

Minutes of Redgrave Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 9 September at Redgrave Activities Centre 19.30

Present

Mr K Green, Mrs C Thorne, Mr S Burgess, Mrs D Culley, Mr I Baird,
Mr R Hayward, Mr J VanBeveren, 2 residents, Mr C Michell, Mrs S Michell

1. Apologies
Mr A Aves, Mrs J Orves
2. Vice Chairmans opening
Mr K Green welcomed everyone
3. Declarations of interest
None
4. Minutes of meeting Wednesday 14 July
The minutes were agreed by all except Celia Thorne who wished it to be noted that she felt that more detail should have been given on the part of item 12 shown in italics. Since the majority agreed that the July minutes were correct no further detail has been added to the July minutes.
5. No matters arising
6. Open discussion with county and district councillors and services
Charles Michell inquired whether the hasty publication of revised bus schedules had caused any problems. There were no changes to the specific Redgrave routes so there had been no problem.
Charles explained that it had been proposed to reduce the numbers of county councils and of county councillors in those remaining. There should be no change as perceived by Redgrave.
Ian Baird outlined the problems with access at the Eye disposal site and contrasted it to Thetford. Charles advised that re-siting is being considered. Sara Michell explained the comparative performance assessment being undergone at Mid Suffolk District Council.
Sara mentioned that council housing tenants were being surveyed on their opinions on remaining with Mid Suffolk or being administered by some form of housing association. **Sara would give Angie Robinson a telephone help Number to publish for any tenants who needed further advice.**
Wheelie bins were a little delayed by budgets but and it would most likely be late in 2005 when Redgrave would receive the bins.
7. Open discussion with residents
Joyce Orves had contacted the police re SID speed devices and they had agreed to try them at some unspecified time.
Angie would try again to contact FWAG pond cleaners.
Deb Shepherd on behalf of the Community Council requested that the Father Christmas donation be a calendar item for the Parish Council rather than by specific request. It was agreed. **Deb also requested a document showing the insurance of the Play equipment for the grant providers. Bob Hayward will Provide.**
8. Planning applications received
LB/199/04 at Bridge House for windows, dormer, and loggia change was agreed by all.

(Application 956/04 Green Farm Barn and 739/04 Elmcroft were agreed by email circulation between the July and September meetings)

Simon Burgess will phone Mr Barthorpe to explain the parish council situation on his letter regarding his ideas for his site and what he regarded as adverse publicity.

Mid Suffolk had advised that it took no exception to the tree proposals at The Priory and at Kent House.

(Tree management requests for The Priory, Kent House, and Drum Cottage were agreed by email circulation between the July and September meetings)

9. Donations to charities

The listing will be completed for the October meeting.

10. Finance and cheques for signature

There were no cheques for signature (The following cheques and expenditure been agreed by email and verbal consensus amongst the councillors between the July and September meetings:- Cheque for £30 to Suffolk Preservation Society for planning course J Orves & S Burgess. Commitment to £42 increase in insurance premium for £3853 extra cover on Half Moon Lane new play equipment, cheque for £22 postal redirection)

VAT has still to be reclaimed on relevant invoices back to 1 April.

After the July meeting it was found that the official 03/04 accounts needed to be at the government auditors by July 19 and the statutory notice allowing the public access to the accounts had to be put up on July 19. The accounts therefore had to be completed, verified, and internally audited by 17 July.

Anne Preston completed the internal audit and all of the deadlines were met.

The only question from the government auditors was whether Anne Preston was independent of the council and the answer was yes.

11. Progress in finding a new clerk

Two people have replied. **One copy of their letters or CV's will be circulated to the parish council members because uncontrolled multiple copies pose a data protection risk.**

It was agreed that the previous sub-committee of Ian Baird, Bob Hayward, and Joyce Orves should conduct any necessary interviews and report their recommendations to the full council.

The choice of employed, provision of a service, and honorarium were discussed. The problems are that councillors have enough to do without keeping up to date with the increasing complications of employment law and the new code of conduct for government employees will deter anyone wishing to be an employed parish clerk. The preference seemed to be towards contracting for a secretarial service to the council and having one councillor acting as the clerk for formal purposes but nothing was actually decided.

12. Allocation of mirror roles to facilitate MSDC & SCC contact

This happened to some extent already as those with particular expertise took the lead in conducting preliminary investigations and reporting back. There was a concern that if we tried to mirror too many functions it would cause more work than at present. Also the contacts with some departments were infrequent. Councillors needed more time to think through what if anything

should be done. **Bob Hayward will email the list.** The subject will be raised again in the October meeting.

13. Registration of parish land
There had been no further in locating the deeds of other than the Half Moon Lane playing field. This deeds item will be carried forward until all are located.
14. Reinstatement of footpath Redgrave Fen to B1113
Daphne Culley would arrange for Bob Hayward to be invited to the next Fen Trust meeting on 29 September at The Rectory.
15. Parish Plan progress
Receipt of completed questionnaires has closed. Young Peoples, Business, and Household replies have been totalled. Data input for adult questionnaires, which is the major workload, should be well advanced for the next steering meeting on Wednesday 15 September. Work remains ahead of plan.
16. Progress on grants for the Activities Centre extension
The first Big Lottery application was unsuccessful and has been resubmitted for decision in Mid November.
Suffolk Environmental Trust will decide in Mid October. Mid Suffolk will try to find the 10% matched funding which is needed for the Suffolk Environmental Trust potential grant.
17. New Play Equipment installed by the Community Council
The slide and replacement overhead frame were successfully installed and are now included in the parish council equipment insurance for damage & theft.
18. PCT Public Engagement
Celia Thorne has suggested to Peter Alonzo evening meetings and public involvement in discussion rather than just being allowed to attend committee meetings.
19. Budget on bus shelter
Julian Van Beveren had successfully obtained a grant of £120 from Suffolk County Council for maintenance and repairs to the bus shelter. **Julian will organise the painting and requests assistance from councillors.**
20. Request from Community Council to raise grant to £150 and change some terms of the agreement on the Old School Playing Field
It was agreed to raise the annual grant from the Parish Council to the Community Council from £100 to £150 even though the Parish Council was already committed to a £42 per annum increase in insurance cost for the new play equipment.
It was agreed that there should be some safeguard against the Community Council perhaps being asked to reimburse a grant if the Parish Council were to sell the Old School Playing Field. It should however be capped at a maximum of £6,000. **Suitable wording needed to be drafted for approval by the parish Council at the October meeting.**
21. Correspondence
MSDC Electoral Review – it was agreed that no change in parish boundaries and no change in size of Parish Council was justified. **Bob Hayward to provide suitable wording for the October meeting.**
MSDC Pond & Willow – **Celia Thorne would phone Mid Suffolk re progress on removing the dead willow tree.**
SCC Kerry Foods Crackthorn Corner – Contents noted. No reply required.

SCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan - Simon Burgess took the letter and the questionnaire to discuss with Andy Aves to see if he would fill it in, with our support if necessary.

SCC Footpath 2 – Bob Hayward to email a copy to Simon Burgess who will take and discuss with Andy Aves together with pictures provided by Celia Thorne.

MSDC Agendas for MSDC meetings – Noted that these will now be available on the MSDC website and will no longer be sent out as hard copy.

22. Matters for next meeting

Discuss reinstating a Parish Council meeting in August next year.

23. Date of next meeting

Wednesday October 13 2004

Signed _____
Chairman

Dated _____