

# Copdock & Washbrook Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 7 November 2017 at Church Room, The Street, Washbrook, 7.30pm

**Present:** Chairman Keith Armes, County Cllr Chris Hudson, District Cllr Nick Ridley, Cllr Mike Watling; Cllr Terry Corner, Cllr Tina Sutters, Cllr Andy Mexome, Cllr Laura Butters, Cllr Peter Jones, 13x residents, Clerk.

**1419/1718 Welcome and Apologies:** Chairman Keith Armes opened the meeting. Apologies: District Cllr Barry Gasper; Cllr Chris Coupland

**1420/1718 Declaration of Interest:** None.

**1421/1718 Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2017 were approved and signed as a true record.

**1422/1718 Clerks Report inc. Matters Arising – as below.**

**Local Plan Public Consultation meeting** - a lot of my time this month has been taken up with this, pre-ceding the public consultation meeting and subsequently. It on the agenda later on and will be discussed then.

**Data Protection Officer** - at the last meeting it was suggested the Clerk takes the role of Data Protection Officer, due to be bought in May 2018. The legal position is still being legislated and it may be the Clerk cannot take this role due to conflict of interest. Once legislation is finalised the Council will have to approve the officer position.

**Playing field improvements** - this is ongoing, with funding/grants being sought.

**Training courses** - Local Council Public Advisory Services presenting second part of the Planning Course on Wed 15 November, 7.00pm Church Room. As per my email to you all it would be beneficial to all Councillors but particularly those on the Planning Working Group.

**1423/1718 Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 19.35pm

**DC Nick Ridley:** move into Endeavour House complete for Babergh & Mid Suffolk, first planning meeting tomorrow, one disadvantage is the parking, therefore some large planning application meetings may be held elsewhere. BDC & Mid Suffolk merger still under discussion, consultation will be held.

**CC Chris Hudson:** Belstead village has 6 or 7 proposed sites for development, along with the mineral quarry and traffic the area is being 'belted' in. Meeting at Belstead village hall 9th Nov.

Housing - being overpopulated, further meeting at 8pm in Belstead village hall after quarry public consultation meeting.

Insufficient funding and resources for care for older people, even for statutory services.

SCC have a new tool on their website to report traffic problems.

Minerals & Waste site - comment online within the consultation period.

**Residents:** Colin Hinkins - asked if the C&W Pressure Group can have a tab on the village website, to inform all residents of progress. Clive Pearsons, webmaster, agreed to administer. All agreed it was a good communication channel.

Zena Gravener - Mineral & Waste Site - public consultation meeting being held Thursday 9th Nov at Belstead village hall. Will affect C&W enormously especially those living at the south end of the Old London Rd.

Reconvened 19.52hrs.

**1424/1718 Planning Applications:** None

**1425/1718 Financial Matters & RFO Report:**

- a) payments recommended - MW & TS
- b) pre-cept considerations - suggestions - playing field sports equipment & strimmer for footpath maintenance £400 approx. Reallocate changing cabin funds.
- c) full approval given at meeting for Nat West online balance checking

### **RFO Report**

The Parish Council's budget position is in order, with all spending within the current financial years budget apart from training which has an overspend. As said in previous reports some budgets are reaching their limit.

Its the time of year for pre-cept considerations, Councillors need to put forward any proposals, the Finance Working Group will consider and incorporate them into the budget. The pre-cept will then be set at the December or, at latest, January meeting.

Payments approved.

Spreadsheets updated to 30/09/17. Copies distributed at meeting.

Minuted and approved.

### **1426/1718 Local Planning Consultation:**

KA - 200+ turned out for public consultation meeting, TC presentation very good, public response very negative, PC to make decisions. No waiting list for houses in C&W since Marvens extended.

AM - was useful to hold meeting to advertise deadline, be interesting to see what notice is taken by Babergh now they know the level of interest, good idea to share info on website.

LB - Tom Barker, Babergh DC who attended public consultation meeting was very helpful, a number of residents showed their intent of feeling and some were rude with unnecessary comments, constructive views are needed.

TC - feedback forms to complete, there are 3 other options, option 4 for community village would see infrastructure put in first.

MW - there will be some development, all villages have to take some, some residents wouldn't be living in the village if it wasn't for past development. Not all sites will be developed, infrastructure needed in right places, could use professionals but considerable cost involved.

TS - smaller developments were what were asked for by residents in the Community-Led Plan, too late to do Neighbourhood Plan, but Community-Led Plan has been used by Babergh DC.

Resident - works at Babergh DC and now struggling to get into Endeavour House with clogged up traffic affecting work/life balance. Tried to use online comment form for Local Development but almost impossible to navigate, managed to comment on only 3 questions, not user friendly at all.

### **1427/1718 Suffolk Minerals & Waste Local Plan**

Cllrs and Clerk to attend local public consultation meeting. Put on agenda for next month.

### **1428/1718 Footpath diversion:**

#### **Report from Cllr TS:**

Proposed Diversion of Washbrook Public Footpath No 17 (part)

Having inspected the proposed route of the diverted footpath, I had some concern as to how the path would lay on the first section which slopes towards the rear of the Brook Inn car park.

However on a second visit I was accompanied by one of the residents involved in the proposed application to divert the footpath. He explained to me that the slope would be built up with railway sleepers and then infilled to ensure the footpath will be level. A new post and rail fence will be installed along this section.

The current residents of Charlottes whose gardens back onto the diverted footpath have agreed to maintain the path, although this is not a legal requirement.

The stile close to the rear of the Brook Inn car park will be removed (in line with current Rights of Way recommendation) and a kissing gate will be installed at the far end of the diversion. I recommend approval.

**1429/1718 Playing field improvements:**

Funding still being sought for improvements by AM. The changing room cabin and toilet block have been demolished and removed. The 5-a-side football pitch to be marked out with weedkiller and also the jogging track around the outside of field to be mown short.

**1430/1718 Replacement bench near village sign:**

Taken delivery of bench, TC to arrange installation with Mark Manning.

**1431/1718 Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council:**

It was suggested the place of the Parish Council meeting change to the Cricket Pavilion on the Old London Rd, this was unanimously agreed and will start from the December meeting.

MW - funds received for defibrillators, will be installed by Christmas and training will be organised for the New Year.

TC - 2 sets of steps opposite bus stop in The Street, one set doesn't have a handrail. Contact SCC Highways to see if they will install a handrail. Also check if 106 monies can help.

**Items for next agenda:** Suffolk Minerals & Local Waste Plan.

Meeting closed at 20.33hrs.