

THE SAXHAMS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 01 September 2016 at St Andrews Church, Great Saxham

Present:

Councillors: Michael Burt (Chairman), Fred Gittus (Councillor), Sue Dunn (Councillor), Helen Ferguson, Jonathan Clarke (Councillor), Carol Hall (Councillor) and Lisa Gleave (Clerk)

The Chairman, Michael Burt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Action

OPEN FORUM

The Chairman declared an open forum to enable residents to put forward their views on planning application DC/16/1237/FUL at Glebe Paddocks, Gt Saxham. He explained the new legislation DM27 brought in to encourage appropriate development. Residents' views were it did not conform to the principles of policy DM27. It would distract from the amenity value of the location within a rural and tranquil part of the village. A neighbour present was concerned the additional property would cut out his natural light and create a lot more noise. There is a current surface water flooding problem on the main village highway and any further development would exacerbate this problem whatever measures are taken relating to this specific property. After a lengthy discussion it was clear no residents present spoke in favour of the application. The Parish Council meeting would now follow.

1. Apologies for absence – Jennie Moody and Terry Clements.
2. Declarations of Interest – Fred Gittus declared an interest in Planning Application DC/16/1723/OUT.
3. Minutes of last PC meeting held on 23 June 2016 – approved by all present and signed off by the Chairman.
4. Matters Arising from Minutes of 23 June 2016

- Bus Stops in Little Saxham – Carry forward to the next meeting.
- Verges to the Left of Twites Cottages. These are now being cut by McGregor Services.

Mike Burt

5. Suffolk Police Report – There was nothing in the report that was relevant to The Saxhams.
6. St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Councillor Houlder was present. He explained following Brexit and the drop in interest rates the Borough Council is looking for investment opportunities to get a return on its money in excess of that offered by the Bank. It is setting up various companies and looking for future projects. There are talks underway of St Eds BC and FHDC becoming one council to save money. The West Suffolk Operational Hub cannot move forward until formal planning application has been received and approved.
7. Suffolk County Council – Terry Clements was not present and there was no report available.

Signed

Chair

Date

8. Highway matters

- C660 Speeding Traffic - The Clerk contacted the Police following concerns raised by a resident at our last meeting of speeding traffic along the C660. The Police have since confirmed this site is not suitable for SNT or Community Speed Watch to carry out enforcement because it is not a 30 mph limit. They will consider placing a speed monitoring device along this road. If there are enough offences it would be passed to the camera enforcement team. However, due to increasing demand and reduced resources realistically this is unlikely to take place any time soon if at all.
- Verges to the Right of Twites Crossroads – A resident present pointed out the verges need to be cut deeper and down to the telegraph pole. Residents are having difficulties seeing traffic when pulling out onto the C660. Clerk to contact McGregor Services.

Lisa Gleave

9. Correspondence -

The Chairman briefly ran through the correspondence.

- Highway Matters – Edition 8 from Suffolk County Council.
- List of Public Meetings held by Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner.
- Post Office Move to New Premises. The Post Office is moving to the premises of WH Smith which is currently next door.

10. Planning – Applications considered since last meeting or those for which a decision is required:

- DC/16/1237/FUL – 1 dwelling (including garage) with new vehicular access. In the garden of Glebe Paddocks, Hargrave Road, Great Saxham. – Having listened to residents’ concerns and following a detailed discussion, all councillors present agreed the PC would **object** to this application and the following comments would be submitted:
“A number of residents oppose the development. No residents have spoken in favour. The development would distract from the amenity value of the location within a rural and tranquil part of the village. Surface water flooding affects the main village highway from this point down to the crossroads. Any development will exacerbate this problem whatever measures are taken relating to this specific property. The application does not satisfy an important policy constraint: “the development is within a closely knit “cluster” of 10 or more existing dwellings adjacent to or fronting an existing highway. And further may be categorised as inappropriate in the context of further guidance. “Permission will not be granted where a proposal harms or undermines a visually important gap that contributes to the character and distinctiveness of the rural scene”.” Clerk to submit comments.
- DC/16/1423/HH – two bay cart lodge, Meadowcroft Cottage, Hargrave Road, Little Saxham. – **No Comment.**
- SCC/0185/16 – Extension of existing site. Greenways Recycling, Symonds Farm, Newmarket Road, Risby. **No Comment.**
- DC/16/1723/OUT – parking facility for approx. 100 HGVs, refuelling

Lisa Gleave

Signed

Chair

Date

station, shop, facilities and external works. Storage Site Calor Gas Ltd, Newmarket Road, Risby. **Councillors will consider papers further and forward any comments to the Clerk.**

All
Councillors

11. Planning – Applications granted/refused:

- DC/16/0848/HH – Two storey front and rear extensions, first floor side and single storey side extension and single storey veranda to side elevation. Rendering and cladding to external walls. St Nicholas House, Hargrave Road, Little Saxham - **Approved.**
- DC/16/1159/FUL – new opening with roller shutter door & free standing canopy cover. Micheldever Tyre Service, Saxham Business Park – **Approved.**

12. Play Area Inspection Report

The swing requires a new seat. Helen will consider the report in detail and bring along proposals for any work needed to the next meeting.

Helen
Ferguson

13. Insurance Renewal Quotes

Councillors considered quotes from Zurich Insurance and Hiscox Insurance. It was agreed the quote from Hiscox Insurance would be accepted with a 3 year contract.

14. Finance

- Cheques (see attached list) – circulated and agreed by all present.
- Cheque Signatories - It was agreed by all present that Sue Dunn would be added as a cheque signatory. The form was completed by all signatories ie Mike Burt, Carol Hall, Jonathan Clarke and Sue Dunn. We require two cheque signatories. Clerk to send off completed form.
- Bank Reconciliation circulated and approved. The Chairman ran through the figures.
- Annual Audit – The Chairman explained the annual accounts were approved by our external auditor. The annual return including BDO LLP's certificate was approved and accepted by all councillors present. The clerk will display the relevant notices and publish the necessary documentation on our website.
- Budget Proposals for 2017. We will set our precept at the next meeting with one year's buffer. Councillors were asked to bring along any budget proposals to the next meeting so we can budget accordingly.

Lisa Gleave

Lisa Gleave

15. Matters for consideration at the next meeting

- Bus Stop at Little Saxham.
- Budget Proposals
- Play Area

16. Village Events

Quiz Night 15 October 2016 at Barrow Village Hall raising money for Gt Saxham Church. £10 ticket to include fish & chip supper.

Signed

Chair

Date

17. Any Other Business

Residents raised concerns over the “muck spreading” on the field west of Twites Corner. The smell was appalling and lasted for a week which resulted in a significant increase in flies. Fred Gittus will make some enquiries to see how this was carried out and what can be done to improve the process in the future. Fred Gittus

18. Date of Next Meeting: St Nicholas Church, Little Saxham 17.11.16 at 7.30 pm. Clerk to notify Church Warden.

Contact details:

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Signed

Chair

Date