

MINUTES of the MEETING of LEAVENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 6th November 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at The Village Hall, Leavenheath.

PRESENT: P Mortlock (Chairman), C Morgan (Vice Chairman), R Cowell, S Whitelaw, D Kingham, R Bellenie, D Hattrell (Clerk), L Parker (District Cllr) and J Finch (County Cllr).

PUBLIC FORUM: There were no members of the public present.

APOLOGIES: None were received.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2ND OCTOBER 2019: These were accepted as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: The Chairman thanked C Morgan for Chairing the previous meeting to enable to Chairman to take the Minutes due to the Clerk's holiday.

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. The Chairman and R Cowell visited the Golf Club to seek an update. The work was close to completion, however, no recent progress observed which led volunteers to stop working in the vicinity. Slight progress has been made since last meeting and the Golf Club have agreed to cut back Footpath 5.

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. The yellow backed signage has been ordered, however, the County Council are requesting payment ahead of the work. Members agreed to pay and urged J Finch to chase early completion.

3) Speed on Stoke Road - J Finch had raised the issues with County Council Engineers previously. They did not see this as priority. It was agreed to continue to monitor and raise concerns. J Finch had been asked to forward the policy in respect of changing speed restrictions. J Finch clarified that unless serious accident data shows a need, the County Council will not create new speed limits. However, D Kingham requested the policy again as it would be important to provide to the resident who enquired. J Finch will organise - **Action J Finch.**

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: L Parker attended and reported the Election purdah period has started so no campaigning is permitted. The Agenda has been reduced for the Cabinet Meeting as a result. The Elections are the responsibility of the District Council. The proposed name change of Babergh District Council has been dropped and will not be considered again before around 2021. Free swimming was extended to half term and will be offered again at Christmas. The District Council successfully enforced against a fly tipper. CIL money is being distributed to Local Projects.

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 ongoing since October which are showing on the site which include 4 local reports of Assault type offences.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: J Finch attended and reported on "Braking Point", a scheme to help encourage young people to stay safe on the roads, the installation of heating in properties without heating systems in Suffolk and the launch of the Annual Public Health Report through a child's eyes. Further Fostering/Adoption information sessions were arranged. J Finch has completed his walks and now looking to walk on hot coals for the same charity - Suffolk Mind. He will put details of the support to installation of heating systems in LSPN.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING/ HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY: The next Meeting of the Committee is after the return date for the Surveys. Members of the Parish Council were impressed with the Survey document. A Chairman has been elected for the Neighbourhood Planning Committee - John Simpson. S Whitelaw proposed that this Parish Council funds Survey Monkey at £384 which lasts for 12 months and will help analyse the survey results. This was seconded by R Cowell and unanimously carried. D Kingham reported that the Committee will be looking at grants from next meeting. A reminder about returning the survey will be put on Facebook. The Parish Council resolved to agree a minor amendment to the Terms of Reference to follow the Parish Council GDPR procedures and add the address of the Neighbourhood Planning website. The completed surveys will be stored securely in a locked cabinet.

CORRESPONDENCE: On-going correspondence was discussed. The solicitor acting for the owners of the field where the gorse is obstructing the signage at the crossing have asked if any further action is required. It was agreed that there is no evidence that the gorse was cut back, so we should ask them again - **Action Clerk**. The Tree Wardens investigated the request to cut back the oak tree on the corner of Wrights Way and the High Road. They also asked a Tree Surgeon to give an opinion. It was noted the tree was in good condition and no action was needed at the present time. It was agreed for the Clerk to respond to the resident concerned - **Action Clerk**.

HIGHWAYS: S Whitelaw reported some white lining on The Ridings but not anywhere else in the vicinity. J Finch agreed to investigate and S Whitelaw agreed to provide him with further details - **Action J Finch and S Whitelaw**.

FINANCE: The Bank Balances as at 6th November are £39900.23 in the Community Account and £15469.41 in the Rate Reward Account making a total of £55369.64. The half year budget review was considered. The request for a contribution towards the insurance costs of the Church was then considered. The Chairman proposed £500 which was seconded by R Cowell and unanimously carried - **Action Clerk to raise the payment for the December Meeting**. The Risk Management Policy was then reviewed and accepted. R Cowell agreed to carry out the inspections and liaison over collation of documents. He will raise any concerns with financial planning implications to the Clerk to feed into budget - **Action R Cowell**. J Finch agreed to investigate how village volunteers who spread grit in the winter could be covered by the County Council liability insurance - **Action J Finch**.

The following were authorised for payment: -

Funds Transfer	588.00	Spingold	NP Surveys
Funds Transfer	431.05	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	330.00	Stoke by Nayland Club	V Green Maintenance
Funds Transfer	319.20	Tree & Lawn	V Green Maintenance

Funds Transfer	200.00	Pete Irving Tree Serv.	Treework
Funds Transfer	126.00	Angia Inspection Services	V Green Playgd report
Funds Transfer	40.00	D Kingham	NP - Letterboxes
Funds Transfer	9.00	Leavenheath Village Hall	N/Plan hall hire
Funds Transfer	1250.00	Suffolk County Council	Yellow backed signs
Total	£3562.78		

REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES : Reports were given from the Village Green, Village Hall and the Tree Wardens. The Village Green Committee are in receipt of the Playground Safety Report where some work is required. They are due to consider these at the next Meeting. R Cowell asked for the Village Green Risk Assessment for his records. In relation to the Village Hall, the Election has been booked, the film nights continue to be well received with the best year ever this year. The Tree Wardens provided a report of recent activity including some cutting back on the Village Green. Trees are being made available for new plantings.

IDEAS TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE: The dog bins are being installed and it was agreed for the Clerk to email the Invoice to R Bellenie for checking - **Action Clerk**. It was agreed to consider what facilities there were in the Village for our youth and raise any ideas at future meetings.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: C Morgan agreed to keep an eye on activity in Kingsland Lane. R Cowell reported that changes have been suggested to the footpath priority cutting schedule. The Chairman thanked D Kingham for the notice in the LSPN and wondered whether a similar notice could encourage applicants for the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at **9.05 p.m.**

Planning Meeting on 6th November 2019

The following decisions was advised from the Planning Authority:-

A) **DC/19/03689** - Gabriella, Kingsland Lane - Planning Permission had been granted for erection of garage.

B) **DC/19/03794** - Oak Cottage, Breach Grove, Kingsland Lane - The application for variation of condition following planning permission on 2016 application had been withdrawn.

C) **DC/19/04582** - Oak Cottage, Breach Grove, Kingsland Lane - Non material amendment to the front and rear of the garage had been approved.

The following applications were discussed: -

1) **DC/19/04562** - Sunset House, Nayland Road - Erection of single storey rear and side extension to house swimming pool. There were **No Objections**.

2) Any other Urgent Planning items: L Parker agreed to investigate the present position of the Lion application - **Action L Parker**.