

BEYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9 January 2017

PRESENT: Cllrs G Jones (Chair), J Clark and G Lockhart-White,

IN ATTENDANCE: Dist Cllr D Haley (part time), Messrs R Brand and I Marshall, Mrs H Geake and Resident from the Old School, two Members of the Public and the Parish Clerk

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| 16/293 | ANNOUNCEMENT: Cllr Jones read SALC's statement regarding filming/recording of meetings. | |
| 294 | APOLOGIES NOTED: Co Cllr P Otton, Dist Cllr E Jewson, and Cllrs P Orsler and A Pope | |
| 295 | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None | |
| 296 | COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Cllr Otton's report had been circulated. | |
| 297 | DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Cllr Haley reported that the new CEO has now started working full time with the Authority. Cllr Jones confirmed that the planning meeting arranged for the PC had proved helpful. There is to be another meeting about planning policies when it is hoped to bring in Bill Newman to advise. Cllr Jones confirmed that it would be preferable to hold such a meeting during the day. Proposed dates are to be submitted along with those likely to attend. Cllr Haley added that he continues to press for a fairer share for Suffolk for Police Funding. The deadline for comments is 20 January. Residents are encouraged to look at Suffolk Police website in this regard. 22 December 2016, MSDC, decided to change to a Leader-Cabinet form of governance, effective from the Annual Council Meeting in May 2017; this will not affect residents. | GJ |
| 298 | CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Cllr Jones' report for December/January had been circulated and printed in the Beyton Village News. There was nothing further to record at present. | |
| 299 | PUBLIC FORUM: Nothing to report. | |
| 300 | APPROVAL OF MINUTES The minutes of the meeting held on the 28 November were approved and signed. | |
| 301 | MATTERS ARISING: None | |
| 302 | FINANCE Cllr Clark confirmed the financial details (as per the agenda) Receipts: Cllr Otton: Locality Funding re Speed gun and SID: £2k Bank Balances as at 30.11.16: Current Account: £6,427.50 Savings: £4,918.46 Total: £11,345.96 A Bank Reconciliation for the period to 30.12.16 would be circulated as soon as possible. Payments The following were approved for payment: Mr J Clark: Mileage Expenses—2 x return trips to SALC (New Councillors Course) £33.30 (chq 101108) Mr R Brand: Cancellation fee incurred to attend Suffolk Cloud training on 12.10.16 (as agreed at BPC meeting held on 3 October): £14.75 (101109) SALC: New Councillor Training 17 & 24 November: J Clark: £120.00 (101110) AS Pest Control: Mole clearance – pond and village sign areas: £65.00 (101111) Clerk: Salary October-December: £619.35 + mileage £46.80 = £666.15 (101112) HMRC: PAYE October-December: £143.80 (101113) Mr G Jones: Expenses re Avian Flu Precautions re Geese: £378.10 (101115) | Clerk |

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| | <p><u>Expenditure/Budget:</u> Cllr Clark advised that anticipated expenditure for the full year is £14,060 (against a budget of £12,821), i.e. £1,250 over budget; comprising grass cutting, Village Hall refurbishment contribution and BVN printing.</p> <p><u>Budget:</u> Cllr Jones had circulated the draft budget figures for 2017/18 in the sum of £12,634. Members approved this budget.</p> <p><u>Precept 2017/18:</u> Cllr Jones advised that, in the light of current and budgeted expenditure, and commitments (e.g. Speed Indicator Device and Speed Gun), a precept request of £11,336 (a 20% increase) is recommended. Without this, the PC's reserves would be eroded (PCs are recommended to maintain reserves of approximately 1 x precept.)</p> <p>Cllr Jones advised that such an increase would result in a Council Tax increase of £6 p.a. for a Band D property and £10 p.a. for a Band G property. Members agreed to this precept sum and the claim form was accordingly completed and signed.</p> <p>The meeting was suspended to allow a member of the public to comment that he felt such an increase was outrageous; there had been no mention as to what spending cuts would be made</p> <p>He considered the grass cutting costs to be high and suggested that, instead of contributing to the refurbishment of the Village Hall, it should be demolished and a dwelling built on the site. He also commented on the cost of the CSW monitoring equipment, which Cllr Jones reminded him was purchased with the help of locality funding from Co Cllr Otton as well as the BVA, which confirms residents' concerns re speeding through the village. Furthermore, the resident could not understand how the PC was considering a 20% precept uplift at such a time. Cllr Jones reminded him that, although the percentage increase might sound high, the base figure was very low, the village hall contribution was just a small sum (£250) (with the main sum coming from the s106 monies held by MSDC re Hessett and Beyton). As requested by the resident, details of the PC's Precept income and finances over the last 10 years would be provided.</p> <p>The meeting was then resumed.</p> <p><u>Banking:</u> Members confirmed that all funds currently standing to the credit of the savings account (barring the minimum allowed to keep the account open) would be transferred to the current account in view of the current abysmal interest rates. This is to be done.</p> <p><u>Bank Mandate:</u> It was agreed that the number of signatories to the PC accounts should be increased to 4 with the addition of Cllr Clark (along with existing signatories, Cllrs Jones, Lockhart-White and Pope). The Clerk is to complete the new bank mandate form on line to which the appropriate signatures would be obtained.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| 303 | <p>ADMINISTRATION</p> <p><u>Parish Council Vacancies:</u> An expression of interest had been received from Trish Muxlow, who was, unfortunately, unable to attend due to illness.</p> <p><u>Village Green Lease:</u> Cllr Jones thanked Sandy Maynard for providing details of the current solicitor for the Ladies of the Manor and will be sending them a letter shortly.</p> <p><u>Notice Board on the Green:</u> Report awaited from Cllr Pope.</p> <p><u>Emergency Plan:</u> Awaiting report from Cllr Pope.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>GJ AP AP</p> |
| 304 | <p>HIGHWAYS</p> <p><u>Flooding</u></p> <p>– <u>Drinkstone Road:</u> Cllr Jones advised that he is still pursuing TCC re the clearance of the ditch to the front of the college and will obtain contact details. The farmer with responsibility for the other side, had done a good job.</p> <p>- <u>Manor Farm Drive:</u> Action awaited by SCC. The situation re the drain is to be advised.</p> <p>- <u>Quaker Lane:</u> The drains have been cleared and the willow tree felled. The potholes requiring repair have been notified to SCC.</p> <p>– <u>Highways Signs/Barriers</u> still to be done.</p> | <p>GJ GJ</p> <p>GJ</p> |
| 305 | <p>PLANNING</p> <p>(i) Decision Notices: Permissions granted:</p> <p>Holly Cottage, 1 Copperfields: T1 Holly tree - fell to ground due to excessive shading and darkness within the house. T2 Holly Tree - as above, fell to ground.</p> <p>12 Tostock Road: Reduce Crown of Cherry Tree by 1.5m</p> <p>(ii) Withdrawn Applications: None</p> <p>(iii) New Planning Applications: None</p> <p>(iv) Enforcement Matters: None</p> | |

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| | <p>(v) Appeals: None</p> <p>(vi) Other Planning Matters:</p> <p>Land Opposite The Bear: During their meeting with Mr P Isbell, members of the Working Party in this connection learned that MSDC is required to build 400+ houses p.a. for the next five years. Permission had been granted to this PA despite the site being within the Conservation Area and outside the Settlement Boundary. Of the two categories, the former has more effect, but still does not afford real protection. The villages of Woolpit, Elmswell and Thurston are considered as the main development targets. Any development in Thurston will have a 'knock on' impact on Beyton.</p> <p>Proposed Affordable Housing: Nothing to report</p> | |
| 306 | <p>COMMUNITY</p> <p><u>Spring Litter Pick</u>: It was agreed to hold this on the last Saturday of March; 25th. The Clerk is to ask Matt Nicolls to kindly produce the posters in the village.</p> <p><u>Defibrillator</u>: Cllr Jones reported that he had contacted the defibrillator supplier and trainers and asked for a supply of course feedback forms for provision to participants. Mr Brand requested that participants be asked as to whether the course was worth £200. Cllr Jones has also been asked to take photographs of the broken BT panel.</p> <p><u>Website</u>: Mr Brand advised that no feedback had, as yet, been received re the new website (http://beyton.suffolk.cloud). Both Cllr Jones and Mr Brand himself considered the new website excellent. The 'old' website is directly linked to the new at the moment. Until April, there is no website charge (and it may be free for another year after that). Thereafter it is expected to be £100 p.a. It was agreed that Mr Brand would contact Dean Harman, who created the original site to thank him for his help in the past, and ask him to redirect automatically all visitors to the new site.</p> <p><u>Community Speed Watch</u>: Ian Marshall advised that training on the new equipment is to be given tomorrow and Wednesday. A decision is awaited from Felsham PC as to whether they wish to re-join the CSW group. (It was believed that this would not impact too much on our use.) Mr Marshall further confirmed that the SID unit application was submitted in December; this has been followed up twice with the contractor but to no avail, so will be expedited. (There are six possible sites; entrance/exit Tostock Road, entrance/exit Bury Road and also coming from Thurston and Hesselst directions. If FPC joins, it is anticipated that their contribution to the speed camera purchase would be approx £350. The Clerk was asked to inform Felsham PC.</p> <p><u>Swimming Pool</u>: Helen Geake advised that she met TCC's Facilities Manager from Ipswich, who advised that the pool is in a good condition and appropriate for use, and that it would be a pity 'to let it go'. In December it was realised that there was insufficient staffing to run it. An updated business plan is being prepared. Lottery Fundraising will now go ahead in the next month or two. County Councillors will be asked for a donation from their locality budgets. There is an option to work with Abbeycroft Leisure; discussions will be held with them. New £7.5m Lottery Community Sports Assets Fund for grants of £5k-£150k. Also pushing for Community Funding. It was felt that there was little scope to do any further fundraising in Beyton itself. It is hoped to have the Pool open in 2019.</p> <p><u>Geese</u>: Cllr Jones advised that advice re the Avian 'Flu epidemic is that the birds must be kept quarantined until 28 February. Cllr Jones wished to extend the PC's thanks to various people, who had given freely of their time; to everyone involved in erecting the polytunnel, Sandy and Andrew for ensuring food and water supplies are topped up etc. (It is now planned to place two large water containers inside the perimeter to obviate the need to use wheelbarrows in this connection.) Roger Wyart re feed supply. Fencing provision - available for our use until end February. Thanks also to those, who had helped in moving the geese. John Selley for provision of troughs etc, etc. All this help has been (and continues to be, very much appreciated). In conclusion, Cllr Jones said that he would write to all those involved to thank them personally on behalf of the PC.</p> <p><u>Bat Willows & r/o Old School</u>: Cllr Jones advised that 11 Bat Willows had been removed and are to be replaced by 14 new. A resident from the Old School requested permission to fill the gap created by this work with 2-3 new trees (perhaps Cherry, slow growing trees, e.g Oak and Hornbeam) to the rear of his property. There were no objections to this. The trees will be supplied, planted and tended in the early stages by the resident.</p> <p><u>Stream</u>: Grass cutting along stream; nothing had been heard from Mr Rollett in this regard.</p> <p><u>Grit Bins/Piles</u>: The grit piles throughout the village had been replenished recently. A list of the sites agreed with SCC is to be circulated to all Cllrs with a view to considering the possible replacement of the piles with bins.</p> <p><u>Welcome to Beyton Booklet</u>: Barbara Jones hopes to advise next meeting.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>GJ GJ</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>IM</p> <p>GJ</p> <p>AR</p> <p>Clerk GJ</p> |

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| 307 | CORRESPONDENCE: None | |
| 308 | MATTERS OF REPORT ONLY: None | |
| 309 | DATE OF THE NEXT PC MEETING: Monday 6 February at 7.30 in The Vestry, All Saints Church. | |
| 310 | Close: The Meeting closed at 9.15 p.m. | |

Approved at the PC Meeting held on 6 February 2017