

MINUTES of the MEETING of LEAVENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 3rd February 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at The Village Hall, Leavenheath.

PRESENT: B Rowe (Chairman), B Sadler, P Mortlock, C Jackson, R Cowell, C Morgan and H Bonnar and D Hattrell (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: J Jenkins (District Cllr) and J Finch (County Cllr).

PUBLIC FORUM: No members of public were present.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Nothing was declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 6TH JANUARY 2016: These were accepted as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: It was reported that a volunteer has come forward to distribute the newsletter in Wrights Way, however, someone is still needed for along the A134. The Elm Tree Lane sign has been replaced.

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: District Councillor J Jenkins was unable to attend.

POLICE REPORT: No report had been provided.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: County Councillor J Finch was unable to attend.

VILLAGE HALL: B Sadler reported on the recent meeting of the Village Hall Committee and confirmed a replacement piano has been offered free of charge. He thanked the Parish Council for considering a donation towards the replacement. He spoke of the forthcoming quiz and digital cinema. The next project may involve replacing the kitchen. Quotes were being obtained to re-decorate the interior of the hall.

CORRESPONDENCE: The report had been issued ahead of the meeting and key areas were discussed. It was agreed to put the petition for better mobile phone signal in the entrance to the Village Hall.

HIGHWAYS: Reports of community litter picking were made. It was also noted that the pavement on the High Road on the left hand side as you enter from the A134 is in need of sweeping. It was agreed for the Clerk to report to the District Council - **Action Clerk**. C Jackson reported on the oak tree mentioned at the last meeting. The County Council have agreed the work under reference 128213. A hawthorn issue in Old Road is to be resolved shortly. R Cowell raised the issue of the cycle path crossing of the A134. It was agreed to review site meeting notes on the subject.

FINANCE: The bank balances as at 3rd February 2016 were **£16846.63** in the Community Account, **£15264.50** in the Reserve Account making a total of **£32111.13**. It was noted that a contribution towards the Village Hall Piano was no longer required.

The following were authorised for payment: -

1366	400.66	D K Hattrell	Clerk's Salary
1367	92.92	Inland Revenue Only	Clerk's ddtns & ERS NIC
1368	148.58	SCC - Pension ACC	Clerk's Pension
1369	356.41	Suffolk County Council	Street Light power & maintenance

Total £998.57

CIRCULAR PATH PROJECT: R Cowell reported on the "Walking in Leavenheath" literature being ready for print and suggestions were sought from members in relation to final numbers and distribution. There are two parts of the walks in need of further work and R Cowell explained an issue relating to working under a potentially dangerous tree. This may now have been resolved.

VILLAGE GREEN: P Mortlock reported on the work to resolve items on the playground identified in the most recent safety inspection report. Two new trees have been planted on the Village Green.

FOOTPATHS: It was agreed to include as an Agenda item for the March Meeting - **Action Clerk.**

TRANSPARENCY CODE: The Chairman had researched a website with details of the relevant documents. The Clerk had provided hard copies of all the documents. P Mortlock agreed to scan and upload onto the Parish Council Website - **Action P Mortlock.**

NOTICES FOR EVENTS AND FROM ORGANISATIONS OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE: It was agreed not to pursue this item for the time being.

IDEAS TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE: It was agreed to issue a chase up in respect of the barrier on the grass area on the High Road between Wrights Way and the Village Green - **Action Clerk.** It was also agreed to look at the land registry check and provide the owner details to R Cowell as he volunteered to make contact with them - **Action Clerk and R Cowell.** The Chairman has been investigating the installation of a seat in the bus shelter and she agreed to include information for circulation.

IDEAS TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION: It was agreed for P Mortlock to bring the website up to date. The Clerk will continue to put reports in LSPN of the Parish Council Meetings.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: C Jackson gave a report as Tree Warden to bring members up to date. This involved work in Royston Wood to carefully remove a dead tree and the Scattered Orchard Project. Village volunteers assisted with the preparation and planting for the project. The Chairman suggested he issues a report in LSPN on the Scattered Orchard Project. R Cowell agreed to put an article in LSPN about the Walk booklets. The Chairman took the opportunity to congratulate R Cowell on all he has achieved so far with this project.

The meeting closed at **9.00 p.m.**

Planning Meeting on 3rd February 2016

The following decisions were advised from the Planning Authority: -

- a) Permission was granted to re-locate existing boundary fence at 1 Oaklands - **B/15/01596**
- b) Permission was granted for a garage outbuilding following demolition of existing garage at Oak Cottage, Breach Grove - **B/15/01600**
- c) Permission was granted for a chalet style dwelling with parking at 29 Edies Lane - **B/15/00975**

The following were discussed: -

1) **Place Shaping** - the Chairman reported on the meeting that took place on 22nd January with Cllrs Bonnar, Cowell, Jackson, Mortlock and herself from the Parish Council, with District Cllr Jennie Jenkins and Babergh Officers including Sue Carver, Nick Ward, Sue Clements and Julie Abbey-Taylor. Following discussion and a short tour of the village, it is hoped that later in the year, the Parish Council may be able to host an event for residents on the future of Leavenheath.

2) **Planning together & Community Engagement** - the approach made by Stoke by Nayland Parish Council was discussed and it was agreed the Chairman and B Sadler will arrange to attend the first meeting and report back to Council.