

**MINUTES of the MEETING of LEAVENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 7th August 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at The Village Hall, Leavenheath.

**PRESENT:** P Mortlock (Chairman), S Whitelaw, D Kingham, D Hattrell (Clerk) and J Finch (County Cllr).

**PUBLIC FORUM:** No public attended.

**APOLOGIES:** C Morgan, R Cowell, R Bellenie and L Parker.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 3RD JULY 2019:** These were accepted as a true record with a minor amendment under Police crime data.

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

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

1) The Lake Walk - Progress was being chased regularly. Activity was previously observed, however, stopped and was being chased again. The Chairman and R Cowell visited the Golf Club to seek an update. The work was close to completion, however, no recent progress observed. Volunteers are not working in the vicinity now as a result.

2) A134 Crossing (Royston Wood/Plough Lane) - J Finch achieved agreement to yellow backed signage subject to the cost of around £1250 being met by the Parish Council. This had been agreed and the order is progressing, however, we do not have a completion date at this stage. The landowner has agreed to cut back obstructing gorse. J Finch was asked for an update on the new signage and he confirmed it is on list and he will continue to chase.

3) Speed on Stoke Road - J Finch had raised the issues with County Council Engineers. They did not see this as priority. Various factors were discussed including accidents at the location, camber on the bend and increasing traffic volumes due to the Konings expansion plans. It was agreed to continue to monitor and raise concerns. The availability of a crash map was discussed covering the past 20 years, however, not all accidents are reported. D Kingham will continue to monitor and chase progress. J Finch was asked to forward the policy in respect of changing speed restrictions - **Action J Finch.**

4) Public Open Space path A134 to Maple Way - This path is maintained by Babergh District Council. R Cowell reported rotted wooden sleepers at the A134 entrance. District Cllr L Parker agreed to report. R Cowell sent a photograph to L Parker. L Parker reported and chased progress. L Parker had confirmed the sleeper had been made safe ahead of the replacement. Members were pleased to report that the replacement sleeper is now in place.

**BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:** District Cllr Lee Parker had sent his apologies with a reminder that some Bin Collection days have changed.

**POLICE REPORT:** There was no report, however, P Mortlock had provided a link showing our crime figures that can be accessed from our website. S Whitelaw reported on the crimes during June which are showing on the site which include 9 local reports.

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:** County Cllr J Finch attended and reported on improvements to St Peter's Wharf - Ipswich, the 13 winners of the Suffolk's Creating the Greenest County awards were announced with one being a strawberry grower from Lindsey, the Red House Residential Home in Sudbury crowned the 2019 Suffolk Care Home Olympics Champions and Cllr Finch had walked four legs of his sponsored walk along the Stour Valley Path. S Whitelaw questioned J Finch on how Leavenheath could become Greener with reference to the Greenest County awards. He felt the work on the footpaths may merit consideration for future years.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING/ HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY:** D Kingham reported on another successful meeting where the Housing Needs Survey draft was shared. Grants are being looked into. A website is being managed by one of the Committee. The suggestion was that a Consultant was instructed at an early stage. Costs are being considered. It was agreed to add an **Agenda item** to the **September Parish Council Meeting** of consideration of the **cost of the Housing Needs Survey** as it would be good to press ahead before the grants are secured - **Action Clerk**. The Clerk explained she will work on a Terms of Reference as the finances would remain in the Parish Council's Control - **Action Clerk**. An update was received from the Lady Anne Windsor Charity regarding their plans for almshouses on the Plough Lane site. It was agreed to invite a representative along to the next Neighbourhood Planning Meeting - **Action Chairman**. The Housing Needs Survey is important to this scheme continuing.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** On-going correspondence was discussed and an application for a grant towards the Church Roof was to be made. It was agreed to include as an Agenda item for the September Meeting - **Action Clerk**.

**HIGHWAYS: including SELF HELP:** The Parish Council have yet to scrutinize the SELF HELP criteria, however, it was felt the Footpath work by volunteers fell within this category. J Finch had a meeting the following day with the owner of the orchard field to the right when you exit the High Road onto the A134. He agreed to politely ask them to cut back the hedge obstructing vision at that junction - **Action J Finch**. The Chairman has followed up work by the County Council Contractor on a Village Green footpath which resulted in a stump being removed and ignoring other work required in the vicinity.

**FINANCE:** The Bank Balances as at 7th August are £34874.20 in the Community Account and £15453.83 in the Rate Reward Account making a total of £50328.03. On-line payment access has now been given to Sally Whitelaw, Rachel Bellenie and the Clerk. This was successfully used last month for the approved payments. It was agreed for S Whitelaw to authorise this month.

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

Funds Transfer	546.30	Glasdon	Dog Bins
Funds Transfer	428.10	D K Hattrell	Clerk's Salary
Funds Transfer	100.40	Inland Revenue Only	Clerk's Deductions
Funds Transfer	169.13	SCC Pension ACC	Clerk's Pension
Funds Transfer	319.20	Tree & Lawn	V Green Maintenance
Funds Transfer	225.60	SALC	Internal Audit
Funds Transfer	107.78	Babergh District Council	Election Costs
Funds Transfer	38.40	SALC	Training

Funds Transfer                      9.00                      Leavenheath Village Hall Neighbourhd Planning

**Total                                      £1943.91**

**REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES :** Reports were given from the Village Green, Village Hall and on Community Woodland. The Village Hall will consider whether they agree to a secure post box being provided on the outside of their premises for the return of the Housing Needs Surveys - **Action Village Hall**. Another one would be available at the pub. D Kingham will research the cost of secure outside post boxes - **Action D Kingham**. The Village Green are arranging for fencing to be repaired ahead of painting by the Community Payback Scheme. The Playground fundraising is being planned. Under Community Woodland, the safety of some trees are being monitored in liaison with the owners. At the Village Hall, film nights continue to be well received and minor maintenance items are being resolved.

**IDEAS TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE:** Nothing was raised.

**REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS:** The Chairman will assist Councillors to install the new dog bins. The Clerk is to drop the High Road noticeboard keys to the Chairman as one side will not unlock - **Action Clerk/Chairman**. The Clerk will search out any old Village Hall records to pass to S Whitelaw in September - **Action Clerk**.

The meeting closed at **9.06 p.m.**

**Planning Meeting on 7th August 2019**

*The following decisions was advised from the Planning Authority:-*

A) **DC/19/03002** - Land South West Of, Stewards Barn, Stoke Road - Discharge of Conditions 3(Materials) and Condition 5 (Landscaping) had been approved.

B) **DC/19/02604** - Sunset House, Nayland Road - Planning Permission had been Granted for rear and side extension to house swimming pool.

C) **DC/19/02934** - Vine Cottage, Harrow Street - Planning Permission had been Granted for rear extension and conversion of garage to living accommodation.

The following applications were discussed: -

1) **DC/19/02817** - Rose Hill Farm, Honey Tye - erection of agricultural workers dwelling. Erection of cattle shed, hay barn, workshop and machinery store with new vehicular access via Cawley Road - This was considered between meetings. There were **No Objections with a comment that we would like to see the occupation restriction to the property remain as a condition on this application.**

2) **DC/19/02815** - Land East Of, 18 Oaklands - Application for new dwelling. This was considered between meetings. There were **Objections** due to the speculative nature of the proposal, the confusing application and lack of clarity regarding the proposed access arrangements.

3) **DC/19/02934** - Vine Cott, Harrow Street - Single storey rear extension and conversion of garage to additional living accommodation. This was discussed at the July Meeting, however, it was still to be finalised and the Planning Group therefore responded between meetings. There were **No Objections.**

4) **DC/19/02832** - Leavenheath Farmhouse, Locks Lane - Replacement dwelling. A letter was read from the applicant out-lining the reasons for the application at the July Meeting. The Planning Group had responded and there were **No Objections.**

5) **Other urgent Planning Matters:** It was noted that the Highways views have appeared on the Planning site for the proposal for the former Lion Pub site and they objected.