

**MINUTES of the MEETING of LEAVENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 7th March 2018 at 7.30 p.m. at The Village Hall, Leavenheath.

**PRESENT:** B Rowe (Chairman), B Sadler, H Bonnar, C Morgan, R Cowell, P Mortlock, S Whitelaw, R Bellenie, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Jenkins (District Cllr), J Finch (County Cllr) and 3 members of the public.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** The 3 residents attending expressed concern as to how planning permission at Beacham's Farm came about. They had attended the update from Glyn French - County Right of Way Manager. The condition of the new surface was complained about. It was stated this is a large development and could generate 7 or 8 vehicles permanently. Is it possible to have a judicial review of the planning decision one resident asked. They also confirmed they had been active in seeking answers from the relevant parties. District Cllr J Jenkins confirmed it was a County Council issue now and she is in touch with Cabinet Member Jane Storey on an almost daily basis. A resident shared that Mr French wasn't consulted before the work to the path surface. In order to protect the Leavenheath side from harm, it was suggested temporary bollards were installed.

**APOLOGIES:** D Kingham

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 7TH FEBRUARY 2018:** These were accepted as a true record

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** Nothing was raised.

**UNRESOLVED ITEMS LIST:** The outstanding items were discussed as follows: -

- 1) The Lake Walk - R Cowell had reported that the Golf Club are hoping to have the work completed by late Spring
- 2) Community Speedwatch - It was agreed to invite the Police Representative to the Annual Parish Meeting on 29th May 2018 - an invite had been issued. No responses had been received from the original volunteers.
- 3) Notice board at Honey Tye - P Mortlock and R Bellenie had received quotes which were discussed and approval to proceed was agreed - **Action P Mortlock.**
- 4) A134 Crossing - Royston Wood/Plough Lane - members had observed some progress but the changes are still not complete and no communication has been forthcoming. A chase up had been issued as agreed.
- 5) Church Path Ditch - a response had been received observing that they did not share our views on the flood risk and were seeking further information. This item was scheduled to be discussed under the Correspondence Agenda item.
- 6) Public Open Space clearance - this has been reported to the District Council and action was awaited. A chase up had been issued as agreed. Cllr Jenkins agreed to chase - **Action J Jenkins.**

**BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:** District Cllr J Jenkins attended and confirmed the budget at the District Council went through. Information would be coming out from the group working on the Community Infrastructure Levy. The Boundary Review in relation to District Cllr wards and numbers is on-going and timescales in respect of the changes are getting tight in respect of the 2019 Elections.

**POLICE REPORT:** There was no report, however, P Mortlock had provided a link showing our crime figures that can be accessed from our website. The January 2018 figures were currently showing with 2 crimes in the Parish. The investigation into the burglary was on-going.

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:** County Cllr J Finch had provided a report ahead of the meeting covering the increase in Council tax to the County Council, confirmation that 97% of students receive their preferred secondary school and changes to home to school travel arrangements. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Finch back following his sickness absence. Attention turned to the Beacham's Farm bridleway changes and Cllr Finch was asked whether the Cock Street side could be protected from similar damage by the addition of bollards. He agreed to follow up with the Right of Way Manager - **Action J Finch.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The Clerk went through the latest items of correspondence. The response from the developers in respect of the Church Path Ditch clearance was discussed. It was agreed to ask for a site meeting. R Cowell, P Mortlock and H Bonnar agreed to attend - **Action Clerk.** R Cowell explained tree work that was agreed in Rowans Way had not been followed through. He had apologised to the resident and was ensuring it is carried out without delay - **Action R Cowell.**

**HIGHWAYS:** P Mortlock went through the County Highways Self Help Questionnaire and responses were agreed for P Mortlock to input. Certain things are already done by the Parish specifically in relation to the Right of Way network, however, whilst volunteers continue to enhance the Parish, it was felt that the responsibility for Highways and walkways should remain with the County Council.

**FINANCE:** The bank balances as at 7th March 2018 were **£31614.22** in the Community Account, **£15376.03** in the Reserve Account making a total of **£46990.25.**

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

1489	467.62	D K Hattrell	Clerks Salary
1490	101.80	Inland Revenue Only	Clerk's deductions
1491	458.00	Babergh District Council	Bin empty service
1492	388.66	Suffolk County Council	Street light power & maintenance

**Total**                      **£1416.08**

**NEW STANDING ORDERS:** The new Standing Orders adapted by the working group were approved for adoption effective from this meeting with the exception of item 19 - Staff Matters. The old wording of the staff matters will stand until a new version is agreed. The working group had not managed to complete this part ahead of the meeting due to seeking views from the Clerk and Chairman. The Clerk had adapted the new version for members to consider but due to time restraints this was only circulated on the day of the meeting. Members wanted to take more time to review the wording of this section - **Action Agenda item April.**

**FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:** The new Financial Regulations adapted by the working group were approved for adoption effective from this meeting. These were based on the most up to date version issued by NALC. As such a large document, it was agreed if any members had concerns

about any particular section, they can instigate a further review at any stage. In ordinary circumstances both the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations should be reviewed Annually.

**REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES :** Reports were given from the Village Green, Village Hall and Footpath Warden. The Village Green continues to review ideas to replace the rotten play tunnel. The Footpath Report had been shared and was already on the website. An issue with branches overhanging Footpath 13 at the bottom of Edies Lane was being followed up.

**IDEAS TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE:** Some people had expressed interest in getting involved with a village litter pick. Consideration was being given towards the use of the local Facebook page.

**REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS:** This item was postponed due to time restraints. The Chairman gave her apologies for the April and May Meetings.

The meeting closed at **9.15 p.m.**

## Planning Meeting on 7th March 2018

The following decisions were confirmed by the Planning Authority: -

**DC/17/06251** - Land at Stoke Road, Leavenheath - Permission had been Granted for a two storey dwelling.

The following were discussed:-

**1) DC/18/00588** - 22 Edies Lane, Leavenheath - This application for a single storey rear extension following demolition of conservatory had been considered between meetings to comply with the deadline. There were No Objections.

**2) DC/18/00483** - 94 High Road, Leavenheath - this application for a shed following removal of existing one and aviary was to be considered between meetings.

**3) DC/18/00915** - 32 Bramble Way, Leavenheath - this application to demolish conservatory and erect a single storey rear extension was to be considered between meetings. There were no objections to the previous application and this was to accommodate a change of materials to the previous proposal.

**4)** A progress report was given on the updating of the 2011 Planning Priorities Document. R Cowell had been liaising with D Kingham in this respect and felt the key issues were to decide what it's for. Is it for guidance to the Parish Council in considering views on new applications or to give information to Parishioners. D Kingham had worked on a draft for consideration. It was agreed for members to provide comments to R Cowell and D Kingham ahead of an April Agenda item - **Action All**.