

THE SAXHAMS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 February 2017

at St Andrews Church, Great Saxham

Present:

Councillors: Michael Burt (Chairman), Jonathan Clarke (Councillor), Jennie Moody (Councillor) and Lisa Gleave (Clerk)

The Chairman, Michael Burt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Action

1. Apologies for absence – Helen Ferguson, Fred Gittus, Carol Hall, Sue Dunn, Terry Clements.

2. Declarations of Interest – None.

3. Minutes of last PC meeting held on 17 November 2016 – The Minutes were approved by all present and signed off by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of 17 November 2016

- Bus Stops in Little Saxham – Carry forward to the next meeting.
- Play Area - We have a budget of £1,000 to update/repair the play area. Helen Ferguson will be asked to consider the latest play area report and advise at the next meeting what can be done with this budget. Before we clean the matting under the swings we need to consider whether it needs replacing. Jonathan will liaise with Helen concerning the play area.

Mike Burt
Helen
Ferguson/
Jonathan
Clarke

5. Suffolk Police Report – The Chairman read out the report but there was nothing relevant to The Saxhams. The Police have been addressing anti-social use of motor vehicles around the Moreton Hall area. They have also been referring individuals sleeping on the streets to the relevant available services.

6. St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Ian Houlder was present. Work continues on the West Suffolk Operational Hub project. Ian was asked to comment on whether rail transport has been considered for movement of waste to Claydon and could this have any bearing on the siting of the hub. Ian explained a rail link has been talked about in the past. The relevant strategic people are aware of this but it is not a priority at present. The costs of inserting rail sidings is huge. The current focus is on road infrastructure. It was pointed out by councillors present that moving waste by rail would be more attractive to the region and will considerably cut carbon emissions. Traffic lights installed on Newmarket Road due to works on the Westley bridge are causing traffic delays and this is going to be exacerbated next week when the children return to school. We should continue to notify Ian of gridlocks so he can feedback to SCC and they may adjust diversion routes. St Eds BC will review its budget next week when Council Tax will be considered and is likely to be increased. The income from car parking fees has exceeded the budget. More car parks are needed. The Bury St Edmunds master plan is out for consultation and now is the time for people to put forward their views on issues like car parking. The temporary “Park and Ride” was well used at the Christmas fayre but there are no plans at present to install a permanent facility.

Signed

Chair

Date

7. Suffolk County Council – Terry Clements was not present. The Chairman briefly ran through his report. GCSE results have risen above the national average. Suffolk is now ranked 55th out of 151 for progress at this level. SCC annually consults on their Post-16 Home to School Travel Policy for a six week period which commenced on 4 January 2017. The consultation document can be viewed online at www.suffolk.gov.uk/consultations. Feedback on the proposal can be completed in an online questionnaire at the above address or printed and posted to Post-16 Travel Consultation, SCC, Endeavour House, Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX by 10 February 2017. The Suffolk’s Director of Public Health releases his annual report on 26 January 2017 setting an ambition to improve mental health services in Suffolk over the next 10 years.

Karen Soons was at the meeting and introduced herself. She is the new SCC conservative candidate and will be running for election on 4 May 2017. She and Mat Hancock MP are hosting a “Broadband & Mobile Connectivity” meeting at Barrow Village Hall on 21 April 2017. The meeting will start at 7 pm and residents are invited to attend.

8. Highway matters - None.

9. Correspondence -

The Chairman briefly ran through the correspondence.

- The way the PC’s accounts are audited is changing. The PC has been appointed new external auditors and there will now be a fee for this.
- The Architects for CLAAS UK is inviting anyone interested to visit the site at Saxham Business Park and review the design for the new CLAAS UK headquarters. Visiting hours are between 9 am and 4 pm.
- Westley Bridge will be closed from 13 February to 7 April 2017 for structural repairs. During this period traffic will be controlled with temporary traffic lights. For more information visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/westleybridge or call 0345 6066171.

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

- DC/16/2363/FUL – change of use of agricultural storage building to wood chip dryer. **No Comment.**
- DC/16/2332/HH – two storey side extension following demolition of garage (i) front porch. 3 Twites Close, Gt Saxham – **No Comment.**
- DC/17/0174/LB – Application for Listed Building Consent – replace 2 windows to side elevation. 1 Twites Farm Cottages, Great Saxham – **Approved.**

Lisa Gleave

11. Planning applications granted/refused:

- SCC/0185/16 – extension of existing site. Greenways Recycling, Symonds Farm, Newmarket Road, Risby. **Approved.**
- DC/16/1723/OUT – parking facility for approx.100 HGVs, refuelling station, shop, facilities and external works. Storage Site Calor Gas Ltd, Newmarket Road, Risby. **Awaiting Decision.**
- DC/16/2363/FUL – change of use of agricultural storage building to wood chip dryer. Symonds Farm, Symonds Road, Gt Saxham. **Approved.**

Signed

Chair

Date

12. Grass Maintenance 2017 Season

Councillors agreed the quotation submitted by McGregor Services and the clerk will formally accept the quote for the 2017 season.

Lisa Gleave

13. Severed Telephone Lines in Gt Saxham

Residents had informed the PCC that a private contractor employed by Suffolk County Council severed the telephone lines in Gt Saxham whilst clearing the road gullies on more than one occasion. This took BT several days to reconnect the lines. Clerk to write appropriate letter to SCC to ask them to make the contractor aware of this problem so that a better work method might be adopted to ensure this does not happen again.

Lisa Gleave

14. Charitable Donations - to be carried forward.

15. Finance

- Cheques (see attached list) – circulated and agreed by all present. It was agreed the clerk will contact Risby Village Hall Charity Trust to enquire what the annual costs are for producing the Stile magazine.
- Bank Reconciliation circulated and approved. The Chairman ran through the figures.
- It was agreed Nick Lees will be appointed again this year as our internal auditor and the Clerk will contact him accordingly.

Lisa Gleave

Lisa Gleave

16. Matters for consideration at the next meeting

- Bus Stop at Little Saxham
- Play Area
- Charitable Donations

17. Village Events:

Treasure Hunt – 14 May 2017 at 2 pm
Historic Car Rally – 23 July 2017 in the afternoon
Talk on Gt Saxham Village/Church by Clive Paine
Quiz at Barrow Village Hall 11 November 2017.

18. Any Other Business –

A hedge has been planted outside 1 Twites Cottages close to the road. Residents are concerned that it may obstruct drivers' vision when it grows. Clerk to contact Highways for advice on the current legal requirements for planting hedges.

Lisa Gleave

19. Date of Next Meeting: AVM St Andrews Church, Great Saxham 11 May 2017 at 7.00 pm. This will be followed by a Parish Council Meeting. Clerk to notify Church Warden.

Contact details:

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Signed

Chair

Date

Helen Ferguson
Fred Gittus
Jennie Moody
Carol Hall
Sue Dunn
Lisa Gleave (Clerk)

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Signed

Chair

Date