

BEYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 28 November 2016

PRESENT: Cllrs G Jones (Chair), J Clark, G Lockhart-White, P Orsler and A Pope

IN ATTENDANCE: Co Cllr P Otton (part time), Dist Cllr D Haley (part time), Messrs R Brand, A Rollett, I Marshall, J Rapley, R Wyartt, and the Parish Clerk

16/275	ANNOUNCEMENT: Cllr Jones read SALC's statement regarding filming/recording of meetings.	
276	APOLOGIES NOTED: Dist Cllr E Jewson	
277	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None	
278	COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Cllr Otton reported that SCC had agreed to extend its Highways contract with Messrs Keir for a further five years during which time it is hoped to see an improvement in their performance; SCC will be maintaining a watching brief. She added that our former Highways contact, Josh Kerridge, has moved on and is succeeded by David Irving as the new Highways Locality Officer. It was noted that the Police will no longer deal with road closures in respect of events. The Police have recently issued 12k reflector badges to primary school children to wear when cycling or walking. Cllr Otton advised that SCC's budget is available to download and comment upon. A further cut to the Libraries budget is being proposed. Those residents, who value their libraries, should notify Cllr Otton. Devolution: This matter is being referred back to the Secretary of State. Locality Fund: Cllr Otton is happy to contribute £2k towards this proposed expenditure. Cllr Jones expressed the CSW's gratitude in this regard.	
279	DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Cllr Haley reported that MSDC's web site is undergoing a facelift to make it more 'user friendly' and would welcome comments in this regard. Legal Services are being shared between BDC, Forest Heath, MSDC and St Edmundsbury Borough Council. It is hoped that the remainder of the County will <i>come on board</i> . <u>Snoasis</u> : A Reserved Matters application had latterly been received and now forms a full PA. BT Telephone Boxes: Some still exist in Thurston. Recycling Leaflets: New leaflets had been distributed. Cllr Otton left the meeting. A review of how Warden Assisted Places are managed in Suffolk is to be undertaken. The new BDC/MSDC CEO formally joins in the New Year. Councillor of the Year Award: Two councillors had been shortlisted for this award, but neither had won. Philip Isbell: Cllr Jones advised that Mr Isbell had advised that he would be unable to attend either the November, or January, meetings. Members had decided to form a small Planning Working Party and intend meeting him in the near future to discuss pertinent issues including (i) Why objections to a PA, which would previously have meant its referral to the Planning Committee, are no longer treated in that way, (ii) Why a previous PA, which was outside the settlement boundary and within the conservation area, and objected to by the PC, received approval (and was not presented to the Planning Committee). Proposed developments within the 5 Year Plan; which of these will impact on Beyton's buildings and infrastructure, etc. Cllr Haley promised to discuss these issues with Mr Isbell the following day and hoped to be able to attend the meeting subsequently arranged. Cllr Haley left the meeting.	
280	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Cllr Jones' report can be found in the BVN; most matters are covered within this agenda. However, he mentioned a few important points from the recent SALC AGM. Firstly, from a recent SALC questionnaire, it was reported that only 2% felt that Suffolk Highways is doing a good job. Secondly, the guest speaker, John Connell, Head of Community & Local Government, stated that if Parish Councils are dissatisfied with work carried out by Council Department, such as verge cutting, parishioners and Parish Councils could undertake the tasks themselves and claim a	

	refund. He did not, however, explain the mechanism for such reclaims. Thirdly, the Government is proposing a referendum process in the event that a PC wishes to increase its precept above the recommended percentage. The charge for the referendum would be £1,000. NALC is objecting to this fee on the basis that it would be an unnecessary burden on small PCs. In the case of BPC, we would need to apply for a 10% increase just to pay for the referendum.	
281	<p>PUBLIC FORUM: Mr Brand advised that the PC's new website address is http://beyton.suffolk.cloud, which may/may not be replacing the existing site, which is now working properly again (www.thebeytonguide.co.uk). Mr Brand recommended that Members visit both sites and advise their preference. Mr Brand said he prefers the new website – finding it both easier and more progressive. The new site is FOC until April (and maybe for one year afterwards) after which time, there would be a charge of £100 p.a.</p> <p>Mr Brand also asked whether the PC had been charged for the evening training session in respect of the new defibrillator, as he considered it to be below standard. He outlined the issues he considered to be very poor/irrelevant. Cllr Jones confirmed the payment of £175 for the two training sessions and had been funded by the Big Lottery donation. Feedback is to be provided to the organisation concerned.</p>	ALL GJ
282	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 3 October were approved and signed.</p>	
283	MATTERS ARISING: None	
284	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>Cllr Clark confirmed the bank balances as per the agenda.</p> <p>Receipts: None</p> <p>Bank Balances as at 31.10.16:</p> <p>Current Account: £8,222.84 Savings: £4,917.24 Total: £13,140.69</p> <p>Bank Reconciliation for the period 1.4-31.10.16 had been circulated and was approved and signed.</p> <p>Payments</p> <p>The following were approved for payment by Cllrs Clark and Lockhart-White as per agenda plus speed gun (funded by £2k (Cllr Otton Locality Funding),b</p> <p>Mr P Bird: Inv 3132: Grounds Maintenance: 15.9.16-15.10.16: £438.54 (101101)</p> <p>Mr P Bird: Inv 3136: 1 cut to Beyton Green: 30.8.16: £110.63 (101102)</p> <p>Mr G Jones: Expenses: 18.8-18.11.16: £326.57 (101103)</p> <p>Community Heartbeat Trust: 1 x Cardiac Arrest Response Seminar: £210.00 (101104)</p> <p>Community Heartbeat Trust: 3 x A4 Wall Sign Flat: £24.00 (101105)</p> <p>SALC: 6 Months' Payroll Service to 30.9.16: £18.00 (101106)</p> <p>Unipar Services: Purchase of Speed Gun: £2,667.60 (101107)</p> <p><u>Expenditure/Budget:</u> Cllr Clark advised that anticipated expenditure for the full year to end March is £13,094 (i.e. 2% over estimated budget).</p> <p><u>Budget & Precept 2017/18:</u> Cllr Jones advised that SALC had stated that any PC wishing to request a precept over 2% could trigger a referendum. These topics will be considered at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Banking:</u> Rather than grant permission for the Clerk/ANO to transfer sums (as required) between the deposit and current accounts, it was agreed that all funds should be placed in the current account in view of the prevailing dismal interest payments. This is to be arranged.</p> <p><u>Schedule of 2017 Meetings:</u> This had been circulated and was approved.</p>	Clerk GJ/JC Clerk
285	<p>ADMINISTRATION</p> <p><u>Parish Council Vacancies:</u> An expression of interest in co-option had been received from Trish Muxlow, who, it is hoped, will attend the January meeting to observe proceedings with a view to co-option at the February meeting.</p> <p><u>Village Green Lease:</u> Nothing to report.</p> <p><u>Quaker Lane Notice Board:</u> A new notice board has been installed.</p> <p><u>Emergency Plan:</u> Cllr Pope is to send this through to the relevant authority. In the meantime she is awaiting a plan from Ordnance Survey. All the information is hoped to be submitted before Christmas for Cllr Pope to provide feedback to the January meeting.</p> <p><u>Notice Board on Green:</u> Cllr Pope offered to take a look at this notice board to ascertain whether it would be beneficial to replace it.</p>	Clerk AP AP

	<p><u>Play Inspection Report</u>: Cllr Jones advised that the latest report is available on the web site along with a schedule of the corrective action required. All that remains to be sorted is the graffiti on the slide, mats around the spinning pole and in front of the goals.</p>	GJ
286	<p>HIGHWAYS</p> <p><u>Flooding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Drinkstone Road</u>: Clearance of the ditch and cutting to front of School is still awaited. (This is to be done by another section of SCC.) - <u>One Way Street</u>: SCC has jetted the drains. - <u>Manor Farm Drive</u>: Action awaited by SCC to identify and undertake the required works. This is to be chased. - <u>Quaker Lane</u>: No flooding experienced, but potholes require repair. No action to date taken on the split tree outside No 16, which is very dangerous. <p>Highways Barriers – Thurston Road (x 2) A14 Westbound Exit: Not yet done.</p>	<p>GJ Clerk GJ GJ</p>
287	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>(i) Decision Notices: Permission granted: 3875/16: The Old Mill, The Green: Crown/Height Reduction – Eucalyptus Tree</p> <p>(ii) Withdrawn Applications: None</p> <p>(iii) New Planning Application 4679/16: Holly Cottage, 1 Copperfields: Fell 2 no Holly trees (T1 and T2): Members agreed to support this application.</p> <p>(iv) Any Other Applications Received since the date of this Notice: None</p> <p>(v) Enforcement Matters: None</p> <p>(vi) Appeals: None</p> <p>(vii) Other Planning Matters: Following permission granted in respect of The Grange on Tostock Rd, Members agreed that a Working Party be formed comprising Cllrs Jones, Lockhart-White and Messrs Rapley and Wyartt with a view to meeting Mr P Isbell of MSDC Planning to obtain answers re this, the impact of current planning policies on the village, the settlement boundary and the conservation area.</p> <p>Proposed Affordable Housing: Nothing to report</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>GJ/ GLW</p>
288	<p>COMMUNITY</p> <p><u>Autumn Litter Pick</u>: Held on Saturday 22 October, 25 volunteers participated.</p> <p><u>Defibrillator</u>: Refer Min 281 above re Training. A cascade telephone contact system is to be arranged, which will also be included in the evolving Emergency Plan. The meeting was suspended briefly to permit members of the public to discuss this matter and then reconvened.</p> <p><u>TCC Meeting</u>: A complaint had been received about vehicles parked outside the School and on the Green. Cllr Jones had inspected the area of Green in question, and found that a plastic post had been knocked down, but it was not possible to tell whether that had happened before or after the meeting.</p> <p><u>Website</u>: Refer Min 281 above.</p> <p><u>Community Speed Watch</u>: It was agreed that the PC would go ahead with the purchase of the speed gun and VAS as previously discussed, and a cheque in the sum of £2,667.60 was drawn. This amount comprises: £2k from Penny Otton's Locality Fund, PC: £1,750 and BVA £1,750. (Post meeting, Ian Marshall, who is organising this on the PC's behalf, advised that SCC Highways now has a new assessment/approval system for these signs necessitating a separate application for each proposed site (to include photos/grid refs etc). Mr Marshall hoped to submit these before Christmas. (Also, it was noted that the sign being requested is a 'Speed Indicator Device' rather than a 'Vehicle Activated Sign'.) It was noted that Felsham PC, which had been a previous participant in the CSW had expressed interest in rejoining. It was advised that FPC had previously used the equipment one week in four and it was therefore suggested that, if they still wish to proceed in this regard, it would be fair to seek a 25% contribution from them and reduce the cost to BPC and BVA proportionately.</p> <p><u>Swimming Pool</u>: No report available in Helen Geek's absence.</p> <p><u>BVA</u>: Fireworks Insurance: The BVA had been notified that it would have to seek its own insurance, as it was not possible to extend the PC's in this regard.</p> <p><u>Geese</u>: It had been noticed that one of the flock had recently become separated from the group. Cllr Jones had spoken to a vet in BSE, who is to take a look at it. Anglia Wildfowl</p>	GJ

	<p>had suggested introducing a prescription worming compound to the food. No indication of costs involved had been obtained.</p> <p><u>Bat Willows</u>: Cllr Jones advised that the company planning to fell the proposed 10 trees and plant 14 replacement saplings (FOC) is running behind schedule. He added that four households had suggested that this plan of action might not be the best way forward from the aesthetics and soundproofing perspectives.</p> <p>Following discussion, when Cllr Jones also advised that Mr Brown of 'Tall Trees' had quoted approx £800-£1k for the felling of each tree. It was proposed that the PC proceed, as planned. All Members agreed.</p> <p><u>Village Map</u>: Cllr Jones advised that he has a copy of the old map, which he proposed be given to the Church for display in the Vestry. This was approved.</p> <p><u>Tennis Club</u>: Item to be deleted until next year.</p> <p><u>Stream</u>: Mr A Rollett has this work in hand.</p> <p><u>Grit Bins/Piles</u>: The Parish Clerk explained that some years ago, it had been decided to have grit piles rather than bins in this regard, hence SCC's provision of same. It was now thought to be environmentally better to change to grit bins. The Clerk is to issue a list of current locations to all Councillors with a view to confirming those locations and then purchasing appropriate bins.</p> <p><u>Welcome to Beyton Booklet</u>: Barbara Jones is continuing to gather information in this regard.</p>	<p>GJ</p> <p>GJ</p> <p>Clerk</p>
289	CORRESPONDENCE: None	
290	MATTERS OF REPORT ONLY: None	
291	DATE OF THE NEXT PC MEETING: Monday 9 January at 7.30 in The Vestry, All Saints Church.	
292	Close: The Meeting closed at 10 p.m.	

Approved at the PC Meeting held on 9 January 2017