

REDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING – MINUTES 6 January 2021
Held online on Zoom at 7.30pm

Present: Brian Andrews, Angela Bigley, John Giddings, Frank Gillett, Ann Preston, Jason Walker, the Parish Clerk and District/County Cllr Jessica Fleming. There was one member of the public.

1. Chairman's Opening: Jason (Vice-Chairman) welcomed everyone.
2. Apologies received: Cllr Mike Denmark.
3. Casual Vacancies: None.
4. Declarations of interest: None.
5. Minutes of the meeting of 2 December 2020 were agreed as a true record.
6. Progress reports not covered on agenda: The Clerk reported that Gressingham had sent their own team to clear the road drainage at the village pond and so far, the road had remained clear of flooding. The PC extended its thanks to Gressingham. The Clerk also reported that the Co-operative Bank had simplified the process of making payments online and it was now relatively easy to arrange. It was agreed to submit a form to add signatories to online banking.
7. Public Forum: Ryan Labrum of County Broadband gave a presentation on the company's proposal to provide the infrastructure for 'fibre to premises' broadband in Redgrave. Cllr Fleming reported on Covid updates. The Home But Not Alone service at 0800 876 6926 was active and staffed from 9am to 5pm Mon. to Fri., as was the Suffolk Advice and Support Service phone at 0800 068 3131. Special schools and those supporting key workers would remain open during the new lockdown period. Residents on low incomes or benefits could get financial help if they are told to self-isolate due to COVID-19. Businesses could apply for multiple mandatory and discretionary grants, but separate applications would need to be made for each grant. All Covid related schemes were promoted on the Mid Suffolk District Council website at <https://www.babergh.gov.uk/benefits/coronavirus-money-and-benefits-advice/> Cllr Fleming reported that Babergh and Mid Suffolk were considering proposals to cut their fleet's carbon emissions by up to 90% through use of hydro-treated waste vegetable oil (HVO) instead of diesel. As well as CO₂, emissions of other pollutants would be greatly reduced. Cllr Fleming also reported that there was a gypsy and traveller encampment at Wortham Ling.
8. Planning: *To include any applications received after the publication of the agenda.*
 - 8.1 Applications: None.
 - 8.2 Decisions: None.
9. Ongoing Items:
 - 9.1 Neighbourhood Plan: It was noted that a meeting was planned for the following week and there was therefore no update.
 - 9.2 Redgrave Amenities Trust: It was noted that the Trust had requested an extension of the lease from Llanover.
10. New Items:
 - 10.1 County Broadband: The PC considered the information provided in the presentation given by County Broadband and noted that the company was financially backed by Aviva. It was also noted that they were currently the only company in the area offering 'fibre to premises' broadband. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to support the introduction of improved broadband infrastructure in Redgrave. It was agreed to draft a letter from the PC outlining the background of the approach from County Broadband with details of how to register interest in the scheme. County Broadband would take responsibility for distributing this to Redgrave residents. It was noted that approximate 40% of households would need to register interest for it to go forward to the next stage where households would be asked to pre-order. At that stage 25% would need to pre-order for it to go ahead. Installation would be free for those who signed up at the pre-order stage.
11. Correspondence:
 - 11.1 SCC Pension Fund: The PC considered the consultation on Ill Health Liability Insurance which asked whether all employers in the Suffolk Pension Fund with a LGPS pension

payroll of less than £1m should have the insurance. As there was no additional cost to employers in having it, the PC agreed to support this change in Pension Fund policy.

12. Finance:

12.1 Account balance: £ 29,004.73
Income £ 0.00

12.2 Accounts for Payment:

Admin Payments £ 488.97 Not itemised due to GDPR
J Cresswell £ 232.60 Xmas tree and batteries

RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts above.

12.3 Draft Budget 2021-22: It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to set a BUDGET of £20,470 for the year 2021-22 and to retain funds of £21,291.53, making a total fund of £41,761.53. The PC RESOLVED, with all agreed, to sign the form requesting a precept of £19,800 from Mid Suffolk District Council. This was an overall 10% rise on the amount received in 2020-21.

13. Matters carried forward from this meeting or to be brought to the attention of the council: Following up from the work at the village pond, it was suggested that a pond maintenance expert should be contacted for advice on regular maintenance. There was a significant amount of mud and debris on Fen Street after flooding and the Clerk would report this to MSDC with a request for clearance.

14. New matters for next meeting: None.

15. Next meeting: 3 February 2021.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.34pm.