

Present: Cllrs: C Hammond, R Baxter, S Lusher, A Steer. N Greenwood, W Martineau C. Cllr J Spicer & B. Cllr Bull.

1. Apologies for absence. Cllr A Woodward

2 Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

2.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None.

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests. None.

2.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act. None.

3. Minutes - The minutes of the Friday 10th January 2020 meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. Meeting open to the public

5. Report from County Councillor: J Spicer

Cllr Spicer is investigating the possibility of making Mill Road an access only road. We need to ascertain if this is what all the residents want. To this end Cllr Spicer and the Clerk will prepare a joint letter to the residents. The Clerk will speak to the school about the impact this could have on the school.

Action Cllr Spicer/Clerk

The new Clerk at Hepworth contacted the Clerk about the possibility of there being a HGV restriction on the Hepworth Road. This option is considered unlikely at this time, however a sign saying 'unsuitable for HGV's' could be erected. On the whole the Parish Council had no objection to this suggestion.

There is currently a Boundary Review, which probably will not affect Barningham but it is still important that we make a submission, supporting the proposals, when the time comes.

Cllr Greenwood asked again about the possibility of having a stop sign at Pound Corner, rather than the existing give way sign. Cllr Spicer will look in to this.

Action Cllr Spicer

Following the recent fire in the village Cllrs Spicer and Bull recorded that they had both offered their help if it is needed. The Parish Council has also made this offer. We were all saddened by the recent events and extended our good wishes to the family. It was suggested that, if possible, we could have someone come from the Fire and Rescue Service to give a talk on fire safety, in thatched properties as well as giving general advice on fire awareness. Cllr Spicer will see what she can arrange.

Action Cllr Spicer

6. Report from West Suffolk Councillor: C Bull

Despite being assured that the streetlight on Sandy Lane would be repaired, prior to the meeting, it is still not working. Cllr Bull will chase this up again.

Action Cllr Bull

West Suffolk are currently undertaking a review of parking. Proposals will go to cabinet at the end of February.

8.2 Clerk:

Highway matters. Update on SCC self-help scheme and Mill Road.

The Clerk has spoken to Sally Longmate, Chief Executive at SALC, and she is going to help clarify matters with SCC. Our insurance are saying that we need the training to work on the highway. See under item10.

8.2.1 Defibrillator, update following awareness event. To discuss VET's event

The recent event was well attended and was felt to have been a great success. The Clerk has contacted Community Heartbeat Suffolk about the VET's telephone system. She is still waiting for the information.

Action Clerk

8.2.1 New streetlight for Bishops Croft, to note.

9. Finance.

9.1 To consider payments. To include:

	Admin	£1,722.01
Countryside, conservation tree services	Peter Kerry	£525.00
The Woodland Trust	subscription	£36.00
Fenland Leisure	Play area	£94.80

9.2 Bank reconciliation

The Clerk provided the Councillors with a bank reconciliation, income and expenditure account details and a budget report.

9.3 Changes to Banking arrangements

Barclays Bank are making changes to their Community Accounts. Currently we can have as many signatories listed on the account as we want. Going forward, if we hold more than 3 signatories on the account we will be charged a fee.

9.4 Resolution to make payments via electronic means

Since the removal in 2014 of section 150(5) from the Local Government Act 1972, local councils have been able to make use of modern methods of making payments, such as internet banking. The Clerk has discovered that we are able to make electronic payments using 'faster payments' within our Community Account. In order to do this we must legally resolve to adopt this means of payment. The Clerk will need to become a signatory, in order to set up the payments and then one of two other signatories will need to sign it off. The Council needs to appoint two Councillors (who are not cheque signatories) to verify the schedule of payments made from the internet banking account against sample invoices selected at random on a regular basis. The Council must advise its insurers and introduce further safeguards, such as increased fidelity insurance, if required. Hard copies of the bank statements need to be seen by the Chairman monthly and made available for inspection at the Parish Council meeting. It was **Resolved** to adopt electronic payments. The Clerk will become a signatory. The Chairman and Cllr Steer will become counter signatories. Two members at every meeting will be appointed to check the schedule of payments made from the internet banking account against sample invoices selected at random, if electronic payments are made. Bearing in mind the changes outlined above a new mandate has been raised and will be submitted to Barclays for approval. All in agreement.

10 Keep Barningham Beautiful

To discuss arrangements and date for this year's event.

There is still some confusion over the insurance implications of this event. If these are not resolved prior to the event the Parish Council will not be involved and will need to rely on volunteers to run the event. The date was agreed as 25th April from 2pm-4pm.

11. Village Hall

Fit Villages have been in touch and they are trying to organise some yoga in the village. This was following response to a fit villages letter drop. The Clerk has some details about the Rural Coffee Caravan that she will pass on to the village hall committee. **Action Clerk**

12. Neighbourhood Plan

12.1 Update on the plan

A new manager from Pigeon has taken over responsibility for their site off Hepworth Road, Barningham. He has passed his contact details on to the Clerk.

AECOM have been in touch about our application to ask if we are planning on allocating more affordable housing than is being allocated in the Local Plan. The clerk informed them that we did not intend to. We are still waiting for a date so a site visit. Cllr Hammond has sent off her introduction to the plan to Ian Poole.

13. Speed watch/VAS

The Clerk has purchased some of wheelie bin stickers. Cllr Spicer offered to pay for these. The Clerk will sort this out. Cllr Lusher will advertise on Facebook that we have the stickers available to those who would like some. Following the data collected from the VAS, the Speed Road Safety camera team will be making a visit to the village in the next few weeks. There has been no objections to the suggestion of a new VAS post on Pound Corner. Cllr Steer will submit the application for this.

Action Cllr Steer/Clerk

14. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

14.1 To include an update from Cllr Greenwood regarding BMX track on the Cricket Meadow.

It was reported that the mound at the top of the meadow would not really be suitable for a BMX track. This matter will be discussed again once the weather improves.

15. Aggies Piece

To discuss ongoing work, Eddie's Tree and Community Orchard.

The Clerk had a meeting with Peter Kerry and it was agreed that he would do some work at Aggies, mainly clearing the edges of the meadow, whilst he is still able to do so. The Clerk will meet him on site to discuss the Community Orchard and a suitable position for the memorial tree for the late Eddie Sier. The Clerk has been informed that B&Q offer trees, at a discount, for community projects.

16. Caretakers report Circulated.

Leaf sweeping and blowing continued this month along with the raking of both cemeteries. Several tree branches were apparently dumped in the Lych-gate Cemetery and I am slowly dismembering and removing them. I also had to repair one of the wheel bearings on my trolley. As predicted, there were two weeks without litter rounds as I made my hours balance at the year end.

17. Play area reports

As mentioned above Steve Wilson has repaired the springy horse.

18. Churchyard/Cemetery

18.1 To review cemetery fees

The Clerk prepared some documents for comparison.

Following discussion it was proposed to increase all the Cemetery fees by 10% and to still include a cost for burying a child up to the age of 12. Cllr Lusher asked that it be recorded that she was not in agreement with the latter suggestion.

Action Clerk

18.2 To discuss Lych-gate repair/replacement

The Clerk is still in the process of contacting suppliers/ manufactures for prices to replace and repair.

Action Clerk

18.3 Works to trees/bushes Lych-gate Cemetery

There is some work to be done to the trees and bushes in the lych-gate cemetery. The Clerk will give the go ahead to get this work done.

Action Clerk

18.4 To discuss condition of St Andrews Car park

The Clerk is still in the process of contacting suppliers for prices to repair. The caretaker said that weeding and clearing would not solve the problem and it's the tree roots that are the issue.

Action Clerk

18.5 Ongoing maintenance of Church Clock

There is still a problem with the church clock. The Clerk will contact Ian Jerrold about its ongoing upkeep and to arrange for a member of the parish council to hold a key. **Action Clerk**

19. Planning Matters

19.1 DC/20/0157/HH | Householder Planning Application - (i) Single storey side extension (following the demolition of existing garage) | Westwood Sandy Lane. **No objection.**

19.2 West Suffolk Council have amended the programme for the production of our new Local Plan. This affects when we will consult you about each version of the emerging Plan. The Local Plan will include the long-term planning and land use policies for the area.

The programme (set out in the Local Development Scheme) may be viewed on our website:

www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/supportinginformation

The first consultation stage of the Local Plan preparation process is called “Issues and Options”, and we will be seeking views on this document during May-July 2020. Please look out for our next email and have a say on the issues that will shape the development of West Suffolk in the future.

20. Correspondence for information

20.1 Development Management January 2020 Newsletter. circulated

20.2 West Suffolk Parish and Town Forum: Save the Date: 17th March 2020 6.00pm-8.00pm

21. **Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 4th March 2020

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

22.1 Personnel Issues. None

22.2 Legal Issues. None