

DALHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 17th July 2012

Those present: Rachael Padman (Chairman), Jackie Bolton (Vice-Chairman), Colum Carr, Angela Carr and Mrs J Ince (clerk). PCSO Becky Simpson and County Councillor Lisa Chambers were also present.

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies were received from C Carlson and V Azzuri. Carol Lynch also sent her apologies.

2. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

No councillors declared an interest in any items on the agenda.

3. Report from the Safer Neighbourhood Team

No crimes have been reported in Dalham since the last meeting. The Safer Neighbourhood Team is trying to focus on farmers and distraction burglaries. They are giving out stickers with numbers to call if people want to check that a caller is genuine. These numbers will be included in the next newsletter.

4. Report by Councillor Chambers - written report attached

Councillor Chambers spoke about the new textile recycling scheme. Residents are encouraged to put all old textiles which are not good enough to give to charity in a bag in their blue bin. Details will be included in the next newsletter. She also spoke about proposals to work more closely with the Cambridgeshire Fire Service by sharing the management structure. This does not mean that fire stations will be closed.

Councillor Chambers was asked to chase up the requested SID visit and covert speed monitoring, to find out Suffolk County Council's grass cutting schedule and to report the fact that one of the 30mph signs has been knocked down.

5. Approval of minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 15th May 2012 and the planning meeting held on Friday 29th June 2012

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

6. Update on matters arising since the last meeting

The following actions are still outstanding:

- a) Letter about the Dalham Searchlights which was to be passed on to G Atkinson or back to the Council if he is unable to help. Scan the letter and e-mail it to all the councillors (AC)

7. Finance

a) Approval of payments

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- J P Ince, salary June and July LGA 1972, s111 – £330.04
- J P Ince, expenses, April - June 2012, LGA 1972, s111, £17.50
- J Brown - to reimburse the cost of expenses for the Diamond Jubilee, LGA 1972, s137 - £274.68
- K Hutchinson & Son - verge cutting £384.00, Highways Act 1980, s.96

b) Receipts and payments made since the last meeting

The statement of receipts and payment was approved by the Council

c) Approval of the clerk's Contract of Employment

It was resolved that the clerk's contract would be approved. The Chairman and clerk then signed it.

d) Approval of the following regular payments:

It was resolved that the following regular payments would be approved:

- i. Clerk's salary of £165.42 by monthly standing order
- ii. HMRC - PAYE (Quarterly)
- iii. K Hutchinson & Son - grass cutting - £320.00

12. Planning

- a. F/2012/0286/CAT - The Old Rectory Church Lane Dalham - Targeted crown reduction to small area of canopy overhanging the entrance gate (approx 20% reduction to 10% of the crown) of 1 x Beech tree. Re-shape top of 1 x Lime tree. Fell 4 x Horse Chestnut trees. Application granted.
- b. Brown UPVC windows have been installed in a grade II listed building. It was resolved that the clerk would contact Forest Heath to discuss how to proceed once she has been given the name of the property.
- c. F/2012/0322/CAT - fell 16 horse chestnut trees and 2 beech trees. Following the response submitted by the Council to this application asking for more information about replacement trees, Mark Pickrell from Forest Heath District Council contacted the Council to say that Forest Heath District Council does not have the legal powers to enforce, and any replacements are not a material issue in the consideration of this application. This District Council has greater powers when dealing with trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) but, in this

instance, it is not feasible to issue a TPO due to the age and poor health of the trees. For further information on the potential for replacements it is recommended that the Council contacts the applicant directly.

13. New SALC Model Code of Conduct and Register of Interest forms

It was resolved that the SALC Model Code of Conduct would be adopted. Councillors completed new Register of Interest forms.

14. Highways/Rights of Way issues:

- a) Drainage down Denham Road (sketches received from Paul Harris). It was resolved that the clerk would report these problems to Guy Smith at Highways and send in a copy of Paul Harris's sketch. Councillor Chambers will also be copied in.
- b) The clerk has reported the grips along The Street and the B1065 which need clearing.
- c) Verge cutting - the verges have been cut once. The contractor did not cut up to the top of Stores Hill, but has agreed to come back to do this. It was resolved that:
 - a) The Council would contact K Hutchinson when the verges need cutting again and the decision would be delegated to R Padman and V Azzuri as to which option to choose depending on the weather and how much the grass has been grown.
 - b) The clerk will include something in the newsletter to find out whether residents of Dunstall Green Road would like their verges cut as well.

15. Village notice board

It was resolved that the Council would put something in the newsletter stating that other village organisations can drop information round to one of the councillors if they would like to display it on the notice board.

16. Councillor's details for the website

It was resolved that the clerk would e-mail the update form to councillors.

17. Dalham Oil Purchase Scheme

It was resolved that details of the Higham Scheme would be included in the newsletter as no one has come forward to run the Dalham scheme. The clerk was asked to write to Gwyneth Scheybeler thanking her for running the scheme and asking if she will notify her customers that no one has come forward to take over and giving details of the Higham Scheme.

18. Correspondence:

- a. Flood Management Summary document and consultation. It was resolved that the clerk would circulate a sample emergency plan and that this item will be included on the next agenda.
- b. Greener Communities project offering free insulation to homes in Suffolk. It was resolved that details of the scheme would be included in the newsletter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30p.m.

Signed (Chairman) Dated