

REDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - MINUTES 12 October 2016
Held in the Redgrave Activities Centre at 7.30 pm

Present: Mike Denmark, John Giddings, Bob Hayward, Richard Hilton, Matthew Millard, Neil Smith, David Snashfold, Jason Walker, County Cllr Jessica Fleming, District Cllr Derek Osborne, Parish Clerk and 45 members of the public.

1. Chairman's Opening: Mike welcomed everyone.
2. Apologies: Ann Preston.
3. Declarations of interest: None.
4. Minutes of the meeting of 14 September 2016 were agreed as a true record.
5. Progress reports not covered by this agenda: None.
6. Public Forum: 7.32pm RESOLVED, with all agreed, to adjourn the meeting for the public forum. *There was a complaint from a resident about the road markings on Churchway not being restored after the resurfacing. County Cllr Fleming agreed to follow it up with SCC Highways officers. Cllr Fleming spoke about devolution and reported that the results of recent consultation showed that there were mixed feelings, particularly about having an elected mayor. She also asked people to check out the new Suffolk Community Transport system which aimed to fill in the gaps in local transport provision. A resident expressed her concern about the September changes in the bus timetable which removed the mid-day service. The final speaker was Paul Sutton from Strutt and Parker who talked about proposals for a small development site (1.68ha) off Hall Lane near the end of the village, which was submitted to the District Council's 'Call for Sites (under 2ha) consultation in August this year. The aim, he explained, was to deliver 20-25 houses, together with public open space and a new access from Hall Lane. The outline scheme showed 25 house of which 35% (9) would be affordable housing managed by a housing association or a shared equity scheme. This gave a density of 15 houses/ha which was about half the number allowed but they felt was more appropriate in a village setting. Cllr Fleming spoke at this point to say that a previous Call for Sites had looked at sites of over 2ha (none were in Redgrave) and it was likely that one-half to two-thirds would not be considered suitable due to sites being poorly related to the existing settlement, services and facilities, proposing unachievable access or issues like flooding. In addition, the District Council would be undertaking a Housing Needs Assessment in the near future, which would look at whether housing was needed in the locality. This would be based on government housing statistics and, she hoped, consultation with parish councils. Many residents felt that there was a need for affordable housing in Redgrave but were dismayed to see 12 four-bedroom houses as part of the mix in the proposals. Mr Sutton explained that this was an outline proposal in the very early stages and the mix of houses was not set in stone. This was not the only objection to the proposals expressed – there were grave concerns about the effect on infrastructure, particularly the school, surgery and the sewage system, and the effect of a large number of cars accessing Hall Lane near a very sharp bend. There were also comments about flooding and maintenance of the community areas in the proposal. Finally, there was an overall complaint about the lack of notice for the presentation. The Clerk apologised and explained that Strutt & Parker had requested a presentation to the Parish Council and there would be additional opportunities for a public meeting if the proposals passed MSDC's assessment process. In addition, the previous Call for Sites had initiated in 2014 and the results were not published until May 2016 so this process was in the very early stages. However, given the interest this presentation had generated, the PC (and the Clerk) undertook to keep the public in the loop as much as possible given limited resources and means of communication. Information would be published on the website, the notice board opposite the Shop and, deadlines and longer notice permitting, the parish magazine. The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 8.35pm.*

7. Planning:
 - 7.1 Applications:
 - 7.1.1 Land adjacent to Green Farm House. Ref. 3941/16. Erection of timber entrance gate to serve dwelling under construction approved by planning permission 1478/15. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.
 - 7.1.2 Land adjacent to Green Farm Cottage. Ref. 3845/16. Erection of detached dwelling and garage. A resident had expressed concern about the limited notice to nearby residents, only two of which had received a formal notice from MSDC, the possible damage and obstruction of the single track lane by construction vehicles, flooding issues from the pond which it was felt made the site unsuitable for building on and the loss of trees. It was agreed to ask the Tree Warden to have a look at the proposals. The PC had mixed feelings, as there was no objection to the design of the house, and agreed to convey these comments to MSDC
 - 7.2 Decisions: None.
8. Ongoing Items:
 - 8.1 Community Assets: The expression of interest under the Community Right to Bid to purchase the Redgrave Community Shop had been accepted by MSDC. A meeting had been held with the District Council's funding officer and the Clerk had written to the owner to find out the details of the sale with no reply as of yet. It was agreed to get valuations for the property and to hold a public meeting at 7pm on 9 November (prior to the regular meeting of the PC) to discuss the way forward for the Shop.
 - 8.2 Traffic Issues: None.
 - 8.3 Play Area: Cllr Millard agreed to measure the existing safety surfacing and the Clerk would get a quote for supply and installation of grass matting.
 - 8.4 Verges and Footpaths: The Clerk would follow up on the verge cutting. It was agreed to defer discussion of footpaths until November.
 - 8.5 Speedwatch Report: The Speedwatch group had carried out four sessions each in August and September and had their Speedar calibrated by the local PCSO team. The numbers of motorists recorded and reported continued to vary between nought and fifteen during each hour-long operation. Figures from June to September continued to show that peak speeding times were between 6 am and 8 am, and 5 pm onwards through the evening. This meant that the group could concentrate on peak times during the summer, but it was not possible at other times of year. The police had announced that their speed enforcement team would be prioritising The Street during September and there had been at least two surveillance sessions during the month. They also said that The Street would remain one of their sites for ongoing observation.
9. New Items:
 - 9.1 Insurance 2016/17: After a three-year agreement, the PC's insurance from Community Action Suffolk was up for renewal and a comparison was made with another specialist parish council provider. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to accept the much lower quote of £529.74 from Came and Company (Hiscox) and sign a three-year agreement.
 - 9.2 Meeting Dates 2017: It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to change the meetings to the first Wednesday in the month. The meeting dates for 2017 would be 4 Jan; 1 Feb; 1 Mar; 5 Apr; 3 May; 7 Jun; 5 Jul; 6 Sep; 4 Oct; 1 Nov.
 - 9.3 Village Improvements: The cost of a village gateway was considered to be too high and it was agreed to shelve this proposal.
10. Correspondence:
 - 10.1 MSDC: The PC noted the Town and Parish Newsletter.
 - 10.2 SALC: It was noted that government consultation was taking place with the suggestion that councils with a precept of over £500,000 would be subject to a referendum.

10.3 BT: The PC had received a letter from BT saying that the phone box had not been used at all in the previous 12 months and they were therefore proposing to remove it. The PC was given the option to “adopt” the box. Given the lack of use, the PC had no objection to the equipment being removed and would consider adopting the box subject to details of the contract. It was suggested that the new defibrillator could be housed there.

11. Finance:

11.1 Budget Report and Account balance: £35,440.60

11.2 Accounts for Payment:

L Jackson-Eve	£ 278.97	Salary Sept 2016
	£ 29.69	Expenses Sept 2016
HMRC	£ 57.80	PAYE for LJE – 2 nd quarter
D Newcombe	£ 50.00	Cutting Knoll Aug/Sept 2016
MSDC	£ 55.64	Play Inspection 2016
J Canning	£ 40.00	Expenses for Remembrance Day
P O’Connor	£ 20.00	Wreath for Remembrance Day
Road Runner TCA Ltd	£ 84.00	Speedar Battery Charger

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: It was agreed to ask Wing Commander Chris Davis to represent Redgrave at the Remembrance Sunday event.

13. New matters for next meeting: None.

14. Next meeting: 9 November 2016

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.42pm.