

Notes from the Parish Council meeting held on 14th July 2014

Present: John Pawsey (Chairman), Councillors Sue Salmon, Trisch Jackson, Jackie Saunders and Gerald Shrimpton. County Councillor Richard Kemp and District Councillor James Long were in attendance. Also present was Lucy Gregory (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

Apologies received from PCSO Siobhan Hemmett and Councillors Mike Thew and Vince Humphries.

Matters arising:

a) Flooding Slough Hill: the council were assured this issue is still being looked into and dealt with by Suffolk County Council. Paul Gant from Suffolk County Council has written to the property where the problem seems to be. Richard Kemp shall ask for a new update from Paul Gant regarding this.

b) Halifax Brick Wall: the Clerk shall speak to Mike Thew to see if an update on this is available and pass information onto James Long who will also look into this at Babergh on Mr. Armstrong's behalf.

Police Report:

a) Crime report: no Police were present at the meeting however the crime report was circulated prior to the meeting. One crime had been recorded under the heading of other however the actual crime has not been specified.

District Councillors Report: James Long presented his report and stated that the 106 money available to parishes was getting a wider brief however the 106 money already available to parishes could not be spent in new areas of brief. James also explained that more and more villages were introducing Parish Plans whilst thinking about the long term future of their Parish.

County Councillors Report: Richard Kemp presented his report and informed councillors that Suffolk is instigating a program encouraging people to use bicycles. A new team has also been set up for the safeguarding of young and vulnerable people. A new award ceremony known as the GEM awards (Going the Extra Mile) has been introduced to celebrate our unsung heroes. The awards will take place in January. Child safety week is being introduced reminding us of the accidents that occur at home. A report has been released warning drivers of the dangers of driving the next day after drinking heavily the next day. Drivers are told they need to recognize that alcohol stays in their system. There have been problems with pot holes in this area however extra funding has recently been put in place. The closure of some preschools in the area has been proposed however not approved and Lawshall Primary School will be expanding to take children up to 11 years old.

Chairman's report: John Pawsey informed councillors of the work he had done in-between meetings which included keeping an eye on and spraying off the Japanese Knotweed in the village, meeting with Patrick Scrivens from Suffolk County Council at footpath number 7 following a complaint and meeting with the clerk before the meeting to discuss the agenda. John Pawsey also reminded councillors of the 3 votes that had taken place outside meetings which were regarding planning and donations.

Planning:

Gatefields Meadow: councillors were informed Gatefields meadows planning application had been granted.

Finance:

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

Correspondence:

An email received regarding Parish Plans was discussed. Councillors agreed a Parish Plan is something Shimpling should consider and therefore it was decided that James Long would put the Clerk in touch with a parish who already have a Parish Plan so that Shimpling can look into this avenue and understand what it involves. It was suggested a meeting with someone who is involved with a Parish Plan would be helpful and so the Clerk will try to arrange this.

Correspondence regarding a lights out event reflecting on the moment Britain declared war on Germany was discussed and it was decided that this event should be advertised in the newsletter and on the website in the hope that many parishioners would get involved and turn their lights out on the 4th August 2014 from 10pm until 11pm.

Matters for discussion:

a) Commemoration of WW1; the Clerk is waiting to hear from the PCC with information on this.

AOB:

a) Play Park fencing; a draft email to Nick Elliot was discussed and amended for the Clerk to send regarding the application of S106 money. The Clerk will contact Mr. Elliot to start the application process so that the S106 money can be spent completing the fencing around the play area in order to keep dogs and other animals out.

b) Laburnum Tree in the play area; the Clerk is going to contact David Pizzey at Babergh District Council to request a site meeting to discuss the Laburnum tree in the village.

c) Communication of the minutes to parishioners; it was suggested that the minutes should be more detailed and more specifically include more information on correspondence as opposed to 'correspondence was circulated', however many emails are circulated between meetings so communicating them all to parishioners would be very difficult. It was decided that at the bottom of the unapproved minute notes that are displayed on the website and in the parish magazine would be a clear telephone number for parishioners to phone should they want more information or to discuss something.

d) Footpath no7; following a complaint about footpath number 7 John Pawsey met with Patrick Scrivens from Suffolk County Council at the footpath in May. Patrick Scrivens was happy that the footpath was passable and explained that this particular footpath was privately owned. Shimpling Parish Council have tried to locate the owner(s) of the footpath but have been unsuccessful and so it has been decided that the clerk will look on land registry to try and discover who the footpath is owned by and then this information can be passed onto Patrick Scrivens.

e) Lights out throughout the village; a UK wide event is taking place on the 4th August 2014 which will mark the moment Britain declared war on Germany on the 4th August 1914 at 11pm. To mark this event people are being asked to turn their lights out for an hour between 10pm and 11pm. Councillors agreed to support this event and information will be circulated to parishioners to get as many people involved as possible.

f) Vacant Councillor Position; need to confirm there is a vacant position to be filled and then the council will continue to advertise the position. The Parish Council welcome people to attend meetings and observe before committing to a role of councillor and would welcome anyone that is interested to contact the council to find out more information.

Date of next meeting: Monday 8th September 2014.

Please note these are only notes from the meeting held by the Parish Council on the 14th July and these notes have not been confirmed. If anyone would like more information on any matters discussed or would like to bring something to the councils attention then please contact the clerk, Lucy Gregory on 01284 828573 or the chairman, John Pawsey on 01284 827317.