

**MINUTES of the MEETING of LEAVENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 5th October 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at The Village Hall, Leavenheath.

**PRESENT:** B Rowe (Chairman), P Mortlock, C Jackson, C Morgan, H Bonnar, R Cowell, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr), J Jenkins (District Cllr) and 1 member of the public.

**APOLOGIES:** B Sadler.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Nothing was raised.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** Nothing was declared.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 7th SEPTEMBER 2016:** These were accepted as a true record.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** P Mortlock reported the on-going investigation towards a new noticeboard or boards.

**BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:** District Cllr J Jenkins attended and confirmed the chosen accommodation for the District Council is Endeavour House in Ipswich. Out of the four options considered that was the least costly. The move will start in the spring next year. A short list of applicants for the Chief Executive role has been made and a cabinet model is now being considered for the District Councils.

**POLICE REPORT:** There was no report.

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:** County Councillor J Finch attended and reported as follows: -

➤ **Initial Feedback from the Consultation for the Upper Orwell Crossings in Ipswich.**

The first round consultation for the Upper Orwell Crossings was launched on the 1 July 2016 with the aim of raising awareness of the project, its benefits and provide an opportunity to express views and concerns. The consultation has been very well received. The project website has received more than 7,000 views and we have engaged with more than 1800 people through 14 planned events. 90% of those who have responded to the consultation believe the most important benefit of the project is the reduction in congestion and journey times through the town; also recognising the importance of the catalyst effect the project would have on regeneration in the town. The potential impact of the visual appearance of the bridges was a key factor in future support for the project; this is being addressed by the recently launched RIBA competition for an architectural team to work with our consultants on the final designs. Naturally any significant infrastructure project has impacts as well as benefits; the project team have used the consultation as an opportunity to meet with those communities that may be affected and establish contacts to enable ongoing discussions and consultation with them as key stakeholder groups. This first round of consultation has been an excellent start to the next phase of the project.

➤ **The Park and Ride service in Ipswich.**

This service is an important part of the town's transport infrastructure, providing a valued service to commuters, visitors and shoppers, helping to reduce traffic congestion and adding to the creditability of Ipswich as a vibrant town. However, as the current service is subsidised by the tax payer with the County Council historically paying £700,000 pa, I have

challenged my officers to find a way to make the service self-funding. The County Council is continuing to negotiate with the operators and consider the feasibility of the suggested bus service and infrastructure changes. Further work on possible uses for the sites to make them self-financing has also been commissioned.

➤ **Suffolk Record Office makes the final shortlist of International Digital Preservation Awards.**

This is as a result of a pioneering project which provides digital preservation and access to 900 years of Suffolk history. Suffolk County Council is delighted to announce that its Suffolk Record Office project - 'Preserving Suffolk's Digital Assets' is a finalist for The National Archives Award for Safeguarding the Digital Legacy in the prestigious Digital Preservation Awards 2016. Run by the Digital Preservation Coalition, the awards are a world-wide celebration of those who have made significant and innovative contributions to ensuring our generation's digital legacy will be available tomorrow.

In a short space of time they have delivered a trusted digital repository (the equivalent of a strong room for paper records) and a brand new interactive website: [www.suffolkarchives.co.uk](http://www.suffolkarchives.co.uk) which provides easy access to 900 years of Suffolk's history, with links to over 326,000 electronic catalogue records, interesting information and stories, image galleries and online exhibitions. It also hosts the latest news on the Hold: A Suffolk Archives Service for the 21st Century project, which has attracted initial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and is in the early stages of the Development Phase: [www.suffolkarchives.co.uk/thehold](http://www.suffolkarchives.co.uk/thehold). Winners will be announced at a ceremony at the Welcome Trust in London on Wednesday 30 November.

Following his report, J Finch confirmed he was liaising regarding moving the school bus pick up point to the Village Green gates.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The report had been issued ahead of the meeting and key areas were discussed. It was agreed to deal with correspondence regarding Rowans Way trees between meetings.

**HIGHWAYS:** The Chairman thanked P Mortlock for following up on the overhanging hedge. The forthcoming speed limit change proposal was noted.

**FINANCE:** The bank balances as at 5th October 2016 were **£29465.50** in the Community Account, **£15315.80** in the Reserve Account making a total of **£44781.30**. The Chairman proposed a contribution of £1000 towards the kitchen project. This was seconded by C Jackson and unanimously carried - **Action Clerk**. C Morgan proposed this Parish Council continues to retain the website provider at an annual cost which is currently £50. This was seconded by H Bonnar and unanimously carried. P Mortlock agreed to register our interest and an Invoice will follow - **Action P Mortlock**.

**The following were authorised for payment: -**

1412	393.91	D K Hattrell	Clerk's Salary
1413	93.60	Inland Revenue	Clerk's ddtns & ERS NIC
1414	153.59	SCC - Pension ACC	Clerk's Pension
1415	7.00	R Cowell	Land Registry Expenses
<b>Total</b>	<b>£648.10</b>		

**TREE WARDENS REPORT:** C Jackson gave a report of recent activity, no decisions were required.

**VILLAGE HALL:** P Mortlock gave a report on recent activity, a financial contribution towards the kitchen had been agreed under the Finance heading above.

**VILLAGE GREEN:** P Mortlock gave a report on recent activity and it was agreed for the Parish Council to pay for the annual playground safety check. It was also agreed for the Clerk to enquire into the possibility of grants for more sustainable play equipment items - **Action Clerk.**

**CHURCH PATH DITCH SITE MEETING:** The Parish Council representatives who attended a recent site meeting with the Environment Agency reported on some encouraging developments since the meeting. It was agreed to thank Stanton Farms for the work they have carried out - **Action Clerk.** "Church Path Ditch" will remain an **Agenda item - Action Clerk.**

**CIRCULAR PATH PROJECT:** R Cowell gave a report on recent activity and it was agreed that this no longer needs to form an Agenda item - **Action Clerk to remove.**

**RESERVING POLICY:** It was agreed to seek an example from SALC of an acceptable policy and include as an **Agenda item** for next meeting - **Action Clerk.**

**OPTION TO REDUCE MINUTES SIZE:** It was agreed to keep a balance but try to reduce down any unnecessary recording - **Action Clerk.**

**IDEAS TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE:** The Chairman agreed to get prices for bus shelter seats - **Action Chairman.**

**REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS:** R Cowell confirmed they were reviewing the list of paths for priority cuts. P Mortlock reminded about the Community Woodland AGM.

**The meeting closed at 9.02 p.m.**

**The following decisions were reported from the Planning Authority: -**

- 1) **B/16/00852 - Oak Cottage, Breach Grove** - Revised scheme in relation to erection of dwelling - **Permission had been granted.**
- 2) **B/16/01012 - Cornerways, 1 Maple Way** - Application for a two storey rear extension. **Permission had been granted.**
- 3) **B/16/01060 & 61 - Rose Hill Farm, Honey Tye** - Application included Listed Building Consent for cartlodge, pool house, external pool and tennis court. **Permission had been granted.**

Additionally R Cowell mentioned the issues he raised about the Oak Cottage, Breach Grove access. It was agreed for him to provide a copy to our District Councillor - **Action R Cowell.**