

Notes from the Parish Council meeting held on 12th May 2014

Present: Vince Humphries (Chairman), Councillors John Pawsey, Sue Salmon, Trisch Jackson, Jackie Saunders and Gerald Shrimpton. Also present was Lucy Gregory (Clerk)

Apologies received from CC Richard Kemp, DC James Long, PCSO Siobhan Hemmett and Councillor Mike Thew

Matters arising:

a) Coal House: the site at the Coal House has been cleared as requested. The Coal House will be reviewed each year by Councillors to ensure no damage is done to the building when weeds grow back.

b) Flooding Slough Hill: Richard Kemp emailed Paul Grant on the 1st May 2014 for an update on the drain and piping around the area that floods. As Richard Kemp wasn't at the meeting an update couldn't be given. Councillors we wait from news on this matter from Richard Kemp.

c) Halifax Brick Wall: the Council await development on this matter. An update is needed from Councillor Mike Thew and Babergh District Council.

d) Telegraph Poles in Gents Lane: the Parish Council have no further information on this at the moment. No action taken due to lack of information being brought forward.

Police Report:

a) Crime report: no Police were present at the meeting so no report was given.

b) Dangerous dog – Aveley Lane: back in November within the police report was a report of a dangerous dog in Aveley lane. The Parish Council would like to amend the report and state that the attack from one dog to another took place in Aveley Lane and that the dangerous dog does not live in Aveley Lane.

District Councillors Report: District Councillor James Long was absent from this meeting so no report was given however speaking to James Long prior to the meeting he had no further updates on the report he gave in April.

County Councillors Report: County Councillor Richard Kemp was absent from this meeting so no report was given however his report was circulated prior to this meeting.

Election of Chairman: Vince Humphries thanked Councillors for their work over the past year and resigned as Chairman. A vote was passed and John Pawsey was voted in as Shimpling Parish Councils new Chairman. Councillors were unanimous in their decision and thanked Vince Humphries for his hard work and dedication to the parish. John takes over as chair immediately.

Planning:

Gatefields Meadow: it was decided that John Pawsey will initially take home this report to look over the plans and summarise before emailing his thoughts to Councillors. The plans will then be passed onto the next Councillor who requests them. Councillors will forward their thoughts onto the Clerk for her to respond to the planning office as soon as possible.

Finance:

a) Financial Report: the monthly finance report had been circulated.

b) Annual financial report; Clerk to the Council, Lucy Gregory, summarised the financial year for the council explaining income and expenditure figures as well as stating the amount carried forward into the next financial year.

c) Acceptance of 2013/2014 accounts; the 2013/2014 accounts were accepted with no comment.

d) Approval of AR Section 1; Councillors accepted and approved AR Section 1 with Vince Humphries signing the document.

e) Approval of AR Section 2; Councillors accepted and approved AR Section 2 with Vince Humphries signing the document.

Correspondence:

All emails have been circulated and there are no questions.

Village Hall: After discussion the Councillors decided that it would be helpful to have an update from the Village Hall Committee every quarter to keep in touch with what is happening. The Clerk will ask the Chair of the Village Hall Committee to keep the council informed via a quarterly report.

Matters for discussion:

a) Commemoration of WW1; John Pawsey is going to speak to the PCC and ask for an update on this matter.

b) Shimpling Celebrates; the Clerk is going to speak to Rebecca Reynolds to get an update on this event and confirm donation.

AOB:

a) Carbon Monoxide alarms; Clerk has received flyers and posters from the Gas Safe Register. Information leaflets to be put in the Postbox and posters to put on village noticeboards, in the Village Hall and in The Bush.

b) Play Park fencing; the Council have received the quote for the fencing. John Pawsey is going to measure the play area and circulate the details to the other Councillors for a decision to be made at the next meeting. A site meeting will be held to confirm ideas for the fencing.

c) Defibrillator; the importance of defibrillators was greatly understood amongst Councillors however due to there being many first responders within the area combined with the servicing of the machine itself it was decided that, for now, the Council wasn't going to look at purchasing a defibrillator for the village.

d) Japanese Knotweed; John Pawsey has been to the site where the Japanese Knotweed is and is going to monitor the site regularly to make sure it does not spread before something is done about it. John Pawsey had passed on the case number he has been given by a resident of the village already in contact with Babergh to Lucy Gregory. Lucy Gregory is going to write to Babergh to stress that it is very important the verges are not cut until this matter is dealt with.

e) Annual Parish Meeting; it was suggested that it would be helpful if residents that have any questions for Councillors at the Annual Parish Meeting (held every April) send them in at least 24 hours before the meeting. This would mean that Councillors can give more detailed answers to residents at the meeting. Comments will still be able to be made on the night it would just be more beneficial to everyone if specific questions were sent in prior to the meeting.

f) Footpath no7; it was mentioned at the Annual Parish Meeting that footpath no7 in the village was in a terrible condition with an uneven ground making it difficult to walk along. John Pawsey is going to speak to the County Council about this.

New matters arising to be discussed at the next meeting; the communication of the minutes to residents of the village.

Date of next meeting: Monday 14th July 2014.