

Copdock & Washbrook Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 7 May 2019 at the Sports Pavilion, Copdock, 7.30pm

Present: Vice Chair Mike Watling (chaired meeting), Cllr Keith Armes, Cllr Ann Hurst, Cllr David Marsh, District Cllr Dave Busby, 5x residents, Clerk - Angela Chapman.

1650/1920 Election of Chairman - Cllr Terry Corner was proposed by Cllr Armes and seconded by Cllr Hurst elected in his absence. Cllr Corner was duly elected as Chairman.

1651/1920 Acceptance of Office - Cllr Corner pre-signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in anticipation of his election to office due to his absence.

1652/1920 Election of Vice Chairman - Cllr Mike Watling was proposed by Cllr Armes and seconded by Cllr Hurst. Cllr Watling was duly elected as Vice-Chair and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1653/1920 Chairman's Welcome & Apologies for Absence - Chairman Terry Corner, Cllr Laura Butters & Cllr Louise Carman.

1654/1920 Declaration of Interests . None.

1655/1920 Minutes. Minutes of the meeting held on 2 April 2019 were signed as a true record.

1656/1920 Clerk's Report including Matters Arising

May elections - all Parish Councillors returned uncontested. The resident who was interested in joining the Parish Council to replace the Councillor not standing, has decided not to join the Parish Council at present due to personal reasons. Therefore, there is a Casual Vacancy, which will be advertised on the notice boards and in In Touch magazine. There is no rush to fill the seat, the Parish Council needs the right person with skills that can help the Council run efficiently and effectively.

I spoke to Suffolk Police, Acting Sgt Phil Lee at Hadleigh Police station regarding the travellers who took up residence at the Park & Ride. He informed there was a meeting on 16 April (the day I rang) which sorted the situation.

The Old London Rd is still ongoing with Chairman Terry Corner and a resident who lives along this stretch in contact with SCC Highways and the Police about the speeding vehicles. With Chairman Corner absent it will reported will be on at the June meeting. In this regard I was asked at the last meeting to obtain information on light up speed signs from other Clerks & Parish Councils which I duly did, some are eye wateringly expensive. However, this will be discussed at the June meeting once the report is to hand. There was a large fire and explosion at Hill House Farm last month, a resident sent photos of the scene which I forwarded to SCC asking for information. SCC sent a comprehensive reply, briefly they have purchased Hill House Farm as its surrounded by land already owned by them. Police believe the fire was arson, and an acetylene tank exploded. SCC have subsequently made the site safe. They confirmed they are investigating the planning opportunities on the site. I will forward SCC's reply to the Neighbourhood Plan team who will no doubt be interested in this.

Parish Council website - Community Action Suffolk will set up a blank template website, hosting cost £60 per year, £48 for 2 hours training for 2 people, and £36 one off payment for a secure certificate, and are on hand, free of charge in office hours to help with any trouble shooting. Need approval to go ahead. I'm happy to set up and have training, would be good if a Councillor could also do the training so there is a back up person.

SCC Highways Community Self Help Launch at Stonhan Barns. Chairman Terry Corner has given comments to take, Cllr Dave Marsh & Vice Chair Mike Watling are willing to attend.

Tree on Mill Lane site - report from tree warden received. See Carman 4Seasons report and quote. It has been advised that other Councils sometimes request a contribution from the resident towards the cost of the tree work.

Forms for textile bin completed and returned to BDC, waiting for advise on delivery and installation.

Matters Arising:-

It was unanimously agreed to take out the tree at Mill Lane play area at full cost to the Parish Council.

It was agreed for the Clerk to set up and run a Parish Council website, with the help of one Councillor.

1657/1920 Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 20.22hrs.

No **County Councillor** in attendance.

District Councillor Dave Busby report:-

You will all have seen the council magazine 'Your Council' which outlines the achievements over the last 4 years but it only tells part of the story. It doesn't mention:

- the many hours and thousands of pounds wasted on non-service delivery projects such as devolution, merger, boundary review, leader cabinet and constitutional review.
- The underperformance on getting houses built – especially affordable ones.
- The failure to produce a Local Plan.
- The failure to tackle the growing pressure on the infrastructure.
- The costs of moving the HQ to Ipswich – not just in terms of money but loss of staff and poorer customer access.

But that is the past we are more interested in the present and future. The next 4 years are going to be crucial to the council yes, but more importantly to every citizen in the district, especially those that live on the south and west of Ipswich. I hope to get a policy group established within the next few months.

We have to come up with a housing delivery plan that gets us houses for local people and local needs; a mix of tenures for affordable housing - rent, buy, shared ownership; more council houses for single people and young families all with a greater focus on quality, energy efficiency and good design including spatial standards.

To do this we need to rethink our approach to the Local Plan with far greater emphasis on a 'bottom-up' approach i.e. getting each village to outline how and where it would like houses to be built. The plan covers a 15 year period – we don't need to build them all in year 1 but we do need to have a structured approach to infrastructure delivery.

For C&W I think that we urgently need to:

- engage with Highways before they complete the resurfacing and painting of the Old London Road;
- talk with County re the land they hold in the parish;
- continue with the efforts to keep the paths and hedgerows tidy;
- complete the neighbourhood plan.

Residents: Colin Hinkins, member of NP Plan Group - asked if the patching on the Old London Rd could be delayed, to contact SCC Highways. DC Busby commented it clashes with the A1071 work and road closure. Cllr Watling advised a consultant the Neighbourhood Plan Group are using offered a very different perspective on this stretch of road, and has been asked for a quote to carry out a survey/report.

Meeting reconvened 20.46hrs.

1658/1920 Planning Applications:

DC/19/01951. 2 Rose Cottages Back Lane Copdock And Washbrook, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3JB

Householder application - Erection of single storey rear extension with 2no rooflights. Conversion of internal garage. Re-siting of front door. Installation of 2no windows on ground floor side elevation. External decking with stairs down.

No objection, but consider neighbours privacy, recommend remove porch window or at least use opaque glass on side elevation.

DC/19/02094 Felcourt, (Scotsfield House) The Avenue, Copdock And Washbrook, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3JS.

Use of garage/barn as holiday let / annex.

No objection.

1659/1920 Financial Matters & RFO Report:

- a) payments recommended - KA & MW approved
- b) deferred
- c) deferred
- d) Unanimously agreed to donate £100 to SARS.

RFO Report

The Parish Council's budget position is in order.

Accounts have been prepared and taken to the Internal Auditor, now awaiting their return. The Return will be approved at the June meeting.

Payments for approved.

Spreadsheets updated. Bank reconciliation sheets to 30/4/2019 to be approved by Council. Signed by Clerk. Will be signed by Cllr Louise Carman at next meeting (not in attendance May meeting).

Minuted and approved.

1659/1920 Leases

Deferred to June meeting, Working Group unable to meet.

1660/1920 Risk Assessment

MW & AH not met. Inspection schedule to be amended and simplified. Report to June meeting.

Litter Pick to be added to RA Register.

1661/1920 Neighbourhood Plan

Colin Hinkins - Chair of N Plan Group reported team met with consultant, walked round whole village, thinks Elm Lane not suitable for development, noted possible impact of other developments, noted suitability of building sites, concerned about environmental impact of development, well worth doing.

465 questionnaires had been hand delivered to all houses in the village, feedback good, hope to obtain 200 replies. Public Consultation Sat June 29 at primary school, 11.00am-3.00pm.

Cllr Dave Marsh wished to thank Gladwells for sponsoring the printing of the questionnaires.

1649/1920 Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council:

None.

Items for next agenda:

Approval of Annual Governance Statement 2018/19

Approval of Accounting Statement 2018/19

Lease Renewal & Access

Risk Assess Register

Meeting closed at 21.05hrs.