

MINUTES REDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
9 April 2014
Held at Redgrave Activities Centre at 7.30 pm

Present: Mike Denmark, Ian Baird, John Giddings, Bob Hayward, Jackie Moss, County Councillor Jessica Fleming, District Councillor Sara Michell and 14 residents

1. Apologies: Jan Cresswell, Ann Preston, Police
2. Chairman: John Giddings deputised for Jason
3. Declarations of interest – none – the bell project is regarding a public petition of 506 people.
4. Minutes of meeting of Wednesday 12 March 2014 – agreed a true record
5. Matters arising not covered by this agenda - none
6. Any changes in councillors: Need for new councillor. Mike Denmark knows a candidate
7. *Open discussion with county and district councillors, and service*

Jessica Fleming reminded all that comments were needed on the road programme and the Suffolk housing needs survey was open until 23 April. There were now opportunities for young people in farming and engineering. Ian Baird remarked that the time for parish councillors to respond seemed to be getting less and less. Jackie Moss enquired whether Suffolk would contribute half to fixed flashing speed indicators as had already been done by Norfolk.

Sara Michell explained that the cost of parish council elections was fixed at £2 per elector and if the election were on the same day as any other election then the PC cost would be halved. Parish Liaison meetings had been reinstated and the next one would be on June 5th. The Community Awards evening had been a great success with Jenny Eason from Redgrave being one of only 20 recipients.

There had been one recorded crime in Redgrave in the last month but details were withheld.

8. *Open discussion with residents*

A relatively large number of residents attended the meeting with the intention of discussing the lack of progress with The Churches Conservation Trust (CCT) in implementing the project to utilise the £140,000 bequest of Albert Driver intended to increase the peal of St Mary's bells and safeguard the church tower. The chairman therefore took this agenda item out of order at the start of the meeting while both the County and District councillors were present. Members of the Redgrave Church Heritage Trust (RCHT) and the bell ringers outlined the recent history, especially delays incurred since receipt of listed building consent for the project. The terms of his bequest were intended to extend and protect the future of the bells and the bell tower at St Mary's which he had rung for so many years. He apparently also intended the bequest to avoid the problems with hearing the bells encountered recently by Fressingfield. There followed a lengthy discussion over the lack of respect shown by the CCT to the wishes of Albert Driver and who at a high level might be approached to bring some common sense to the issue.

The Parish Council considered that the impact of CCT's continued delay to a project intended to protect the amenity of St Mary's for Redgrave Parish and the surrounding area necessitated some involvement in addition to RCHT. With a view to avoid further delay and its effect on the value of Albert Driver's bequest, the Parish Council agreed that the clerk should invite Lloyd Grossman, the chairman of CCT to attend the Parish Meeting on 14 May 2014 (or a mutually convenient alternative date) to explain the reasons for the trust's current refusal to implement the proposal approved by the authorities and the continuing delay .

9. Planning

Application for 9 windows in Poppy Cottage was discussed but the only comment was that all 9 needed to be the same make and style 0920/14

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

10. Finance and cheques for signature

The play area inspection is offered again by Mid Suffolk at £51.70 – agreed to book it

Pay Community Action Suffolk £30 (was Suffolk Acre) - agreed

Invoice £40 grass cutting was approved 12 Feb but not in minutes – agreed this would minute it

Find and if necessary pay for a minute taker and magazine correspondent – agency- no progress

11. Town pit status – nothing to report

12. Affordable housing

What next on survey to assess future needs. Delayed until Jan Cresswell returns

13. Old School Playing Field - suffering from moles – cannot cut with topper until levelled

14. Duck Factory

Neither John Giddings nor Jim Mccluskey would be able to attend the Gressingham Foods meeting and would convey any comments from the village in writing

15. Speed monitoring

Speedwatch continues at twice per week, weather permitting , and more volunteers are welcome

16. Any other correspondence or information

- Carried forward the discussion of whether a paid clerk is necessary and affordable
- Diss/Thetford CAB annual report received
- John Canning's letter about the war memorial service options was discussed but it was felt that John had our full support to decide as he knew his peoples wishes better. He would have financial support at the amount we had already agreed .

17. Ideas for improvements to village – picket fence progress – no progress

18. Matters carried forward from this meeting

19. Annual Parish meeting

The Redgrave Annual Parish Meeting will be on 14 May at 7pm at Redgrave Activities Centre. There will be rolling presentations, videos, and models on the bell project and other village activities. There will be reports from all of the village organisations displayed on A3 size.

20. Next meeting 14 May 2014 after Annual Parish Meeting

14 May 2014

Jason Walker Chairman