

Notes from the Parish Council meeting held on 8th September 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).

Apologies received from a member of the safer neighbourhood team, Councillors Mike Thew and Vince Humphries and Sue Herne who was due to have a discussion on emergency planning.

Matters arising:

a) Flooding Slough Hill: the council wait to hear from Paul Gant with an update on this issue. Chairman John Pawsey was contacted by a resident along Slough Hill regarding the flooding but since John responded there has been no further comment.

b) Halifax Brick Wall: the Clerk has contacted Jo Coghill at Babergh who responded however the council would like to see the original permissions which were sent to 12 Halifax Place to clarify some of the wording.

Emergency Plans: the council had arranged a discussion with Sue Herne regarding emergency plans that could be put in place in Shimpling however unfortunately Sue could not make the meeting. Prior to the meeting Sue sent out some information regarding emergency planning which councillors had read through. It was decided that the best course of action would be to get together flyers and information posters that can be put up in the village hall and other areas around the village which have information and telephone numbers for parishioners to use in different emergencies. The village newsletter can also be used to provide this information.

Police Report:

a) Crime report: no Police were present at the meeting due to a staff shortage at Babergh Wests safer neighbourhood team. However the Clerk spoke to a member of the team on the phone prior to the meeting who confirmed there have been no crimes since the council last met on the 14th July.

Chairman's Report: John Pawsey informed councillors of work he had been doing outside meetings which included correspondence from a resident down Slough Hill regarding the flooding issues and correspondence regarding the play area. It has been brought to the council's attention that people are playing on the road next to the play area near to residents as opposed to in the play area or on the grass next to the play area. Councillors ask those who wish to play in Halifax Place to please do so in the play area or on the grass just beyond the play area and not on the highway.

District Councillors Report: James Long presented his report and informed councillors that he had just been given a document for Babergh and Mid Suffolk's joint strategic plan which he hoped would be available to Parish councils at some point. He revealed some of the key points from the plan which he thought were interesting. It is estimated that by 2035 the population will have grown by 10% in this area with Mid Suffolk having an estimated 20,000 more people. Another figured shared was that around 13% of people within the area are self-employed and 7,500 small businesses have 9 or less employees.

County Councillors Report: Richard Kemp circulated his full report prior to the meeting but informed councillors of a few things that had been discussed since the last meeting. Some traveler's sites had been stopped, the £200 million development on Eye Airfield has been opposed, Stour Valley Community school in Clare has received its first ever GCSE results and St

Edmundsbury Borough Council is being asked to decide on £3 million investment in Eastern Relief Road Project.

Planning:

The Brindles, Aveley Lane: Richard Kemp informed councillors of one complaint he had received regarding this planning application. Councillors looked at the plans and felt they had no objections or comments to make however John Pawsey asked Richard to put him in touch with the resident who had the complaint so that they could discuss it.

Primrose Cottage: Councillors looked at the plans for the pollarding of some trees and had no objections to this work being carried out.

Finance:

a) Financial Report: the monthly finance report has been circulated and the Clerk is going to circulate the grass cutting budget.

Correspondence: an email regarding fit villages was discussed. The Clerk is going to forward the email from Maddy Knox to Jackie Saunders so that she can pass it onto the lady who runs the Pilates classes in the village hall. Also discussed was an email regarding CIL (County Infrastructure Levy) which is a similar scheme to S106. Richard Kemp attending a meeting regarding CIL and doesn't believe it will affect Shimpling.

Matters for discussion:

a) Village Hall; the amount the council were donating to the village hall for work carried out to the back room was agreed. Clerk is going to ask the village hall committee for a financial report regarding their expenditure and income.

b) S106 Money; the Clerk is going to respond to Nick Elliott's email regarding the councils application for the use of the S106 money. Shimpling have £5579 available from the S106 money. Due to very tight guidelines on how to spend this money and the concern of dog mess within the play area the council felt that this money would be well spent by finishing the fencing around the play area. The council have received quotes for this work and most, if not all, of the S106 money would be needed for this work. The council plan to continue with their application to use the S106 money for the fencing of the play area.

AOB:

a) Laburnum Tree; following complaints regarding the laburnum tree in Halifax Tree the council looked to Mr David Pizzey the Arboricultural Officer at Babergh and Mid Suffolk for advice on this. David explained that there are far more dangerous plants like daffodils that people live with and the laburnum isn't something to worry about. He advised the council that it isn't worth removing the tree as someone would have to ingest a lot of the pods to do any more damage than an upset tummy. Based on this information the clerk will contact those who had concerns to inform them of David Pizzey's advice.

b) Footpath number 7; the council looked to land registry regarding footpath number 7 and the response has been sent to Patrick Scrivens. The council will wait to hear from Patrick with advice on what to do next.

c) Vacant councillor position; the council have no update on this yet and will wait until the next meeting to address this.

d) Goal posts on the playing field; it was brought to the council's attention that the goal posts in Hallifax Place were not pinned down. John Pawsey is going to look at the goal posts to see what condition they are in before the council makes any decisions on action taken.

e) Area of grass beside the bottle banks; the council have been made aware that the grass area by the bottle banks is shrinking due to overgrown thorns from the ditch. John Pawsey is going to look at this area so that councillors can discuss what action can be taken here.

A134: Councillors expressed concern for a few areas of the A134 Bury to Sudbury road. Firstly there have been a few accidents along the road which caused concern. Also it was noted that pulling out from Shimpling onto the A134 can be dangerous as the tree canopy when you look right at the junction is shielding the view so when cars don't have their lights on it is difficult to see them. And finally, the repairs between Shimpling and Long Melford were discussed. The repairs made to the road finish higher than the original road and therefore it is bumpy and uneven. Richard Kemp is going to pass on each of these concerns to Paul Gant.

Date of next meeting: Monday 10th November 2014.

Please note these are only notes from the meeting held by the Parish Council on the 8th September 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.