

MINUTES REDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
Wednesday 9 January 2008
Held at Redgrave Activities Centre at 7.30 pm

Present: Mrs J Orves, Mrs J Cresswell, Mr J McCluskey, Mr I Baird, Mr R Hayward, Mr J Walker, Mr S Rourke, Community support officer Nick Kegge, County Councillor Charles Michell, District Councillor Sara Michell and 3 residents.

1. Apologies Mrs A Preston, Mr K Collins
2. Chairmans opening. Mrs Orves asked Mr Walker to take the chair as a cold had affected her voice.
3. Declarations of interest. Mr Walker reminded the meeting that he is employed by a bus company when item 11 is discussed. That was unlikely to be a material concern as the parish council has no influence on the contract award process.
4. Minutes of meeting of Wednesday 14 November 2007 were agreed a true record
5. Matters arising not covered by this agenda - none
6. Co-options – none
7. *Open discussion with county and district councillors, and services*
Nick Kegge advised that the crime statistics for Redgrave since October were 1 drink driving, 4 thefts, 1 burglary, 1 criminal damage and 1 vehicle break-in. John Robinson was a little concerned that most of those had not been notified to neighbourhood watch. Charles Michell commented on the continuing cuts being forced upon county council spending highlighting the £1.5 million per year cut on highways which had to service 3000 miles of roads. The boundary commission had rejected the Ipswich claim for unitary status and was studying restructuring of county and district councils to provide a more integrated service.
Sara Michell reported that Mid Suffolk was ranked No 1 in the country for efficiency savings and top in dry recycling in the country. They were aiming to be 2% below inflation over a 3 year cycle.
8. *Open discussion with residents- no subjects raised*
9. Planning
2233 07 Fox Cottage and The Gables extension, frontage, garages. No objections in principle but it was felt that MSDC need to take care with the frontage in such a key village position.
2451 07 Newlands Hinderclay Rd demolish and rebuild granted
3186 07 Mission Room disabled toilet extension granted
Site specific Allocations Issues and Options any comments needed to be made by anyone to the web page by 5pm 18 January
10. Finance and cheques for signature
Agreed £46.71 to Botesdale PC towards war memorial insurance
Optua (Rethink Disability) request for donation had been received
Pyramids request for donation had been received
Agreed by all that all donations would be decided at the March meeting in every year and paid before April 5th. Any requests after that would be deferred to the next March
Jan Cresswell would get a quote for doing a safety survey on a single tree.
The litter pick-up day would be 24 February at 11.00. Jan Cresswell would get a quote for sticks and hi-vis vests.
11. Bus survey progress
The raw data of the survey was shown on screen but it required summarising.
Suffolk Bus and Rail strategies had been received which was a little surprising as they did not yet have the results of their October survey.

Our bus sub-committee would meet here at 7.00 pm on Monday 14 January.

12. Housing survey working group. The next step is a public meeting here early in February

13. Childrens equipment. A grant of £58,000 was conditional on a longer lease for the activities centre field and possible planning permission needed for a 6 metre high climbing net.

It was unanimously agreed (for a second time) that the parish council had no objection to the proposed 6 metre climbing net.

All residents bordering the field are being invited to a meeting here on 19 January at 10.30 to see drawings of the proposals and visit the site.

14. Duck Factory A meeting would be held before the next parish council meeting to hear progress on avian influenza.

15. Village shop – open and appears well used

16. Any other correspondence or information

Speed monitors – There was considerable discussion on volunteers using speed guns. Ian Baird would investigate the possibilities for cost sharing with other parishes. There was considerable concern that (since experience revealed that many residents get caught) anyone doing it would be unwittingly snooping on neighbours

Emergencies – in almost all emergencies the police are in charge so the idea of using neighbourhood watch ought to actually happen in practice. In the avian influenza emergency access was controlled by the police but they appear not to have thought to use the network . It was mentioned that the major emergency scenario is a military aircraft crash but helicopters would be scrambled so fast that we would not have any part in handling such an incident.

The Coffee Caravan newsletter had been received

Countryside access community scheme – passed to John Preston footpaths officer

David Ruffley petition on rural post offices was noted

17. Ideas for improvements to village (excluding Activities Centre & play areas)

Verge cutting – for next agenda

18. Matters carried forward from this meeting 11 to 15 and 16- speed monitors

19. New matters for next meeting – verge cutting

20. Date of next meeting Wednesday 13 February

13 February 2008

Mrs J Orves Chairman