

THE SAXHAMS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd November 2018

at St. Andrew's Church, Great Saxham

Present:

Councillors: Michael Burt (Chairman), Jonathan Clarke (Councillor), Sue Dunn (Councillor), Helen Ferguson (Councillor) and Michelle Thompson (Clerk)

The Chairman, Michael Burt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Action

1. Apologies for Absence – Jennie Moodie

2. Declaration of Interest

An amendment Section 7 the Suffolk County Councillors Report in the Minutes was as follows: -

Karen Soons shared with us that the council continues the hard work that she helped start with the high needs funding consultation back in February 2018. Although she has moved to Pensions, she would like to recognise and praise the hard work of others being done with Children with Special Needs and Disabilities.

3. Minutes of the Last PC Meeting held on 13th September 2018

The Minutes were approved by all and signed off by the Chairman with the amendments made in Section 4 "Damage to Pillar near the Gate House" should be "The Lodge" and width restrictions provisions were discussed.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes 13th September 2018

- Damage to Pillar near The Lodge

Correspondence was received from Highways saying that they class these Pillars as being privately owned even though they are very close to the Highway. Therefore, it is not their duty to protect them from vehicle damage and they suggest that bollards would not be the most effective solution, as they can often fall over or even snap off leaving the Pillar once again unprotected. It was decided to pass this over to the owners of Saxham Hall for their consideration.

**Michelle
Thompson**

- Cycle Route Barrow – Bury St Edmunds

There has been no more progress made with the Saxham to Barrow Section of The Cycle Route and it was therefore agreed to contact the SCC Right of Way Officer.

**Michelle
Thompson**

Signed

Chair

Date

- Farm Traffic Through Little Saxham Village

Due to a number of complaints being made to the Parish Council by residents of Little Saxham, relating to inconsiderate and at times dangerous driving by farm vehicles; a letter was sent outlining their concerns to the farmer Geo. Gittus and Son.

The Chairman read the reply from Gittus out to the Councillors. It conveyed how disappointed they were that their contractors were driving inconsiderately and exceeding the speed limits and would notify them to discourage this from happening in the future.

- Re – Instate Little Saxham Village Sign

The Little Saxham Village sign was demolished in a road accident and has been reported to SCC. A timetable for its replacement has been set, so the Clerk will follow up on this.

5. Suffolk Police Report

The Chairman read from the attached SNT Newsletter.

6. St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Councillor Ian Houlder

Ian Houlder confirmed that he would be standing in the next election but did not know which ward he would be selected for and would keep us updated.

7. Suffolk County Council - Councillor Karen Soons

Karen shared news from her September and October Newsletters, which are attached and that she had been able to provide Locality grants to a number of villages to help with local projects. The importance of the local bus service was discussed and how it should be supported to help maintain it.

8. Chestnut Trees at Twites Corner.

After meeting on site with S.C.C Engineer Antony Smith and discussion with Senior Arboricultural Officer, Michael Rutterford it was determined the land which the Chestnut Tree resides on does NOT belong to St. Edmundsbury Borough Council and further investigation established that this particular parcel of land had not been registered with the Land Registry. In 2003/4 the land and the Twites Corner Houses were taken over by Havebury Housing Association but when they were contacted, they also stated that the land is unregistered and is not their responsibility.

It was then suggested at the Parish Meeting, to undertake further investigation into the ownership of this land.

However, we have had confirmation that the Chestnut Tree situated near the bus stop on the north side of Twites Corner is on a highway, and is therefore S,C.C's responsibility to maintain and this will be assessed and dealt with.

9.

Drainage Issues

- Great Saxham Church Gate Entrance: -This ongoing issue regarding the flooding at the Gates of St Andrew's Church was discussed. Prior to the last Parish Council Meeting Councillor Clarke met with a SCC Engineer Antony Smith who took photos and notes about the site concerned. We are now awaiting a response.

**Michelle
Thompson**

- On the Road North of Symonds Bridge: - Repair works took place by Highways on Symonds Bridge at the end of October, which also seems to have rectified the drainage problem.

10.

Planning Applications Received from Last Meeting:

- DC/18/1429/TPO – TPO (1974) Tree Preservation Order –
(i) 3no. Sycamore (T2,T3 and T4 on plan within area A9 on order) 14no. branches to be cut back for 2.5 meters clearance from banks and reservoir.; (ii) 2no. Hazel (T5 and T6 on plan within area A9 on order) 4no. branches to be cut back to fence by up to 3 meters and (iii) 4no. Ah (T7, T8, T9, and T10 on Plan within area A9 on order) 7no. branches to be cut back for 2.5 meters clearance from banks and reservoir. Little Saxham Water Reservoir and Water Booster, Little Saxham. WIP 25155

Pending

- DC/18/2036/TPO – TPO 363 (2003) – Tree Preservation Order –
(i) T1 and T2 Lime – Remove epicormic growth and lift crown to 3m above ground level (ii) T3 and T4 Cherry – Lift crown 3m above ground level and re-balance tree (iv) T6 Beech – Reduce crown overhanging fence and road by 1.5m to rebalance tree (v) G1 beech and Pine – lift crowns on all trees overhanging road to 5.5 m above ground level (vi) T7 Lift crown to 5m above ground level (vii) T8 Maple- lift crown to 5 m above ground level (viii) T9 Beech – Lift crown to 5m above ground level and reduce Crown by 1.5m roadside (ix) T10 Beech – Lift crown to 5m above ground level and reduce crown by 1.5m roadside.
Class Uk Ltd Saxham Business Park Little Saxham IP28 6QZ

Signed

Chair

Date

Pending

Planning Applications Approved / Refused since last Meeting: -

- DC/18/1465/LB Application for Listed Building Consent - (i) Conversion (ii) 4no barns to 6no dwellings and associated garages and (ii) associated works As per the submitted schedules of works. Land at Honey Hill Farm, Little Saxham

Approved

The Chairman asked Ian Houlder to report back to him regarding the approval of the above planning application.

- DC/18/1464/FUL (i) Conversion of 4no barns to 6no dwellings and associated garages and (ii) associated works as per the submitted schedule of works. Land at Honey Hill Farm Little Saxham.

Refused

- DC/16/1723/OUT Application for Proposed Truckstop- Adj Road from A14 to C629 Risby. Mr George J. Gittus and Sons.

Pending

- DC/18/1345/LB. Application for Listed Building Consent – Amendment to previously approved DC/17/2690/LB – Replace areas on pitched roof from lead to Welsh slate. Saxham Hall Cobbs Road Great Saxham. IP29 5JW

Approved

DC/18/1625/TPO

- **RE-CONSULTATION IN RESPECT OF PLANNING PROPOSAL**

TPO/164(1992) Tree Preservation Order – no1 Beech (T1on Plan, T5 on Order) – Fell, Briarstead, Bury Road, Little Saxham, IP29 5LD

Approved

- DC/18/0588/FUL (i) Dismantle Umbrello (ii) Carry out necessary conservation work (iii) Re-construct Umbrello in new location on Saxham Hall Estate.

Pending

- DC/18/0589/LB **Listed Building Consent** – Dismantle Umbrello (ii) Carry out necessary conservation work (iii) Re-construct Umbrello in new location on Saxham Hall Estate.

Pending

12.

Village Guide

The Village Guide was updated but it was agreed to hold off printing until we have further information on the appointment of a new vicar.

Karen Soons suggested that she could possibly finance the cost of printing the final copy of the Village Guide.

13. Finance

- Cheques – circulated and agreed by all present

I GOT SIGNS (2 nd Dog Fouling Sign)	£26.93	Chq. No:- 310
Came and Comp (Parish Insurance)	£291.20	Chq. No:- 312
Community Action Suffolk (Web Hosting)	£60.00	Chq. No:- 313
Mc Gregors - Grass Cutting Sept	£348.00	Chq. No:- 314
Mc Gregors - Grass Cutting Aug	£342.00	Chq. No:- 315

- Bank Reconciliation was approved and agreed by the Parish Council

- Budget Proposals 2019/20 - Precept

Budget agreed by all, with £250 allocated to the Play Area for the Maintenance Work during the forthcoming year and £500 set aside, on the advice of the Borough Council, for the next four years in case of a contested election.

Setting the Precept at £6000

- Mc Gregors Quotation for 2019/20

This quotation was agreed by all and Mc Gregors said they would not increase their prices for the next two years. With the exception the Play Area.

The Councillors discussed the possibility of allowing part of the churchyard at Great Saxham to become long. They would also like to keep a check on any damaged gravestones.

Signed

Chair

Date

- Clerk's Salary

The clerk's salary was reviewed in line with the National Association of Local Councils pay scales and was increased accordingly and backdated to April 2018. This will be reviewed annually in accordance with the published pay scales.

- Appointment as Ingham Parish Clerk

From January 2019, Michelle Thompson, our Parish Clerk will be Taking on an additional Parish Clerk's role at Ingham.

14. Play Area

The Play Area Reports for August and September 2018 have identified that there is some damage to the wood of the play equipment and the benches need some tender loving care.

It was proposed to replace the goal posts and nets. It was suggested to put in an application but also to perhaps have a village working day /weekend to carry out repairs and renovate the play equipment.

15. Correspondence

The Chairman briefly ran through the correspondence.

16. Any Other Business;

The potholes along Honeyhill Road, Little Saxham and the Chevington to Barrow Road where discussed and it was agreed that they would be reported to Highways.

The lack of Give way marking at the Junction of Honeyhill Road and Barrow Road where discussed and it was suggested that a request be made to Highways to look into this matter.

**Michelle
Thompson**

Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 28th February 2019 at St Nicholas Church Little Saxham at 7.30 pm

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was declared closed 8.45pm

Signed

Chair

Date

Contact details:

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Signed

Chair

Date