that the conifer hedge on the border of the children's playground needed trimming. Mr Mortimer said that he would look at the tree and that the Clerk would contact the owner of the hedge before giving permission for the work to be done.

6. FINANCE

The following payments were approved. Proposed by Mr Elliott and 2nd Mr Williams.

£105 – Joey Peck, grass cutting
£100 – Terry Scholey, maintenance
£100– Terry Horton, maintenance
£20 – Lotteries Licence

Neville Riseborough will be trimming the hedge around St John's Meadow.

BUDGET

The Clerk handed out the document outlining the expected expenditure for year 2013/14. At present the precept is £5250 and we received a grant of £381 this year.

Next year the grant will be reduced by 25% to £285.75. (it will then reduce by 25% each year until phased out)

Councillors looked at the figures. It was felt that we should keep the precept at the same level plus the grant but a final decision will be made at the January meeting.

7. PLANNING

Application No.2364/13 - MILL VILLA Erection of replacement dwelling following demolition of existing.

No decision has been made on this so far even though the decision date has passed.

.9. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

In answer to a question the Clerk said that the owners of the land opposite Crooked Cottage have not appealed on the decision to refuse the building of stables.

Mr Mortimer reported that the Church will soon be asking for permission to pollard the lime trees in the Churchyard. Although we have no direct input it is likely the application will come to us for comment.

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

11. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS FOR 2014

20th January

10th March

28th April – Annual Parish Meeting

19th May – AGM

7th July

22nd September

10th November

Meeting closed at 8.10pm