

MINUTES REDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
12 September 2012

Present: Jim McCluskey, Ian Baird, Jan Cresswell, Ann Preston, Mike Denmark, Jackie Moss, John Giddings, Jason Walker, Bob Hayward, Charles Michell, Sara Michell and 4 residents

1. Apologies – none except for the local police.
2. Chairmans opening - Jason welcomed everyone back after summer recess.
3. Declarations of interest. – none
4. Minutes of meeting of Wednesday 11 July 2012. Correction – lease on Activities Centre to 2021 – this has been altered in the minutes together with Ian Baird’s apologies. Signed then as a true record.
5. Matters arising not covered by this agenda - none
6. Any changes in councillors. - none
All declarations of interest to new format sent to MSDC – noted

7. *Open discussion with county and district councillors – Charles Michell, County Councillor, has written to David Ruffley and asked him to intervene on the subject of the bells at Redgrave Church. Bob said he had notice that this had happened. The Locality Budget will be running to the middle of March next year and he still has funds left for local projects if there is any need. Charles will bring his proposed nominee for his successor to see us.*

Sara Michell, District Councillor, said that there will be an open day for the affordable housing which will be mentioned later. She said MSDC has to save £3.5 million and wants to know what the villages feel are priorities for the council to continue to do and what should be cut down. This is the Community Engagement 2012 project and she hopes to bring along someone to the next meeting to discuss this and has brought along some question forms to this meeting.

Ian Baird asked if there were any Bench Marking reports available considering costs between different councils – Sarah will look into this.

8. *Open discussion with residents – Dave MacDonald lives at the Green asked about pavement width from start of the village by the Old School up to the junction with Half Moon Lane. It is too narrow to allow for people to walk in safety especially now that plant growth has been excessive and is over the path. He asked for guidance. Bob Hayward said that Highways Dept will say they do not have any money and there is no existing volunteer group for clearing footpaths. Dave suggested that the best way to go forward was to ask for volunteers to help clear the paths by spade work. Dave will put up notices around the village asking for volunteers.*

Charles Michell says that the Highways department should still attend to problems promptly and if they do not then he should be informed and he will take up the matter. The above problem together with a problem that Jason has down Fen Street with water drainage will be sent to him.

Dave MacDonald also wants to know how to tackle the problem of overgrown hedges which are encroaching over the foot paths and making it difficult to pass. It was suggested that a note should be put through the letter boxes of the houses concerned asking them to cut back their hedges and Bob will draw up some letters for this. Ian Baird added that road side hedges are also very overgrown and Charles said that all owners of hedges are responsible for their hedges be they domestic house owners or farmers.

John Robinson asked if a member of Speed Watch would give a report at the next Neighbourhood Watch meeting and Jackie said that will be arranged.

9. Planning

<http://planning.midsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/acolnetcgi.gov>

1391/12 two storey extension Moneypot Farm withdrawn - noted

4292/11 Planning & 0185/12 LBC Street Farm 2 single storey dwellings granted - noted

Progress on Redgrave Church bells LBC – reported above

10. Finance and cheques for signature

Pay for Knoll cutting David Newcombe £60 for July and £20 for 20th August - agreed

Pay Zurich insurance Suffolk Acre £956.46 - agreed

Pay BDO for audit £144 - agreed

Reimburse Brenda Prosser-Snelling £9.60 for 2 Hi Vis jackets – Speedwatch - agreed

Tree warden forum £15 plus travelling expenses John Preston - agreed

Wreath for war memorial £20 – agreed

11. Town pit status – nothing to report

12. Affordable housing - Jan reported that a drop in event has been arranged and will be held here from 3.00pm to 7.00pm on 2nd October 2012. They hope that the houses will be finished by end of January or beginning of February next year.

13. Old School Playing Field - nothing to report

14. Duck Factory – nothing to report except that the straw lorries are making a mess and he wants them to be sheeted – this was noted.

15. Speed monitoring – report on progress by Jackie Moss, deputy co-ordinator of the scheme – this report was given early on in the meeting for the benefit of Sara Michell. They are running a rota system and carry out two sessions each week, varying the times and locations and generally they find that motorists slow down as soon as they see them. So far they have logged 40 motorists for exceeding the speed limit and they feel that their presence is already having an effect. The equipment has been security marked. More volunteers would be welcomed.

Consider purchasing wheelie bin stickers www.smartwheelie.co.uk - £210 for 500. Wheelie Bin stickers saying “30mph please drive carefully” – Jackie Moss asked if funding for this might be available. Ann Preston proposed that Jackie will ask for money from Charles Michell’s locality budget and this was agreed.

16. Any other correspondence or information

Funding village day for 2013 – Jan wanted to know whether the PC would consider funding this. This would happen on the May Bank Holiday 2012. Ann Preston proposed that £300 be put in the next precept for this purpose and motion was carried.

Playing field lease is to 2021 – future purchase or extension not yet discussed by RAT – noted.

Police supremo elections November – noted.

17. Ideas for improvements to village and following up on previous projects proposed – Jan said it had been suggested that we have a Christmas Tree on the Knoll with lights. Jan will look into costs and the possibility of funding from Mid Suffolk or other sources for the next meeting.

18. Matters carried forward from this meeting - none

20. New matters for next meeting - none

21. Next meeting 10 October 2012

Meeting closed 9.00pm