

## MINUTES REDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

13 November 2013

Held at Redgrave Activities Centre at 7.30 pm

Present: John Giddings, Jason Walker, Bob Hayward, Jim McCluskey, Ian Baird, Jackie Moss, Mike Denmark, County councillor Jessica Fleming, PCSO Dave Faulkner, PCSO Abigail Durrant and 4 residents

1. Apologies: Ann Preston, Jan Cresswell, Sara Michell
2. Chairmans opening: Jason welcomed everyone
3. Declarations of interest - None
4. Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 9 October 2013 were agreed a true record
5. Matters arising not covered by this agenda: None
6. Any changes in councillors: Jim McCluskey had decided to resign at the end of the meeting. Jims resignation was accepted with regret. Jim was thanked by all for his fine contribution over the past 8 years .
7. *Open discussion with county and district councillors, and services*

*County councillor Jessica Fleming informed us that Highways would shortly be making road-works information and timing for filling potholes available on the internet for access by anyone. Details will be advised.*

*District councillor Sara Michell was unable to attend but sent a note that the Rural Services Network found that people pay higher council tax in rural areas and yet receive substantially less support for public services. The government's funding formula for local authorities means urban councils currently receive around 50% more money per person than rural councils. Rural communities are getting a raw deal from government. More than 100 petitions calling for fairer funding (including ours from Mid Suffolk) have been presented by MPs to the government. David Ruffley has highlighted the issue in the House of Commons. This week the government has pledged to listen to rural concerns and meet with campaigners and the Rural Service Network over the unfairness and disparity in the funding issue. Police reported that since our last meeting there has been 1 crime reported to the police. This relates to a Theft from a property on Half Moon Lane. This took place between 4pm on 25/10 and 8am on 26/10*

*Eye SNT held their quarterly tasking meeting in Weybread on 01<sup>st</sup> October. During the meeting it was agreed that we would have the following priorities;*

  - 1 – To investigate and address safety issues involving pedal cycles riding without lights during the hours of darkness*
  - 2 – To pro-actively target thefts of domestic and commercial heating*
8. *Open discussion with residents*

*3 dogs had been loose whilst children were playing on the play area. RAT would check whether all the "no dogs" signs were all still in place*
9. Planning  
2067/13 Extension of time limit for dwelling adj to Timbers granted  
0873/13 Extension to Priory Barn LBC granted  
<http://planning.midsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/acolnetcgi.gov>
10. Finance and cheques for signature  
Agreed pay Botesdale PC £49.17 as one third share of war memorial insurance  
Agreed pay for Christmas tree £160  
The budget for 14/15 was agreed and that the precept should remain at £7,500 (the same as for the past 11 years) unless it triggered a referendum.  
The major part of the discussion was in trying to understand the information from meetings at Mid Suffolk on how the precept would work in future. The precept is the amount the parish council requires to do its work and which is a small part of the council tax paid by everyone. At the moment for a middle of the range household the Redgrave Parish Council part of council tax Is £29 per year.

Redgrave Parish Council requires a total of £7,500 per year to act on behalf of the residents. That has remained unchanged for 11 years due to the efficiencies achieved over that time. Due to changes imposed by central government although the £7,500 would remain unchanged, a resident will probably see the Redgrave part of the council tax increase by £3 per year from £29 per year to £32 per year. We will wait until February to finalise what we request from Mid Suffolk for our precept as the view was that neither local or central government seems to have any clue what is happening on this subject.

11. Town pit status – nothing to report
12. Affordable housing – nothing to report
13. Old School Playing Field – nothing to report
14. Duck Factory - There still appears to be unusual noise disturbance from Gressingham foods so John Giddings and Jim McCluskey will meet with them to consider the situation.
15. Speed monitoring – monitored twice today
16. Any other correspondence or information  
Consider paid clerk – deferred until the next meeting. Jason would find the Botesdale costs  
Thanks to Suffolk County Council for replacing the footbridge on the footpath from Bier Lane to Moneypot.
17. Ideas for improvements to village – picket fence progress – await news
18. Matters carried forward from this meeting – usual headings
19. New matters for next meeting - none
20. Next meeting 8 January 2013 - apologies Bob Hayward

8 January 2014  
Jason Walker Chairman