

REDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - MINUTES 7 March 2018

Held in the Redgrave Activities Centre at 7.30 pm

Present: Angela Bigley, Mike Denmark, Bob Hayward, Richard Hilton, Matthew Millard, Ann Preston, Neil Smith, Jason Walker, Parish Clerk, County Cllr Jessica Fleming, District Cllr Derek Osborne and 14 members of the public.

1. Chairman's Opening: Mike welcomed everyone.
2. Apologies: John Giddings and Matthew Millard.
3. Declarations of interest: None.
4. Minutes of the meeting of 7 February 2018 were agreed as a true record.
5. Progress: The Clerk reported that she was still following up on the costs for an experimental weight restriction in the village.
6. Public Forum: Cllr Osborne gave an update on the state of waste collections after disruption from the recent snow and ice. Cllr Fleming noted that a new draft National Planning Policy Framework had been issued and consultation would be open until 10 May. One of the aims of the new NPPF was to make Neighbourhood Planning easier. Cllr Hayward asked both district councillors what they were doing about the current planning situation which had led to excessive development in small villages. Cllr Fleming explained that there were limits to what they could do but that many councillors had concerns about disproportionate growth in villages and understood that communities felt a loss of control. This could be regained through a Neighbourhood Plan, but it was a long process and couldn't address problems quickly. She suggested that it might be helpful if she asked Jo Churchill MP to come talk to the community, possibly including Botesdale and Rickinghall. She had regular contact with her and confirmed that Ms Churchill was aware of the issues.

The upcoming Planning Committee for Land at Charters Towers was also discussed, and it was agreed to ask Cllr Giddings to attend on behalf of the PC if he was available.

7. Planning:
 - 7.1 Applications:
 - 7.1.1 The Cottage, The Green. DC/18/00312. Planning Application - Erection of 2No detached dwellings and garages. It was noted that the houses would not be visible from the road and were in keeping with nearby houses in size and design. It was agreed that infill was the sort of development the PC wanted to promote, and it was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.
 - 7.2 Decisions:
 - 7.2.1 Chapel House, The Knoll, The Street. Ref. DC/17/05541. Householder Planning Application for erection of a two-storey rear extension with single storey link. HP Application GRANTED.
 - 7.2.2 Chapel House, The Knoll, The Street. Ref. DC/17/05544. Application for Listed Building Consent for a two-storey rear extension with single storey link. LB Consent GRANTED.
8. Ongoing Items:
 - 8.1 Old School Playing Field: Councillors agreed that the ecological advice to determine whether the site was suitable for development was very thorough and encouraging. It was possible that further investigation might be needed into the pond habitat, but this would need to take place later in the year. This would be discussed further in April.
 - 8.2 Cross Keys Pub: The opening night on 3 March had been a great success and the pub had started serving food on 7 March. The pub was still looking for volunteers to work behind the bar.
 - 8.3 Internal Audit Review: Cllr Preston had carried out the review based on the internal controls checklist provided by the Suffolk Association of Local Councils and had signed off on them. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to accept the review.
9. New Items:
 - 9.1 Gressingham Liaison Group: The PC's Gressingham rep, Cllr Giddings, had sent a report saying that the company had been carrying out a lot of work on site which would make it a better neighbour.

- 9.2 Farming Hours: A complaint was received about some very early/late activity at the north end of the village. It was assumed that this was sugar beet harvesting and the PC noted that the factory in Bury St Edmunds dictated specific days for delivery so harvesting usually needed to be carried out very quickly. As it was only done every two years, the PC agreed that it was not necessary to write to the landowner to request more social hours.
- 9.3 Community Bus: It was agreed to consider providing an annual donation during the 2019-20 budget discussion. The service was well used in Redgrave.
- 9.4 Internal Auditor: It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to appoint Julian van Beveren to carry out the Internal Audit.
10. Correspondence:
- 10.1 SCC Highways: Councillors completed the survey about SCC's Community Self Help offer to enable town and parish councils to undertake work that SCC Highways did not have the budget for. Although the PC wished to enable work that wasn't currently being carried out if possible, it felt that it had already taken on enough additional work.
- 10.2 Suffolk Police: The February newsletter was noted.
- 10.3 Historic England: It was noted that the War Memorial was now a Grade II Listed Building.
- 10.4 Avenues East: It was noted that Avenues East had closed due to lack of funding and the PC's grant cheque had been returned.
- 10.5 Land Registry: The Land Registry had notified the PC that a resident had contested ownership of the access to the Old School Playing Field. Documents proving parish ownership would be forwarded to the Land Registry in response.
- 10.6 Resident: It was noted that a Village Clean Up Day would take place on Sunday, 25 March at 10.30am.
- 10.7 Redgrave Amenities Trust: A £300 grant for upkeep of the hall had been requested and would be discussed further at the April meeting. It was noted that the Trust was relying on a very small group of volunteers, but the maintenance of the play area had been taken over by the PC.
11. Finance:
- 11.1 Account balance: £16,155.51
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| Income | £ 2,346.00 | Grant for Old School Playing Field |
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- 11.2 Accounts for Payment:
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| L Jackson-Eve (Total £365.93) | £ 231.52 | Salary Feb 2018 |
| | £ 134.41 | Expenses Feb 2018 |
| Local Council Public Advisory Serv | £ 150.00 | Data Protection Services |
| SCC | £ 156.81 | Street Light Maint/Energy 17-18 |
| Gray Ecology | £ 495.60 | Ecology Survey (Old School PF) |
- RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts detailed above.
12. Matters carried forward from this meeting or to be brought to the attention of the council: None.
13. New matters for next meeting: The Redgrave Shop.
14. Next meeting: 4 April 2018 – to start with Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm.
15. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest under section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 for consideration of the following items: Personnel Issues – Clerk's Pension. It was noted that the Clerk, Leeann Jackson-Eve, was a contributory employee and her contract stated that she was eligible to be enrolled in the Local Government Pension Scheme, under LG Pension Scheme Regs 1997, SI 1997/1612 (as amended). Therefore, it was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to enrol Leeann Jackson-Eve in the LG Pension Scheme with immediate effect. The Clerk would be asked to make the necessary arrangements with SCC, the LGPS fund manager

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm.