

LAYHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29 July 2015 in the Village Hall

Present: Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC)
John Curran (JDC)
Ron Gunn (RG)
Steve Laing - Vice Chairman (SL)
Sheila Roberts (SR)
Doreen Sillett (DS)
Michael Woods - Chairman (MW)

In attendance: PCSO Amanda Coleman (AC)
Gordon Jones, Suffolk CC (GJ)
John Ward, Babergh DC (JW)

Apologies: David Pratt (DP)

15.7.1 APOLOGIES

See above.

15.7.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

15.7.3 ADJOURNMENT TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

15.7.3.1 Police report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. There had been two reported crimes since the last meeting: a road rage incident in Upper Street, and a case of arson in a field off Rands Road.

15.7.3.2 District Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. A vision document was in the process of being finalised by the Conservative group, which was in overall control of the council; when finalised, this document would be debated by full council. External consultants were currently working on Playing Pitch and Built Sports Facilities strategies. JW noted MW's comment about the number of young people from Hadleigh playing football on the Layham playing field due to lack of facilities in Hadleigh. He also confirmed that footpaths were not included in the survey, which focussed entirely on sports facilities rather than general leisure activity.

15.7.3.3 County Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. Work was now underway on setting budgets for the next two years; the new rules on the national minimum wage would have a considerable effect. Work was also taking place, in conjunction with the district and borough councils, on a paper for the Cabinet Office on devolution, to be submitted by the beginning of September. It was noted that Colin Noble, Leader of SCC, was visiting various towns and villages in Suffolk. He was due to visit Hadleigh in November and the planned venue was Morrison's car park; GJ said he would pass on MW's comment that Mr Noble should meet the public in the town centre instead. In response to a question from SL about the 'Positive Choices' programme, GJ said the Positive Choices Team had to operate in areas where there was a critical mass; however, he would look into the possibility of a visiting service. GJ had attended a meeting to discuss the issue of HGVs on rural roads. It was now possible to register HGVs on the SCC website - GJ would forward the link. With regard to weight limits, SL said there was incorrect signage near Hook Lance; SCC was aware and would remedy this.

15.7.4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by JDC, seconded by RG and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 24 June 2015 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

15.7.5 ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

15.7.5.1 Speeding

A note had been delivered to all residents of Upper Street requesting their help in gathering information; responses were already coming in. With regard to the proposed moving of the 30mph speed limit sign near the Marquis, and a new village sign, MW, SL and JC were due to meet Steve Merry from SCC Highways in August.

15.7.5.2 Environmental matters

JC had contacted Kerry Vickers at Flagship for a further discussion.

15.7.5.3 Land in front of 7 & 8 Upper Street

MW and JC had met Becky Sutton again to try and find a solution - ongoing.

15.7.5.4 Community Payback Project

JC had submitted an application in partnership with Hadleigh Town Council and was awaiting a response.

15.7.5.5 Water flow across the B1070

JC had contacted Hadleigh Town Council about the problem.

15.7.5.6 Audit of public areas

Following the audit carried out by MW and RG, they had met with Peter Garrrett from Babergh, and Babergh's contractor; some work had already been carried out. In response to a comment from DS about the state of the hedge in Mill Lane, MW and RG said this should fill out fairly quickly. With regard to ownership of the land in Water Lane, this varied from household to household and it was up to individual home owners to check their deeds. The parked car on Brett Green was still there; MW would follow up with Babergh.

15.7.5.7 Defibrillators

JC would contact the East Anglian Daily Times again to try and publicise the defibrillator in Lower Layham and the plan to install another one in Upper Layham. JDC had contacted the British Heart Foundation and was in the process of completing the application form for the second defibrillator. However, this was quite detailed with regard to training etc; JC would send him the contact details for Jon Needle; DS also had some useful contact details which she would pass on. It was agreed that a small working group should take this forward, comprising JDC, DS and SL; the group would report to the next meeting.

15.7.5.8 Marquis of Cornwallis

Following Babergh's approval of the planning application in respect of the new frontage railings and entrance piers, and pergola, which had not appeared to take into account the comments submitted by the Parish Council, JC had written to the Planning department to request feedback; no response had been received. JW had taken this up with the Case Officer, Alex Scott, who had provided a copy of the report, which JC would circulate.

15.7.6 FINANCIAL MATTERS

15.7.6.1 RFO's report

It was proposed by SL, seconded by JDC and agreed unanimously that payments of £470.51 should be authorised. In response to a question from JDC concerning election expenses, JC said this was an administration charge as Babergh prepared all the forms, notices etc; had there been a contested election the cost would have been considerably higher. She confirmed that provision had been made in the budget for this expense.

15.7.6.2 Section 106

JC had now received confirmation from Nick Elliott that Babergh had now received the money and was in a position to consider an application from the Parish Council. He had emailed guidance notes which JC would circulate so that councillors could give some thought to an appropriate project; this would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

15.7.7 WRITTEN REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

No reports had been submitted.

15.7.8 ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Following a discussion, it was agreed that councillors would retain their existing roles. It was proposed by MW, seconded by JDC and agreed unanimously that SR and DS would share the role of Green Team Leader; JC would pass on LG's files to SR. It was also agreed that responsibility for monitoring the Recycling Centre, and monitoring and cleaning of the defibrillator, would come under 'publicly owned land and property' in future. It was felt that there was no longer a requirement for a representative to CAS as the Communities Team at Babergh had taken on many of the old Suffolk Acre responsibilities; however, JC would circulate any relevant communications from CAS. She would update the roles & responsibilities document and re-circulate, and would also update the Welcome Booklet and website.

15.7.9 COMMUNITY EMAIL

An up to date list of participants had been circulated; currently 81 households had signed up to the community email group. MW asked everyone to identify three people they knew who were not currently participating, and encourage them to join, with the aim of raising the total to 100 in one month's time; he had prepared a small flyer explaining the scheme to prospective participants. It was agreed that councillors would email JC with names before contacting them, so that she could check for duplicates in order to ensure people were not contacted by more than one person.

15.7.10 CORRESPONDENCE

15.7.10.1 Aviva Men's Cycle Tour

The Men's Cycle Tour (stage 7 - Fakenham to Ipswich) would be coming through Upper Layham on Saturday 12 September 2015. The tour was a men's elite international stage race and the event would attract the best riders in the world, including Olympic and World champions. There would be rolling road closures manned by the police and race organisers and it was likely that there would be parking restrictions in some areas. JC would send out a community email.

15.7.10.2 Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra

JC had received a letter about the Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra's community concerts, including a request for donations; she would circulate this to councillors and GJ.

15.7.11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.30pm on Wednesday 29 July 2015, in the Village Hall.

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