

YAXLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council in Yaxley Community Hall on Wednesday 16th December 2015.

Present:

Councillor K Pawsey
Councillor J Moore,
Councillor D Burn,
Councillor A Luff,
Councillor A Watts.

Councillor I Luff,
Councillor C Wright,
Councillor J Hawes,
Councillor R Hall

2 members of the public.

Philip Freeman – Parish Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence.
None.
2. Councillor's Declaration of Interests in Agenda Items.
Councillor Pawsey declared an interest in item 19a.
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 4th November 2015.
The minutes of the meeting on 4th November 2015 were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman, proposed by Councillor A Luff and seconded by Councillor Hall, the following amendments:
 - Item 5 should read: there was a request from Councillor Moore that the Parish Council should pay for a wreath for the War Memorial.
 - Item 8C should read: Stuston not Stassen.
 - Item 9b viii: Royal British Legion - wreath: £25.
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes.
The following items had been actioned:
 - Agenda items for next meeting: **PF**
 - Bid for grant from District Councillor's Fund.
 - Budget and precept for 2016/2017.
 - Meeting to discuss possible group, including Stuston, Palgrave, Yaxley and Mellis Parish Councils, to purchase shared speed gun to self-monitor speed through the villages and/or flashing speed warning sign. **DB**. See below.
 - Cost of flashing speed warning sign.
 - Contact John Simpson at Highways Department about the site for flashing speed warning sign. **PF**.
 - Contact Gillian Hilder at MSDC about grant for purchase of flashing speed warning sign from the Wind Turbine Fund. **PF**
 - Reminder to builders about deadline for quotations for toilet project at Yaxley Community Hall. **PF**
 - Check insurance cover for play area. **PF**
 - Problem with plywood on slide. Contact person who carried out the work. **PF**
 - Cut hedge behind the memorials, contact David Newcombe. **PF**
 - Rota for tidying around bottle bank. **DB**. This completed for the next meeting of the Parish Council.
 - Branch of tree in garden of the house next to the Cherry Tree Public House needs cutting back. Contact the owner of the property. **KP** A contractor had been engaged to undertake the work.
 - Report that white lines on road at junction of Eye Road and A140 need repainting. **PF**
5. Notification of any items of urgent business:
None.

Meeting closed at 7:45 PM.

Public Forum

Planning application for Cherry Tree Close was briefly discussed. See below.

Police Report: the police report was largely unchanged from that the previous meeting, except there had been no crimes reported to the police since the last meeting.

District Councillor Burn:

There was little to report as most items recovered in the Town and Parish Council Newsletter.

- The capacity auction had ended on the Friday before this meeting.
- This was related to electricity generation and the bids high started and reduced.
- Progress Power had dropped out before the capacity requirement was reached. This could be the situation in the future and there will be an annual auction.

Meeting opened at 7:52 PM.

6. Correspondence received.
- Various documents from SALC
 - Various emails from Suffolk Community Foundation.
 - Town and Parish Council Newsletter.
 - Various emails from the Highways Department of Suffolk County Council.
 - Clerks and Councils Direct.
 - Suffolk View.
 - Suffolk Community Healthcare – review of Hartismere Hospital.
 - Christmas and 2016 Bin Collections.
 - Headway Suffolk.
 - East Anglian Air Ambulance.
 - All Change for Suffolk – Constable County.
 - Rest Centre Training.
 - Josh Kerridge – Old Ipswich Road Drainage.
 - Letters about Community Hall extension.
 - Letter from Shane Hines – Cherry Tree Close.
 - Various emails about grants for flashing speed sign.
7. Yaxley Allotments:
- Update on allotment gardens and tenancy agreement.
 - a. Report on the number of vacant plots.
There will be a minimum of 15 vacant plots.
 - b. Applications for Plots:
There were no new applications.
 - c. Tenancy agreements for 2015/2016.
There would be a maximum of 15 tenants and 7 agreements had so far been returned.
 - d. Rats on the allotments – plan for control.
The problem with rats could be caused by vegetation on the compost heap. Councillor Pawsey had rounded it up and as a result there had been no further signs of rats. he will continue to monitor the situation. There will be review at the next meeting.
 - Unused plots:
No action was necessary.
 - Access across the hardstand rented by Mr Hammond for the storage of fire wood.
There had been no response to the letter from the Parish Council.
8. Highways Matters:
- a. Flooding on Old Ipswich Road in front of School House/Lyon Cottage. Update.
Two emails had been received from Josh Kerridge of the Highways Department Suffolk County Council. He had followed up the drainage problem and sent letters to the householders concerned. The plan of the drainage in the area will be sent to councillors. **Action: the Clerk.**
 - b. Update on possible group, including Stuston, Palgrave, Yaxley and Mellis Parish Councils, to purchase shared speed gun to self-monitor speed through the villages and flashing speed warning sign.
Councillor Burn reported:
 - He had spoken individually to the parish councils and had received a positive response.
 - They will send representatives to a working group.
 - He will convene a meeting about the speed gun in the New Year. **Action: Councillor Burn.**

It was agreed that the Parish Council should proceed with the purchase of a flashing speed warning sign and the relevant documents about them will be circulated with the correspondence folder.

9. Finances and financial report

- a. Balances on Accounts: 27th November 2015.
- i. Current Account: £8,698.25p.
 - ii. Deposit Account: £5,565.61p.
- The account balances were noted. In addition, the Clerk had circulated a copy of this year's accounts.
- b. To authorise cheques for signature:
N.B. Cheque signatories to initial cheque stub and invoice.
- i. Clerk's Pay and Expenses: £222.21p
 - ii. HMRC: £54.80p
 - iii. NH Building Design – copies of plans: £18.00p.
 - iv. K Pawsey – quarry tiles and cement for village sign: £63.61p
 - v. Paul Browne – refurbishment of village sign: £142.90p
 - vi. Material Change – playground bark chips: £448.80p
- Resolved**, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts presented.
Proposed by Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Wright.

c. Receipts: None.

d. Budget and Precept 2016/2017.

The Clerk had prepared a draft budget which had been circulated to councillors. He highlighted the following changes:

- An amount for an election if one is required following Councillor Watts' planned resignation at the end of the financial year.
- An increase in the Clerk's pay following the decision to increase his hourly rate earlier this year.
- An increase in the playground costs due to the need for additional playground chips each year.
- The grant that the Parish Council will receive from Mid Suffolk District Council had been reduced by 50%.
- The precept would remain the same as in the previous year.

Following a short discussion it was unanimously agreed to accept the draft budget and the precept which had been recommended by the Clerk. Proposed by Councillor Hawes and seconded by Councillor Watts. The documentation that had to be sent to Mid Suffolk District Council was signed.

e. Request for financial support from Yaxley Messenger.

Nothing to report.

f. Other request for financial support: None.

g. Projects that the Parish Council may Finance

i. Disabled toilets/toilet refurbishment for the Community Hall.

- Update on the planning application.
- Quotations for the work.

The quotations were due on Friday, 18th December 2015. They will be open by the Clerk and at least one councillor will be present.

- Grant application – District Councillor's Fund.

The Chairman gave the following report

- The Community Hall Committee had been gathering information on the use of the Hall and a survey would be carried out after Christmas.
- He thanked the Committee for all they had been done.
- Any group could apply to the District Council's fund for a grant:
- Because of Councillor Burn's membership of the Parish Council he would not be able to adjudicate on an application made for this project.
- Grants would range from £250-£5,000 but an application did not guarantee that an award will be made.
- Overall grants in the region of £20,000 would be needed.

Following a discussion it was agreed to apply for £3,000 from this fund, proposed by Councillor Luff and seconded by Councillor Moore. Councillor Burn declared a nonpecuniary interest because of his involvement as the local District Councillor.

It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Councillor Fleming for a grant from the Locality Budget of £3,000, proposed by Councillor

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Hawes and seconded by Councillor I Luff. Councillor Burn declared a non-pecuniary interest.

10. Repairs to Village Sign.
The repairs to the village sign had been completed and it now looked very good. The Chairman thanked Councillor Hawes for the help given him in the work and also complimented Paul Browne for the work he had done.
11. Review of Deeds of Yaxley Community Centre.
Nothing to report.
12. Cherry Tree Close Working Party.
Nothing further to report but Cherry Tree Close had not yet been adopted.
13. Closure of the Post Office and Shop in Yaxley.
The Post Office and shop would not reopen and it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.
14. Community Emergency Plan.
Councillor Luff gave the following report:
 - He had attended a conference on 13th November 2015 which he had found very helpful.
 - He had written the first draft of the plan.
 - In the plan there would be advice that vulnerable people should register for reconnection of water and power, either with the Parish Council or Anglian Water and Network Power.
 - The plan would be used as a support and refuge plan.
 - There would be a need for volunteers to implement the plan in an emergency.
 - Due to its length he proposed to bring it to the Parish Council in sections for consideration.
 - Once the plan had been completed it will be included in the Suffolk County Council register of plans.
 - It was agreed to continue and complete the plan.Councillors thanked Councillor Luff for all he had done in the preparation of the plan.
15. Community Led Plan for Yaxley.
This item would be considered at the meeting in March 2016.
16. Dates of Meetings in 2016:
The Clerk had produced a list of the dates of meetings:
27th January, 9th March, 20th April, 25th May (includes APM), 6th July, 17th August, 28th September, 9th November and 21st December. These were agreed. The Clerk will book the Hall for these meetings. **Action: the Clerk.**
17. Eye Airfield:
 - a. Applications for Grants from Wind Turbine Fund.
Following a discussion Councillor Burn offered to look at the 106 Agreement to see if it will be possible for the Parish Council to make an application. Councillors Luff and Watts offered to write an application, if it were appropriate.
 - b. Progress Power Application:
 - i. Compulsory Acquisition Notice.
Nothing to report.
18. Parish Council matters for publication in the Yaxley Messenger.
It was agreed that the Clerk should write a piece for the Yaxley Messenger as an update on the work on the Community Hall and that the Parish Council was looking into speed control issues.
19. Planning: To include any applications received after the publication of this agenda.
 - a. Applications:
 - i. Application No. 4028/15:
Location: Land off Cherry Tree Close: application for outline planning permission for erection of 15 new dwellings.

Members of the Parish Council had visited the site and it was noted that several objections had been made to the application. As a result of the discussion it was agreed to make the following points in objecting to the application, proposed by Councillor Watts and seconded by Councillor Moore. Councillors Burn and Pawsey abstained from the vote:

- There have been serious problems for the past twelve years in the adoption of the existing development of Cherry Tree Close by Suffolk County Council. To further develop this area, without the existing development being adopted, would be a serious mistake.
- The local infrastructure would not sustain the building of this number of additional properties in Yaxley:
 - There are insufficient health care facilities locally.
 - The local schools have limited capacity to cope with additional children.
 - There is little public transport in the area.
 - There is no footpath alongside the road to the nearest primary school and this would increase the use of private cars to take children from a new development to the school.
- The original site of the development on Cherry Tree Close had significant levels of contamination and it is likely that the site, where the development of the 15 new dwellings is planned, will also be contaminated.
- By adding 15 new dwellings there would be a significant increase in congestion on Cherry Tree Close caused by parked cars at night and during weekends. This would cause problems for access to Cherry Tree Close, in particular, by emergency vehicles and, through the Close to the development where the 15 new dwellings would be situated.
- The application to build 15 new dwellings states that there is a shop in the village. It closed earlier this year and it will not reopen.
- The main part of the development would be outside the existing settlement boundary.
 - ii. Application No. 3778/15:
Location: Sunnyside Cottage, Church Lane, Yaxley IP23 8BU
Proposal: Minor material amendment to implemented planning permission 1402/04 ('Erect two storey dwelling and attached cart lodge **using** existing vehicular access') to reduce extent of demolition in order to allow creation of annex (and reduce size of approved cart lodge).
 - This application had not been received in time to be included on the published agenda.
 - It was agreed that there should be an additional meeting on 6th January 2016 to consider this application.
 - The Clerk will request an extension until 8th January 2016 for the Council to make its comments to Mid Suffolk District Council.
 - Councillor Burn informed the Council that this application would be considered by the Planning Committee because he was the applicant. Therefore he had an interest in this item.

b. Planning Decisions:

i. Approved:

- Application No 3869/15: Change to the approved landscaping at land adj Linden Lea, Mellis Road, Yaxley.
- Application Number: 3482/15: Change of use of agricultural land to residential (retrospective application)
Location: Yawn Cottage, Old Norwich Road, Yaxley, IP23 8BH
- Application Number: 3479/15: Change of use of agricultural land to residential (retrospective application)
Location: Walnut Tree House, Old Norwich Road, Yaxley, IP23 8BH

ii. Refused: None.

20. Play Area:

a. To receive Play Area Inspection Report.

Councillor Wright gave the following report:

- The new chippings had been spread. Thanks to all those who helped with this work.
- Everything was in order.
- He agreed to continue until the next meeting.

Councillor a Luff gave the following report:

- The sign with the emergency numbers had been prepared.
 - The list of numbers was as advised at the course she had attended.
 - There was a recommendation that there should be a weekly check of the Play Area rather than every six weeks.
- b. Annual Play Inspection report.
The Clerk will contact the contractor about the repair work that has still got to be carried out to the slide.

21. Yaxley Cemetery:

- a. To consider inspection report – Cllr J Hawes.
The memorials were secure and the hedge had been tidied. The grass had been cut recently and all was in order.

22. To receive Councillor's reports:

- a. Cllr Burn – EPR.
Councillor Burn made the following points in his report:
- There had been no noxious problems or complaints.
 - There was a new weighbridge on site and refurbishment had been carried out.
 - There had been a pressure test to parts of the system.
 - The two skin stack had corroded and had been repaired.
 - There had been a change of ownership.
 - There had been a small non-compliance on dioxin but this was not hazardous.
 - Work had begun on the new Trans Am site.
- b. Cllr Burn – SALC.
Nothing to report.
- c. Cllr Moore – Yaxley Town Estates Fund.
The date of the meeting had still to be agreed.

23. A.O.B. – Any Items raised earlier but not for an extended discussion or decisions and items for inclusion at next meeting on 27th January 2016.

The following points were raised:

- The problem of parking by the junction of the Eye Road with the Street:
 - Councillor Luff had attended a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore, and the Acting Chief Constable where it had been highlighted that there was a reassigning of resources.
 - He had raised the problem of parking on the junction and that the Police had refused to enter into a dialogue with the democratically elected representatives of Yaxley.
 - PCSOs will no longer attend parish meetings and it was agreed that their powers were insufficient.
 - It was also noted that additional cars were now parking near to the junction.

Meeting closed at 9:47 p.m.

Action points:

- Rota for tidying around the recycling bank. **DB.**
- Speed sign documents to be circulated with the correspondence folder.
- Email drainage map from Josh Kerridge to Parish Councillors. **PF.**
- Arrange meetings for local Parish Council to form a working group to discuss the purchase of a speed gun. **DB**
- Contact Councillor Fleming about the grant from the locality budget. **PF.**
- Review the availability of a grant from the 106 Agreement. **DB.**
- Update in the Yaxley messenger on the progress with the toilets and that the Parish Council was looking into speed control measures. **PF.**
- Preparation of the Parish Council's objection to the planning application for Cherry Tree Close. **PF.**
- An additional meeting would be called on 6th January 2016 to consider the application for Sunnyside Cottage. In addition, a request will be made to Mid Suffolk District Council for an extension for the Parish Councils comments until 8th January 2016. **PF.**
- Make an application for a grant from the Local Fund. **PF.**