

MINUTES of the MEETING of LEAVENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 5th April 2017 at 7.30 p.m. at The Village Hall, Leavenheath.

PRESENT: B Rowe (Chairman), B Sadler, H Bonnar, P Mortlock, C Morgan, C Jackson, R Cowell, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Jenkins (District Cllr) and 3 members of the public including a representative from the Golf Club.

APOLOGIES: J Finch (County Cllr).

PUBLIC FORUM: Items raised included whether it is true that the school bus waiting area is to be relocated and if so the reason for the decision. The Chairman explained this was being pursued due to safety concerns of vehicles parking on the junction. A resident praised Village Green hedge cutting near Rowans Way. Noise had been heard at the cricket pavilion. M Manning, from the Golf Club, explained progress towards completion of the circular path project on their land. The boundary had been surveyed and different options had been considered to provide a permanent right of way along the waterside. Their preferred method currently is to move the path below the boundary by September this year. M Manning intended to write to the Parish Council within a couple of weeks. The west side of Honey Tye orchard was discussed as needing improvement to the surface. The Club were not expecting any further maps and booklets.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Nothing was declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 1st MARCH 2017: These were accepted as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: It was agreed not to list and reference the actions at the end of the Minutes as this was duplication of information contained in the Minutes. Any unresolved actions will be raised and listed separately. It was noted that on-going actions included the bicycle route crossing of the A134, Honey Tye A134 reinstatement work near the bends, Village Hall Noticeboard, School pick up relocation to the Village Green entrance gates and Church path ditch correspondence with the owner. It was agreed to chase the outcome of investigation by the Church path ditch owner - **Action Clerk**.

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: District Cllr J Jenkins attended and confirmed the proposal to move to a Leader Cabinet model which is to be decided at the District Council AGM. Cllr Jenkins will be the Finance portfolio holder. The District Council is to borrow a substantial sum from the Public Works Loan Board and were buying in relevant skills to achieve the required investment returns. The Revenue Support Grant will end by 2020, so investment is essential. She mentioned the 5 year land supply and the impact in respect of planning applications and urged people to discuss any concerns they have. Further consideration is being given to meeting facilities such as the Council Chamber at Hadleigh. R Cowell praised the high level reporting from Cllr Jenkins, however, urged more information on local issues such as Church path. H Bonnar questioned about the move to Endeavour House. Cllr Jenkins confirmed it will take place late summer/early autumn and consideration is being given to walk in access at Sudbury and Hadleigh. P Mortlock was concerned about lack of guidance from officers via telephone contact.

POLICE REPORT: There was no report, however, P Mortlock had provided a link showing our crime figures that can be accessed from our website. He agreed to report figures at future meetings. However, he warned that the data is not up to date. From the latest figures from January 2017, out of the 97 incidents in Babergh West Area, 5 were in the Parish.

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

CORRESPONDENCE: The report had been issued ahead of the meeting and key areas were discussed. The insurance position for the Footpath warden and volunteers was discussed and it was noted that various tasks were carried out on behalf of the Parish Council. Safety precautions were essential together with reporting of the various projects during meetings. The Clerk confirmed details of volunteers for Community Speed Watch. It was agreed to follow this up on the return of our County Cllr.

HIGHWAYS: The Tree Wardens reported on the attendance of Suffolk Highways in cutting branches from trees at the junction of Wrights Way and the High Road where pot holes were filled at the same time. Advice had been sought in relation to mature oaks on the verge of the High Road bordering the Village Green following complaints that the lower branches were damaging the buses. It was agreed to follow up with County Highways - **Action C Jackson**.

FINANCE: The bank balances as at 5th April 2017 were **£22319.76** in the Community Account, **£15319.76** in the Reserve Account making a total of **£37660.86**.

The following were authorised for payment: -

1440	397.78	D K Hattrell	Clerk's Salary
1441	94.40	Inland Revenue Only	Clerk's deductions
1442	155.12	SCC - Pension ACC	Clerk's Pension
1443	82.20	P Mortlock	Royston wood expenses
Total	£729.50		

REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES : Reports were given from the Village Hall, Village Green, the Tree Wardens and Community Woodland. It was agreed to include an Agenda finance item at next meeting to consider the cost of a new bench for the Village Green - **Action Clerk**.

CIRCULAR PATHS: This was discussed during the Public Forum.

IDEAS TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE: Nothing was raised.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: The coin machines in the Village Hall have been updated to accept the new style £1 coins. Cllr Jenkins agreed to assist R Cowell in relation to ownership of parcels of land in the Parish.

The meeting closed at **9.07 p.m.**

Planning Meeting on 5th April 2017

The following applications were discussed:-

- 1) **B/17/00263** - 63 High Road - Side extension garage and car port - **No Objections**
- 2) **B/17/00123** - Land at, Gedding Hall - Change of Use and Conversion of agricultural buildings to 2 dwellings - There were **No Objections subject to a caveat** that the existing barrier/gate be reinstated behind the conversions to bar access to agricultural lane.
- 3) **B/17/00457** - 3 Harrow Street - First floor side and rear extensions and single storey rear extension - **Objections** due to over development of the site. The proposal would make the existing block of 3 look lopsided and will impinge on the centre dwelling.