

DALHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 21st January 2014

Those present: Rachael Padman (Chairman), Isobel Aylott, Jackie Bolton, Jerry Atkinson, V Azzuri, Mrs Ince (clerk) and County Councillor Lisa Chambers.

2 members of the public was also present.

The following issues were raised during the Open Forum

Who is responsible for the footbridges to the properties next to the River Kennet? County Councillor Lisa Chambers agreed to look into this and respond to the resident direct.

Another resident asked about the water supply to the Almshouses on Stores Hill. The water pipe which supplies these properties is very old and needs updating. It crosses his land and he has asked Anglian Water if they would be willing to upgrade it. He has been told that he is responsible for paying for upgrading the pipes. Is the Parish Council interested in taking this up with Anglian Water? This item will be added to the next agenda.

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

2. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

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

3. Report from Councillor Chambers

Councillor Chambers spoke about:

- Suffolk County Council's Better Broadband campaign
- Applying for places at primary schools in Suffolk.
- The new care home which has opened in Eye
- The campaign to make sure families who are entitled to free school meals do actually claim.
- SCC has secured a grant of nearly £200,000 to support creative-sector apprenticeships and internships.

A question was asked about budget cuts, in particular to Children's Services. Councillor Chambers confirmed that there will be a 1.5 million cut to children services which will be covered by last year's one million pound under spend and some staff restructuring. Suffolk County Council is faced with a budget reduction of 156 million pounds over the next four years. Suffolk County Council is committed to maintaining front line services and is looking at other ways to make these cuts.

Lisa Chambers was asked about arranging a meeting with Guy Smith about the Council's grass cutting contract. She was also asked to organise a joint workshop with other parish councils about speeding.

The residents in Malt Kiln house have confirmed that the trees along the verge do not belong to them. The Council also asked about the leylandii hedge in Dalham. L Chambers agreed to arrange for the hedge to be cut back by Suffolk County Council.

4. Village hall report

The village hall is hoping to purchase a new projector.

5. Update on list of actions since the last meeting

a) Request for a list of properties in Dalham

The Council has received a response from Rachael Manning at FHDC following its request for a list of the properties in Dalham. All residential properties within Dalham will be registered for Council Tax. This number will be different to Dalham's formal council tax base information as this relates to the number of properties which Dalham will be able to levy its council tax requirement on, taking into account the property bandings, council tax discounts, exemptions and an overall council collection rate. Rachael Manning has asked the purpose of the list so that she can ensure that the correct information is provided.

The Council asked the clerk to respond by saying that it would like know the details of all the properties in Dalham registered for Council Tax as not all properties appear on the electoral roll and the Council is keen to know the precise make up of the village.

b) Setting up a Lloyds Reserve Account

The clerk was asked to check with Angela Carr when the form was sent off.

c) PSMA Mapping Software

It was resolved that the clerk would be authorised to register Dalham Parish Council once Rachael Padman had read the terms and conditions.

6. Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17th September 2013

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

7. Finance

a) **Summary of the receipts and payments made since the last meeting**

It was resolved that the statement of receipts and payments was correct

b) **Parish and Town Precept Form 2014/15**

The Parish Council Tax element of the Council Tax in 2014/15 will be £44.32. The Chairman and clerk signed the form.

c) **Direct Debit mandate for the clerk's workplace pension**

Two signatories signed the direct debit form to Fidelity FundsNetwork for the Council's contribution to the clerk's pension as agreed in the budget. The direct debit will be for £15 per month, commencing on 1st April 2014.

8. **Planning**

a) **Letter from Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury re an addendum to their Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).**

It was resolved that no response would be submitted.

b) **DC/13/0696/LB - The Mill, Stores Hill - erection of a first storey rear extension affecting the setting of a listed building - application refused for the following reason:**

The size, scale, form and design of the proposed first floor extension would add significant bulk to the existing building and would fail to have regard to its simple form and modest size. The large amount of glazing proposed would fail to respect the traditional character of the building and overall, the proposal would result in a bulky, incongruous and contrived addition that would cause substantial harm to the curtilage listed Mill House and the setting of the grade II listed Mill.*

c) **Date of the drop in event on 26th April 2014 to give residents more information about what an Article 4 Direction would involved.**

It was resolved that the Council would organise an informal meeting to brainstorm ideas and plan the event.

d) **The Woodyard**

The Council has received a copy of the 1977 footings certificate.

9. **Highways/Rights of Way issues:**

a) **Outstanding Highways/Rights of Way issues**

The Council discussed the outstanding Highways issues with Lisa Chambers. She agreed to report them again to Guy Smith and ask him to respond to the clerk.

b) **Leylandii hedge**

Lisa Chambers agreed to ask Guy Smith to arrange for the trees to be cut back by Suffolk County Council.

12. **Emergency Plan and authorise the clerk to register for PSMA (see Terms and Conditions first)**

A date will be set for a working group to discuss the Emergency plan. Rachael Padman agreed to look at the terms and conditions on the PSMA website. It was resolved that the clerk would be authorised to register the Parish Council with PSMA once the terms and conditions have been checked.

13. **Neighbourhood Watch**

There is currently no Neighbourhood Watch in Dalham. It was resolved that the Council would promote the Police Direct service and the new Police 101 number in the newsletter.

14. **Change of meeting date in July**

It was resolved that the July meeting date would be changed to 29th July.

15. **Village Welcome pack**

The clerk agreed to compile a basic welcome pack using information from the Dalham website

16. **Correspondence:**

a) **E-mail from Janette Scarborough of the Suffolk Local History Society asking for help to find a Village Recorder**

Isobel agreed to ask a resident in Dalham who may be interested. If she is not interested, a request for volunteers will be included in the newsletter.

b) **E-mail from Suffolk County Council re their Warm Homes Healthy People Scheme**

It was resolved that details of the scheme would be included in the next newsletter.

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

The following items will be added to the next agenda:

a) **E-mail from a resident about problems obtaining insurance because of the flood risk in Dalham. Lisa Chambers agreed to look into it as well.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00p.m.

Signed (Chairman) Dated