

**SHIMPLING PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Notes on THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

**Present:** Chairman Mr.K.Durant.  
Councillors: Mr. M Thew, Mrs P Jackson, Ms J Saunders, Mr G Shimplon, Mr R Rush,  
**In attendance:** Mr J Pawsey and Mr K Notley; Marian Peck (Clerk)

**Election of Chairman and Declaration of Acceptance:** Mrs P Jackson nominated Mr Ken Durant to serve a further term as Chairman, this was seconded by Mr M Thew and unanimously agreed by the meeting.

**Co-option of new Member of the Council.** The Chairman then accepted the resignation of Mr Robert Rush, who had served on the council for 16 years. Mr Durant thanked him for all his work and commitment to the council during those years. Mr John Pawsey was then co-opted to the council and duly read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance.

**The Minutes:** The minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2010, the Special meetings of 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010 were approved and signed after two small alterations.

**Matters arising:**

- (i) Damage to the verge o/s Barn Meadow. This work has now been completed.
- (ii) Village Hall o/s entrance light. Switch fitted and lights working.

**Police Report**

Since the last meeting there have been 3 crimes recorded, 1 burglary, where the offender was apprehended and subsequently charged, 1 theft of wood from a garden and a report of fraud by False Representation. The clerk circulated a media release from Babergh detailing a decrease in crime for the Sudbury and Hadleigh areas. Also, information on the number of speeding and penalty notices issued throughout March in local villages.

**Financial Report:** (i) Income & expenditure report.

We have received notification from HMRC that the VAT Refund of £177.83 is due to be made shortly.

Budget 2010/11: Of the £540 Locality budget allocated, £240 has been received so far.

Charity Donations: Two donations were made, as agreed at the March meeting, £80 to the Suffolk Family Carers and £80 to the W.Suffolk Assn for the Blind.

Internal Audit of the 2009/2010 Accounts.

Mrs Peck reported that this had been completed by Mr Brian Pinder and that no issues had been raised and that all relevant paperwork had been duly signed by him.

Approval of the 2009/10 accounts. Mrs Peck gave details of the accounts and the meeting was asked if there were any questions pertaining to them. There were no questions and the accounts were accepted.

Approval of AR Section 1 Statement of accounts. Mrs Peck informed the meeting that this had been completed from the accounts prepared, as required. Questions were invited, there being none, Section 1 was approved.

Approval of AR Section 2 Governance Statement. This was read, approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

**Planning:** . A special meeting of the Parish council had met to discuss two planning applications and there had been no objections to either. The Planning Dept. had been informed.

**Correspondence:** (i). Suffolk Draft Fire Action Plan 2010/11 – website details given for further information

(ii) Suffolk Waste Core Strategy Development Plan. This had been discussed at the Annual Parish meeting.

(iii) A letter had been received from the RBL offering to come and speak to the Parish Council about their welfare work. A poster had been put up in the village hall with details of information available.

**Village Hall:**

(i) Insulation of the hall: Next stage to investigate funding and make applications. Unfortunately, the application to the National Lottery for funding the repairs was unsuccessful. Mr Mike Thew asked what had criteria we had failed to meet? Mrs Peck suspected the general repair work, it was not something new, because when she explained in detail the need for the funding, she was told that it just fell short of what they would give money for.

Hallifax Trust have indicated they are willing to give some money and there is money available from other sources, but not enough to complete the work and to do it in stages would not be practical. Mr James Long suggested that Babergh DC be approached, as it was for insulation – energy efficiency, something which is very much to the forefront at the present time. The chairman thanked Mr Long for his suggestion and also Mr Kemp for the information he had previously given and his offer to pursue the issue. Further sources of funding will be investigated.

**Matters for Discussion:**

(i) Affordable Housing ; No further discussion, as this item has already been updated.

(ii) Children's Play Area: The application needs to be submitted as a matter of urgency. The positioning chosen by some of the residents, was not felt to be the best site for the play area, but it was agreed that the most important thing is to get the funding first. Mr Kemp asked if Section 106 money was available and the chairman replied that he believed it to be in the region of £6.4k.

If lottery money is not forthcoming, the whole scheme will need to be scaled back accordingly.

**Any other Business:** i) Dog Fouling. This issue has been raised by a number of residents, the chairman read a letter from Mr Peter Richards about the problem of bags of dog waste being left in hedges and on farm machinery. The chairman has already been in contact with Alpheton Parish Council, who feel that although the bins are good for responsible owners, (who do not have to take the bags of waste home), they do not stop the problem for those less responsible.

The cost of 5 bins would be £790.25, with a further £167.75 per annum ongoing. Mr Pawsey suggested that, in his experience, bags of dog waste had been left, but subsequently removed and that perhaps it would be better to erect signs before purchasing bins. The chairman stated that the council had the power to prosecute offenders. Mr Shrimpton suggested an item be put in the newsletter to remind people of their responsibilities and that they may be prosecuted for not complying. The chairman then pointed out that there is no money in this year's budget to pay for the bins and ongoing costs.

It was agreed that better signs, than those provided by Babergh, should be erected.

Ms Saunders raised the question of public transport into Sudbury. The chairman replied that this issue had been raised before, without response. The most popular route is into Bury and the bus follows a triangular route taking in Haverhill. A pilot scheme worked out that it would be too expensive. Other suggestions included the Sudbury and District Community bus, but it is thought that this service does not extend as far as the village. Mr Kemp offered to send information on this to the clerk .

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.35pm. Next meeting Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July.