

Present: Cllrs: E Sier, J Crittall, R Baxter, S Lusher, M Dolan, C. Cllr J Spicer & B. Cllr Bull

1. Apologies for absence. Cllrs C Hammond & W Martineau.

2. Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: None

3. Minutes - Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 7th June 2017 signed and approved as a correct record.

Meeting Adjourned

4. Meeting open to the public

Andrew Fillmore and Tom Tawell, from Pigeon Development, came to tell the Parish Council about the exhibition they are holding at the Primary School, during the School fete, on Saturday 15th July 2017. They will be at the school from 11am until 4pm and they would like residents to attend and view their concept plan. They see this as an opportunity for them to engage with as many residents as possible. There will be members of their project team available to explain the proposal and to answer any questions. They confirmed that they had no intentions of submitting an application anytime soon but were less clear on what their intentions were if the public consultation did not show support for their proposal. When asked Pigeon denied any ownership of the land in question. Once again it was reiterated that Pigeon did not have to conduct this level of consultation prior to submitting an application and that they felt they could offer benefit to the village beyond the S106 contribution. It was noted however the site proposed by Pigeon is not allocated in the Rural Vision Local Plan (adopted 2014). The proposal is therefore contrary to the current Local Plan. The policy position can only be changed through: 1. A Local Plan Review (anticipated to commence early 2018 with the West Suffolk Local Plan), 2. If the Borough Council does not maintain a 5-year land supply which would deem the Local Plan out of date regarding its housing policies. St Edmundsbury Borough Council maintains a five-year land supply therefore the current adopted Local Plan remains up to date which new proposals are considered against; or 3. Through the preparation and adoption of a Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council has commenced work on a Neighbourhood Plan and it is now for the community, as well as land owners, organisations, businesses etc. to decide how we would like to shape the Parish in the future.

Complaints have been received about an increase in dog mess in the village. It was noted that a resident of Barningham has recently been prosecuted in relation to an unpaid dog fouling fine. People are encouraged to report anyone they see, allowing their dog to foul, to St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Some more stickers will be put on the bins in the village and a piece included in the Parish News reminding owners to clear up after their dogs.

Complaints have been received about inconsiderate parking in Mill Road. Those making the complaints feel that those responsible may work at either the school or the shop. Cllr Spicer will speak to the school and the Clerk will speak to the shop in a bid to address this issue.

Action Cllr Spicer/Clerk

5. Report from County Councillor: J Spicer

Cllr Spicer and Cllr Bull had met with Pigeon to discuss their proposals. Cllr Spicer explained that the school is accountable to Suffolk County Council and that any decisions regarding future planning is not down to the headteacher but would be dealt with by SCC Development Officers. As noted under the previous report (item 4) We are a long way from any formal planning application being made. A master plan would need to be produced and this would take some time.

6. Report from B. Councillor: C Bull

In addition to agreeing with the above Cllr Bull told those present that St Edmundsbury Borough Council are beginning the process of reviewing the 2031 plan. She encouraged everyone to go along to the presentation and listen to what Pigeon have to say and to ask questions. It was agreed that there appears to have been a breakdown in communications and all future communication needs to be completely transparent.

7. Police Report The latest report was circulated.

Meeting reconvened

8. Progress reports. For information, from:

8.1. Chairman

No report this month.

8.2 Clerk:

8.2.1 Highway matters. To include:

8.2.1.1. Bardwell Road, congestion and parking in Mill Road.

See under item 4.

8.2.2. Sign for cricket meadow & Aggies Piece

Cllr Dolan has offered to take over this project and try to source some signs for the Cricket Meadow, Play area and Aggies Piece.

Action Cllr Dolan

8.2.3 New streetlight, update.

The light has finally been installed. It is not known if it is actually working. Cllr Lusher will check and let the Clerk know.

Action Cllr Lusher

8.2.4 Hedges/Bank maintenance.

Mark Bleay has been carrying works in the village, these include: The bank outside the Lychgate, the hedge opposite the shop and the Lychgate cemetery. There is a slight increase in his costs but it is still reasonable for the work done.

9. Finance.

The following accounts were approved for payment and the cheques signed by two signatories.

9.1 S Wilson, wages for June	101663	£257.10
9.2 V Gay, wages for June	101664	£961.99
9.3 HMR&C, tax & NI	101665	£229.64
9.4 V Gay, expenses	101666	£184.74
9.5 People4places, consultant	101667	£1332.60
9.6 Vertas, Cemetery & Cricket Meadow	101668	£628.09
9.7 Came and Co, insurance	101669	£825.13
9.8 M Bleay, Lychgate cem	101670	£220.00
9.9 JM Landscapes, grass Village	101671	£900.00

9.2 VAT

The Clerk has submitted a vat claim for £14,024.12 to HMR&C.

9.3 Bank reconciliation

The Clerk presented a bank reconciliation. Total cash holdings currently are £39,001.51

9.3 End of Year Accounts

BDO have contacted the Clerk to ask her to provide the minutes showing approval for the increase in the Clerks salary and to confirm how we want a matter relating to a difference shown in last year's account dealt with. It was decided that BDO should raise a qualified issue for this matter. There will be no financial implications but it does mean that during the next year we would not be able to apply for Quality Status.

10. Village Hall.

A brief meeting was held, unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances some members of the Village Hall Committee were not able to attend. A site meeting will be organised to discuss ongoing issues.

11. Future Village Events To discuss:

11.1 Community Event

Unfortunately, due to date clashes, the event is going to be postponed until spring 2018.

12. Neighbourhood Plan, Update on:

12.1 Update from working party.

Due to a couple of the members being away the group have not met since the last Parish Council meeting. Members have been working putting together ideas for a questionnaire. It was suggested that, when the time comes all the questionnaire could be delivered and collected by hand. Volunteers from the village could help with this. It was further suggested that there is a prize draw to encourage people to complete the questionnaire. The legal implications of holding a prize draw will be explored.

12.2 Service Level Agreement with SEBC & working party's terms of reference. The Parish Council agreed these documents.

Action Clerk

12.3 Funding update

Funds of ££7369 been received and a payment made to the consultant.

13. Update on Community Speed watch and Aggies Piece:

Speedwatch have been out a number of times recently and caught a number of speeding vehicles. The team have been awarded 'The High Sheriffs Corporate Partnership team of the year award' for their Community Speed Watch group. The school has asked if a group of children can come out with the Speedwatch team. The team are happy with this as long as they have supervising adults with them. An owl pellet has been found in one of the owl boxes at Aggies Piece, it is thought to have come from a Tawny owl. The other box has a pigeon in. The meadow should be cut soon. The path needs to be cut. The Clerk will speak to Mark Bleay about this.

Action Clerk

14. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

There has been a problem with DPD vans again in the village. We were disappointed that the manager of the local branch did not come to our previous meeting as he said he was going to. The Clerk will contact him to ask him to come to a future meeting to discuss the issues of concern.

Action Clerk

Cllr Dolan is arranging to have the bolt cut off the gate in the play area as Cllr Baxter had problems with getting power to the area.

Action Cllr Dolan

Cllr Baxter would like to get a Neighbourhood Watch scheme going in the village, where there isn't already a scheme. She will liaise with Cllr Lusher who is already involved in a scheme. It was asked if this could be an agenda item for September. A notice will go in the magazine as well as on face book to let people know we are wanting to set up a scheme and to ask for volunteers to come forward.

Action Cllrs Baxter/Lusher/Clerk

15. Caretakers report Circulated

There has been quite a lot of action in the Lawn Cemetery this month. I have cleared more mole-hills and used them to level-up the back row; I have also lopped some tree branches in front of one of the seats and barrowed another load of spoil for collection. As last month, the spoil work is overtime. I have cut back the shrubs around the bins on the Cricket Meadow and the Church Road corner. My greasing of the lower bearing on the roundabout in the Play Area did not stand the test of time and so I have packed an enormous quantity in this time and will monitor the situation more closely in future.

16. Cemetery

Request for reserved plots.

The Clerk has received requests to reserve two plots in the Lawn Cemetery. From Mr Lodge and Mr Kerry. We need to ensure that all reserved plots are marked clearly. To this end the Clerk will write again to existing plot owners and remind them they need to mark their plot.

Action Clerk

17. Planning Matters

17.1_DC/17/1097/FUL | Planning Application - (i) extension and conversion of outbuilding (stable 1) to holiday let, (ii) single storey extension and conversion of outbuilding into living space, (iii) single storey extension to link dwelling to converted outbuilding, (iv) alterations to outbuilding (stable 2), (v) cladding to side lean to and outbuilding and (vi) Barn | Lodge Farmhouse Bardwell Road. **No Objection**

18. Correspondence for information

18.1 SCC, Roadworks.org. Suffolk County Council will no longer be advising the Clerk of road closures. There is however a website that can send out update. The Clerk has signed up to this.

19. Date of next meeting: 2nd August and then 13th September 2017

20. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:

20.1 Personnel Issues. None.

20.2 Legal Issues. None.