

DALHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 15th January 2013

Those present: Rachael Padman (Chairman), Jackie Bolton (Vice-Chairman), Colum Carr, Vera Azzuri, Jerry Mrs J Ince (clerk), District Councillor Carol Lynch and PC John Gowing.

3 members of the public attended the meeting

1. Discussion with Lauren Gibson Green, James Midwood and Andrew Fleet about the Dalham Estate's proposals for The Old School House

Lauren Gibson Green explained the proposals for the Old School House in Dalham. The initial intention had been to refurbish the original building, but the structural surveys discovered that the building did not have any foundations. It also needed a new roof and so would require new foundations to conform with current building regulations. They looked at all the options to try and save the original building, but none of the options were financially viable. Plans for a new building have now been drawn up and will be submitted in a couple of weeks. The architect's brief was to produce a building made from materials sympathetic to the area. There is no flint in the building as the architect tried to design something similar to the original building. The form of the building takes its stance from what is already there. Once complete it will be let on the open market as a country home by the Dalham Estate. The aim is for the building to blend in by using materials from the local area. The architect agreed to produce a pallet of the materials that will be used so that the Council can envisage what the building will look like. The same access will be used and improved as much as possible.

Could the original date stone be included in the new building? There isn't one. There is only a modern plaque.

Have you had pre-application discussions with Forest Heath District Council? Yes but the conservation officer hasn't come out yet.

Could you try to manage the flow of lorries coming into the site as there is a problem with speeding lorries? Yes, and they will not be allowed to work on Sundays. The Estate is mindful of trying to work with the village hence their visit to this meeting.

A question was asked about replacement trees for the Chestnut Avenues. Lauren Gibson Green confirmed that sixteen 15ft Lime trees have been ordered as they are the only trees at the moment which do not have some sort of disease.

A question was raised about damage to the river bank caused by sugar beet lorries. Lauren Gibson Green agreed to look into this.

Lauren Gibson Green confirmed that the Dalham Estate is happy to purchase two grit bins for the village.

2. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Angela Carr

3. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

No councillors declared an interest in any items on the agenda. C Carr, R Padman and V Azzuri all declared an interest in item 13c on the agenda.

4. Report from the Safer Neighbourhood Team

Three crimes have been reported in Dalham since the last meeting, theft from a motor vehicle, one burglary of a dwelling, and the theft of keys left outside a property. Moulton School was broken into and their laptop computers stolen. Residents are asked to contact the Police if they see anything suspicious.

5. Report from Councillor Chambers (see written report)

The report will be circulated to councillors.

6. Report by Councillor Lynch

The Council asked Councillor Lynch if she could find out who they should contact at Forest Heath District Council about flood risk management.

7. Co-option of new councillors following the resignation of C Carlson

The Council declared a resolution to close the meeting so that the co-option of new councillors could be decided in confidence. Councillors voted on the first vacancy. Following a majority vote, Jerry Atkinson was co-opted onto the Council. Councillors voted on the second vacancy. Following a majority vote, Isobel Aylott was co-opted onto the Council. I Aylott completed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and a Register of Members Interest form.

8. Flood risk in Dalham

E-mail from Peter Romanuik asking whether it would be a good idea to verify the Environment Agency's flood risk assessment for Dalham. It was resolved that R Padman will talk to Peter Romanuik and Phil Brown with a view to setting up a working party to investigate the flood risk in Dalham.

9. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20th November 2012

It was resolved that the minutes were correct. The chairman then signed the minutes.

10. Update on matters arising since the last meeting

The following actions are still outstanding:

- Pass the letter about the Dalham Searchlights on to Gerry Atkinson or back to the Council if he is unable to help.
- Scan the letter and e-mail it to all the councillors (AC)
- Ask Mary Sharpe about the Dalham Searchlights (JB)

11. Village Hall Report

The Village Hall Committee is working on plans for a time capsule in Dalham.

12. Finance

a) Approval of payments

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- HMRC, PAYE, LGA 1972, s111 - £124.20
- K Hutchinson & Son - Open Spaces Act 1906, s10(b) - £384.00

b) Receipts and payments made since the last meeting

The statement of receipts and payment was approved by the Council

c) Closing of the Santander Account

It was resolved that the Council would close this account and arrange for the money to be transferred to the current account.

d) E-mail from FHDC about proposed changes to the Parish tax base and proposed grant arrangements for 2013/14 - for information only.

e) Parish Estimates form for 2013/14

R Padman, J Bolton, C Carr and J Ince signed the Parish Estimates form for 2013/14. The precept request will be £5,210.00.

12. Planning

a) F/2012/0720/HOU - Byway, Dunstall Green Road - Erection of detached cartlodge (Development affecting the setting of a Listed Building). Extension granted until 16th January 2013. It was resolved that the Council would object to this application for the following reasons:

- The Council is pleased that the location of the cartlodge has now been moved however the size and scale of the cartlodge is too big and will harm the setting of the listed building next to it.
- The style does not reflect the style of other cartlodges in the area
- The specifications suggest a purpose other than that of a garage and the Council requests that FHDC includes a condition to prohibit residential and commercial use in the future
- The hours of work should be restricted to reduce the impact of noise on the neighbours.

b) E-mail from Mark Pickerell at Forest Heath District Council re application number F/2012/0652/HOU - Manor Cottage, The Street, Dalham - planning application for conservatory. This application has been refused

b) F/2012/0778/CAT - 3 Gazeley Road, Dalham - fell 2 x conifer trees.

It was resolved that no objections would be made to this application.

c) Draft Empty Homes Strategy.

It was resolved that no response would be submitted.

d) To discuss the way forward following the presentation by Boyd Nicholas and to decide whether the Council would like to include the possibility of requesting an Article 4 Direction on the agenda of the Annual Parish Meeting.

It was resolved that this item would be included on the agenda of the Annual Parish Meeting before any decisions are made.

13. Highways Issues

a) Speed management data for Stores Hill

It was resolved that the discussion about speeding would be delayed until the data comes in for Lidgate Road.

b) Grit bins

The Dalham Estate has agreed to purchase two grit bins. C Carr agreed to purchase another two. The following locations were suggested:

- On the junction with Dunstall Green Road and Denham Road
- At the top of Stores Hill

- Near the Affleck Arms (C Carr will speak to the landlord)
- Near the Sounds (To be confirmed)

It was resolved that information about spreading grit will be included in the next newsletter to make residents aware that they can be covered by Suffolk County Council's insurance to spread grit should they need to and that the clerk maintains a list of volunteers.

c) Grass cutting contract

It was resolved that the Council would renew the grass cutting contract with K Hutchinson and Sons, to start 4 weeks after the daffodils come out and that V Azurri or R Padman will e-mail the clerk to let her know when she needs to contact K Hutchinson.

14. Correspondence:

- a) Letter from Henry Tapp inviting Dahlam to join in with the Fit Villages project. It was resolved that this information would be passed on to the Village Hall Management Committee.
- b) E-mail from E Ferris re the next Parish Forum on Tuesday 22nd January 2013 at 7pm at Red Lodge Millennium Centre. R Padman agreed to attend.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.41p.m.

Signed (Chairman) Dated