

THE SAXHAMS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 November 2016

at St Nicholas Church, Little 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, Ian Houlder.
2. Declarations of Interest – None.
3. Minutes of last PC meeting held on 1 September 2016 – There were two amendments made. The amended Minutes were then approved by all present and signed off by the Chairman.
4. Matters Arising from Minutes of 1 September 2016
 - Bus Stops in Little Saxham – Carry forward to the next meeting. Mike Burt
5. Suffolk Police Report – The Chairman read out the report but there was nothing relevant to The Saxhams. Moreton Hall residents raised concerns regarding boy racers in the area. There is an increase in cases of hare coursing in rural communities.
6. St Edmundsbury Borough Council – The Chairman read out a report from Councillor Houlder who was not present. The West Suffolk Operational Hub project was approved in June along with capital budgets to deliver the project. Work continues on the design and a planning application is likely to be submitted in the early part of 2017. Ian Houlder 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. Bury based sports clubs (Bury Town FC, Rugby, Sporting 87, Bury Saints, Cricket Club) are working on four key areas to improve sporting facilities: grounds maintenance, pitch planning, opportunities to share facilities and developing a sports narrative for Bury St Edmunds. St Edmundsbury has been awarded £108,000 from the Arts Council to implement a programme of improvements at West Stow and Moyses Hall Museum. West Stow has also been shortlisted in the National Best School Trip Award 2016. St Eds BC has also been awarded £40,000 to develop a Conservation Management Plan for the former Abbey precinct in Bury St Edmunds.
7. Suffolk County Council – Terry Clements was present. He briefly ran through his report. Suffolk's Children's Early Years Foundation Stage Profile results for 2016 continue to rise. The results are slightly higher than the rest of England. Suffolk Record Office has made the final shortlist of International Digital Preservation Awards. A small team has developed a new interactive website which provides access to 900 years of Suffolk's history – www.suffolkarchives.co.uk. The records office is moving to Ipswich.

Signed

Chair

Date

8. Highway matters

- The U7037 Twites Corner, Saxham outside 1 Twites Farm Cottages will be closed from 28.11.16 to 30.11.16 to fix a water leak. The diversion route will be Bury Road, Hargrave Road, Chevington Road, Cobbs Hall Road, Hargrave Road, and vice versa.
- C660 Speeding Traffic - The Clerk contacted the Police following concerns raised by a resident of speeding traffic along the C660. The Police installed speed monitors from 18-26.10.16. The results showed 10.7% of vehicles were captured travelling over the NPCC guidelines of 46mph towards Barrow and 7% travelling towards Little Saxham. The Police have confirmed no further action will be taken by the Police at this time as the majority of vehicles are adhering to the speed limit. It was agreed the Parish Council has done all it can to investigate and address this problem.
- Heavy Goods Vehicles – The Chairman has received a complaint from a resident in Gt Saxham concerning heavy goods vehicles being driven through the village. The Chairman explained a lot of this heavy traffic is farm vehicles. The VAS signs are put along the road in question on a rotational basis. The Parish Council is doing all it can to address this problem.

9. Correspondence -

The Chairman briefly ran through the correspondence.

- As a Parish Council we require a website to enable us to comply with the Transparency Code. In order to maintain our One Suffolk website it is necessary to pay Community Action Suffolk a yearly “hosting fee” of £50.
- Westley Bridge works update - scaffolding will be erected on 31.10.16 and this will take approx. 3 weeks. Full closure of Newmarket Road is planned for the week commencing 13 February 2017 and will last approx. 6 weeks. The bridge should reopen on 14.04.17.

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.**

11. Planning – Applications granted/refused:

- DC/16/1237/FUL – 1 dwelling (including garage) with new vehicular access. In the garden of Glebe Paddocks, Hargrave Road, Great Saxham. **Refused.**
- DC/16/1423/HH – two bay cart lodge, Meadowcroft Cottage, Hargrave Road, Little Saxham. **Approved.**
- SCC/0185/16 – Extension of existing site. Greenways Recycling, Symonds Farm, Newmarket Road, Risby. **Awaiting Decision.**
- DC/16/1723/OUT – parking facility for approx. 100 HGVs, refuelling station, shop, facilities and external works. Storage Site Calor Gas Ltd,

Signed

Chair

Date

Newmarket Road, Risby. **Awaiting Decision.**

12. Play Area Inspection Report

The play area requires some work. It was proposed we budget £1,000 to fix and update certain pieces of equipment. Helen Ferguson will be asked to contact two suppliers (Wicksteed plus one other) to see what can be done to improve the play area with this budget. The matting under the swings needs pressure washing again. Clerk will ask Helen Ferguson if this needs doing now or whether it should wait until Spring.

Helen
Ferguson

13. Grass Maintenance 2017 Season

This will be carried forward to the next meeting.

14. Finance

- Cheques (see attached list) – circulated and agreed by all present.
- Bank Reconciliation circulated and approved. The Chairman ran through the figures.
- Budget Proposals for 2017. The Chairman ran through the budget. We have Option A to keep the precept at £6,000 or Option B to increase it to £6,500. There will be no financial support received from the Borough Council next year. We kept the precept at £5,000 for a number of years increasing it to £6,000 last year. PCs are not encouraged to build up reserves unless there is a planned project. We have budgeted £1,000 to update the play area but we have no other projects in mind. It was agreed we would keep the precept at £6,000 and so (Option A) would be requested. Clerk to complete relevant forms.

Lisa Gleave

Matters for consideration at the next meeting

15.

- Bus Stop at Little Saxham.
- Play Area
- Charitable Donations. If any charities are assisting Great or Little Saxham residents then the PC will consider giving a donation at the next meeting.

16. Village Events – None.

17. Any Other Business – None.

18. Date of Next Meeting: St Andrews Church, Great Saxham 16 February 2017 at 7.30 pm. Clerk to notify Church Warden.

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Signed

Chair

Date