

Copdock & Washbrook Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 5 July 2016 at 7.30pm
Church Room, Washbrook

Present: Chairman Keith Armes, County, DC Nick Ridley, Vice Chairman Mike Watling, Cllr Tina Sutters, Cllr Laura Butters, Cllr Peter Jones, Cllr Terry Corner, Cllr Chris Coupland, Harry Brown & Philip Branson, Wincer Kievener, architects, 6x residents, Clerk.

1210/1617 Welcome and Apologies: Chairman Keith Armes opened the meeting at 7.30pm. Apologies: Cllr Dave Busby, DC Barry Gasper

1211/1617 Declaration of Interest: None

1212/1617 Minutes: The minutes of the meetings held on 7 June 2016, were amended to venue to Church Room, SCC from DBS, seat not bus shelter, and then approved and signed as a true record.

1213/1617 Clerks Report inc. Matters Arising – as below.

Steve Merry, SCC Highways has sent a proposed plan for reducing speed limits on the Old London Road. Councillors have looked at them favourably. There was a meeting with Steve Merry, CC Dave Busby, Parish Councillors and interested residents on Friday 1st July. Cllr Terry Corner to report on this matter later on in the meeting.

There is only 1 team wanting to use the football pitch next season, the changing cabin is in need of considerable repair and the pitch maintenance costs have to be considered. MW will report at the end of the meeting and possibly a meeting set up to further discuss the matter, to consider the ongoing use of the playing field. The floodlights have been taken down and carted away.

The PC have received a planning application from BDC for the C&W Bowls Club to erect floodlights over the greens. Firstly, the Bowls Club should have written to the Parish Council asking for permission, as they rent the land from the PC. Secondly, Clive Pearsons made the application in the name of the Parish Council with his own address. I suggest we write to the Bowls Club asking, in future, that they write to the Parish Council, in a formal manner, asking for permission for any changes and that the PC apply for the permission in the correct way.

1214/1617 Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 19.34pm

DC Nick Ridley: Elm Farm House, Old London Rd planning enforcement being looked into.

Devolution - not sure of position, all Suffolk councils approved but 4 of Norfolks didn't, start of 6 week public consultation this week, may be difficult without Norfolk.

Last month of current Chief Exec, need to appoint a new one, there were 8 over 2 councils, now 4.

Harry Brown & Philip Branson: gave a presentation on a proposed development on Back Lane. Plans were presented, varied mix of 15 dwellings including 5 affordable housing. As its a major development it would go before the planning committee. Drainage surveys have been carried out, residents have voiced concerns over traffic generation, it was assured that construction management would be controlled.

Resident Thanks to Steve Merry, Highways SCC for meeting.

Meeting reconvened 19.51pm.

1215/1617 Planning:

B/16/00802 Football Ground, Back Lane, C&W. Erection of 15 no., dwellings inc 5 no. units of affordable housing, with associated works to road, access, parking and landscaping.

No objection, a well balanced development. Only concern traffic volume Elm Lane & Back Lane.

1216/1617 Financial Matters inc RFO report:

a. **Payment for approval:** KA proposed and TS recommended approval.

RFO report.

The Parish Council's budget position is in order, with all spending within the current financial years budget.

The Annual Governance Statement and Annual Return of Accounting Statement was approved at the 21 June 2016 extraordinary meeting. The documents have been sent to the external auditor, BDO, for their approval.

The PC have received a letter from Suffolk Accident Rescue Service (SARS) asking for a donation towards their life saving work. The PC have donated annually in the past. The PC need to consider whether to donate again this year. Agreed to donate £100. PJ proposed, MW seconded.

Further to the item in the Clerk's report about a new dog waste bin, would the Council please consider whether to purchase a new bin, around £90 plus fixing, also bearing in mind the cost of emptying which is approx £45 per year. Agreed not necessary.

To be minuted and approved. KA proposed, TS seconded.

1217/1617 Correspondence: circulated.

1218/1617 Old London Rd - speed plan: Cllr Terry Corner met with Steve Merry, SCC, a 30mph speed limit past Gladwells was discussed, SM will take away and think about it, but advised that speed limits should be self enforcing. PC to write in support of proposals at Whights Corner, SM will undertake to do something to alleviate the traveller problem. Kier no longer want to use the site for storing gravel/chippings. An earth bund could be placed down from the gate to Marvens. The inside lane could be solely for cyclists and pedestrians, left hand carriageway could be bi-directional with the right hand carriageway having a gate across, or an offer to buy the land but allow access.

1219/1617 Suffolk Countryside: Cllr Tina Sutters completed SCC survey.

1220/1617: Community-Led Housing Development Plan: Chairman Keith Armes has delivered the draft report to Babergh DC. They advised they are very busy and will contact us when they can to attend a PC meeting to discuss the report. BDC are looking to each village to make a contribution towards housing. i.e. 10% increase on current housing stock, would mean around 40 for Copdock & Washbrook. Contact is Nick Ward at BDC.

1221/1617 Play Equipment Working Group: MW advised awaiting call from Sarah Carter from Babergh DC re 106 monies.

1222/1617 Casual Vacancy: The vacancy remain unfilled.

1223/1617: Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council:

TS - thanked Lee and Fran, residents of Whights Corner, for clearing footpath/pavement and steps and for grass cutting.

The PC own to pram/grass cutters which are not often used, KA proposed and MW seconded to sell one. £400 new, find resale value.

TC - advised grass verges between Whights Corner and the primary school need cutting and clearing. Walked to Swan Hill and The Street with SM, SCC. Advised to approach Suffolk Farms re cutting hedgerows down Swan Hill.

MW - Village Directory - needs updating. Clerk to enquire about cost.

Football pitch changing cabin roof needs repairing, quote £3,200. Floor also deteriorating but safe. Not to go ahead with repair. 3 options to be discussed by Finance Working Group.

Had meeting with grant/funding officer from BDC re village hall proposed extension. A PC representative will attend next VH meeting.

1224/1617 Items for next agenda: None

1205/1617 Next meeting: 4 October 2016, Church Room, The Street, Washbrook 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 21.10hrs.