

DALHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17th November 2016

Councillors present: Isobel Aylott (Chairman), Rachael Padman and Karine Ferrin

Also present: Joanne Kirk (Clerk) and District Councillor Roger Dicker

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Jackie Bolton.

2. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

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

3. Approval of minutes of the meeting held on 29th September 2016

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

4. Report from District Councillor Roger Dicker

Roger Dicker spoke about the following:

- His disappointment that the leader of the Council did not let district councillors vote on the High Court challenge to the decision over Hatchfield Farm. The decision was made by the Cabinet.
- The MOD has confirmed that it has no plans for RAF Mildenhall so now the decision has to be made as to its future.
- Devolution – the vote will take place on 22nd November to decide whether to commit to devolution with Suffolk and Norfolk. If just one council votes against it, devolution will not take place. He will be voting against it as he does not feel it is the right decision for Suffolk.
- East Cambs would like to build another 500 homes in Kennett. There is a lot of concern about the road infrastructure particularly the junction near the Bell pub.

5. Police issues

a) The police and lost property

Suffolk Police do not deal with the majority of reports of lost and found property. If firearms, drugs, high value items, laptops, cameras or mobile phones are found they should be taken to one of their public enquiry offices in Ipswich, Lowestoft or Bury St Edmunds. No attempt should be made to handle dangerous items: contact the Police via **101** or in an emergency **999**.

Items such as passports, driving licences or bank cards should be returned to the issuing agency.

If someone loses something, this does not need to be reported to police unless it is a hazardous item such as a firearm, ammunition, explosives, chemicals or poisons: again, contact us the Police via **101** or in an emergency **999**. If residents are unsure what to do, there is an online form which will direct them to the most appropriate course of action, or the appropriate alternative agency.

6. Update on list of actions agreed at the last meeting

There were two outstanding councillor actions.

7. Finance

a) Approval of any payments and signing of Schedule of Payments

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- J P Kirk expenses – LGA 1972, s111 – **£10.00**

Rachael Padman and Karine Ferrin signed the Schedule of Payments. The Chairman then countersigned it.

b) Approval of payments authorised between meetings

- 20/10/16, CAS Ltd - insurance for defibrillator, S137 - **£29.68**

It was resolved that this payment would be approved.

c) Approval of the record of online payments

Rachael Padman checked and signed the record of online payments.

d) Signatory to complete the checklist of Internal Controls

Rachael Padman completed and signed the checklist of internal controls.

e) **Draft budget and budget report**

It was resolved that the figures in the draft budget would be adjusted to include a fund for ongoing maintenance of the defibrillator. The final budget will be approved in January 2017.

8. **Planning**

- a) **DC/16/2054/LB, Sounds Cottage, 12 Lidgate Road, Dalham, (i) Removal of softwood windows and french doors and replace with hardwood windows and doors (ii) Removal of dwarf walls in breakfast room and lowering of cill (iii) Removal of external cement render and replacement with limebased render**

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

9. **Highways/rights of way matters/tree or transport issues:**

a) **Speed reduction measures**

Clare Starling from Suffolk County Council has confirmed that Dalham Parish Council would have to fund any speed reduction measures themselves. The approximate cost for white gates, dragons' teeth and a 30mph roundel would be £3,000. Roger Dicker agreed to speak to Robin Millar about possible funding.

b) **Vehicle Activated Signs**

The posts for the VAS have now been installed. It was resolved that:

- The clerk would contact the clerk at Kennett to find out where they purchased their VAS from
- The clerk would send the link to the Westcotec website to the councillors.
- Isobel Aylott would be authorised to make the final decision on behalf of the Council as to which VAS to buy
- An additional set of brackets would be purchased
- Rachael Padman would measure the VAS posts.

10. **Village issues**

a) **Defibrillator**

The defibrillator has now been purchased and training has taken place. Karine Ferrin is now looking for an electrician to install it. It was resolved that additional training would be organised provided that 12 residents are interested.

b) **Footpath Map**

No update was available.

c) **Sharing local information via a Facebook Page**

It was resolved that a Dalham Community Facebook page would be set up with Jackie Bolton and Iain Johnston to act as administrators. Karine Ferrin agreed to ask Iain Johnston if he would be willing to set one up.

11. **Correspondence**

a) **Survey about the delivery of public services**

The clerk agreed to email the link to Isobel Aylott.

b) **SALC survey about local policing**

The clerk agreed to email the link to Isobel Aylott.

c) **Boundary commission consultation**

The current parliamentary boundaries in Suffolk were designed to achieve electoral equality and have resulted in some as fairly arbitrary dividing lines. The Boundary Commission proposal is for there to be 7 constituencies in Suffolk with South Suffolk Constituency to be split between three districts instead of two. West Suffolk and Bury St Edmunds remain split between two. In the case of the South Suffolk Constituency, there are (and will remain) two district wards from St Edmundsbury: Clare and Cavendish with just over 3000 electors. Full details of the proposals are available at: <https://www.bce2018.org.uk/>.

13. **Any other business for noting or including on the agenda**

The clerk was asked to add the following item to the next agenda:

The suggestion to buy a Femcell for Village Hall linked in to Wifi so that people can use their mobile phones.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.16pm.

Signed (Chairman) Dated