

BUXHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th December 2018 in Buxhall Village Hall

Councillor's Present: Cllr. Steed (Chairman), Cllr. Manning, Cllr. Hall, Cllr. Anne Hicks, Cllr Arthur Hicks, Cllr Taylor

In Attendance : Tina Newell (Clerk), District Cllr. Matthiessen, County Cllr. Otton and ten members of the public

- 101218/01 **To receive and consider apologies for absence:** Cllr Mitson gave his apologies
- 101218/02 Council considered and consented to Cllr Mitsons apologies for absence
- 101218/03 **To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the councils Code of Conduct for the items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations relating to disclosable pecuniary interest:** Cllr Taylor declared an interest in item 5 on the agenda; planning application DC/18/04815.
- 101218/04 **To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 12th November 2018 as a true record:** The minutes of the meeting on 12th November 2018 were approved as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. Chairman signed and dated all pages.
- Public Forum**
- 101218/05 County Cllr Penny Otton presented her report (previously circulated) highlighting not one school in Suffolk was rated in the top 150 best schools in the Sunday Times, and that between 1 January and 16 October 2018 Suffolk Highways paid £67,819,07 for vehicles damaged by potholes.
- 101218/06 Cllr Taylor expressed concerns that the poorer people would be worst affected by the Councils budget cuts.
- 101218/07 Cllr Arthur Hicks asked if there was any reason why not one School in Suffolk was in the top 150 best schools. Cllr Otton couldn't offer any explanation other than the Council believe the 'raising the bar' project is working despite being in place for five years.
- 101218/06 District Cllr Matthiessen informed Council that he has received a number of applications for his locality grant and confirmed that MSDC will be asked to increase their contribution to Citizens Advice Bureau who have seen an increase of 6% for their services.
- 101218/07 A governor from Gt Finborough Primary School introduced himself to the Council and confirmed that 20% of the children currently attending the school live in Buxhall. He looks forward to opening dialogue between the school and the Parish Council.

- 101218/08 The applicant of planning application DC/18/04815 addressed the Council and summarized his planning application.
- 101218/09 The owner of the site for which the planning application is to be considered later in the meeting confirmed they had always enjoyed a good relationship with the village and they had supported the village in various activities including use of the site for car parking for recent village fetes.
- 101218/10 A member of the public spoke on behalf of residents neighbouring the planning application to be considered and asked the Council to support the residents in strongly objecting to the planning application.
- 101218/11 The direct neighbour to the property where planning is to be considered later during the meeting informed the Council of his concerns to the planning application
- 101218/12 Cllr Taylor left the meeting room
- 101218/13 **Planning Applications: To consider and comment on applications made to the Local Planning Authority (MSDC): DC/18/04815 Full planning application Change of use of offices and two storage warehouses; buildings 1 and 2 for storage (B8) and/or light industrial/assembly use (B1c) and use of building 3 as serviced offices (B1a). Continued use of building 4 as recording studio Kevin Mayhew Ltd Maypole Farm Mill Road Buxhall Stowmarket IP14 3BW.** After much discussion including the former use of the site, Cllr Manning proposed to support this application seconded by Cllr Anne Hicks. After a vote where two Cllrs were in favour to support the application, one Cllr voted against the proposal and with one abstention it was agreed the Clerk would submit a commit of **SUPPORT** for this application.
- 101218/14 Cllr Taylor re-entered the meeting room
- 101218/15 **Planning Decisions: To note determinations by the Local Planning Authority: The Council noted the following determinations: None to note.**
- 101218/16 **Planning Enforcement: To receive an update on the enforcement notice relating to the caravan on land lying to the North of Mill Road, Buxhall:** The Clerk confirmed an email had been received on 10th December 2018 from the Planning Enforcement Officer advising the Council that MSDC had written to the land owner requiring them to comply with the requirements of the 2012 enforcement notice that was served upon them. They have until Monday 4th February 2019 to comply with the request at which time a compliance site visit will be carried out. If no action is taken the matter will be referred to MSDC legal team to commence prosecution proceedings against them and any other person/s who have an interest in the land.
- 101218/17 It was resolved for the Clerk to email the Chief Executive, the portfolio holder and Council leader with the Council's concern in the length of time this enforcement is taking.

- 101218/18 **Footpaths:** It was agreed to reduce the number of grass cuts from two to one per year. Clerk to email the contractor and ask that they liaise with Cllr Manning to agree when that cut will take place (end May early June)
- 101218/19 **Playing Field:** Clerk issued all Cllrs with the two plans produced by the working party. These plans were produced from the evidence collected at the recent public consultation.
- 101218/20 Council agreed for the Clerk to request prices on plan B from recommended suppliers and bring them to the next full Council meeting.
- 101218/21 The Council deferred adoption of the agreement for the future hire of the playing field until the next meeting. The Clerk will issue all Cllrs with a copy of the agreement further to amendments suggested (minute ref 121118/14)
- 101218/22 **Finance:** Cllrs considered and approved the finance report for December 2018 issued prior to the meeting.
It was resolved to make the following payments:
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| 101218/23 | Clerk salary and expenses | £195.79 |
| 101218/24 | Wave (allotment water) | £59.87 |
| 101218/25 | Buxhall Village Hall | £25.00 |
- 101218/26 The Clerk read out each line on the draft budget previously circulated. Cllrs commented on lines which required further consideration;
- 101218/27 All Cllrs agreed to increase the Clerks salary to SCP 21 from 1st April 2019 and to 4 hours per week
- 101218/28 Cllrs resolved to reduce the footpath grass cutting to one cut at £363.57
- 101218/29 The budget for S137 was cut from the proposed £250.00 to £100.00
- 101218/29 It was agreed to increase the Precept by 3% on last years (the same percentage as MSDC)
- 101218/30 Council agreed to use the interest received from the capital reserve to allow the expenditure identified
- 101218/31 It was agreed to set the budget at £6,301.83 with a Precept at £4,119.21. This results in an annual increase for an average band D household of £0.77p per year
- 101218/27 Council resolved to move funds from Barclays Active Saver account to the Community Account already set up. Proposed by Cllr Arthur Hicks seconded by Cllr Taylor. Clerk to organize and liaise with Cllrs for signatures as required.
- 101218/28 It was resolved to apply for internet banking. Cllrs agreed for the Clerk and Cllr Arthur Hicks to be the signatories on line. Clerk confirmed all payments would continue to be agreed before processing any payments on line. C
- 101218/29 **Matters to be brought to the Councils attention and for consideration for the next meeting:** VAS, CEP, Internal Control Statement and risk assessment
- 101218/30 **Council resolved to exclude temporarily the Public and Press by resolution from a closed meeting pursuant to Standing Order 3C and Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature**

of the business to be discussed concerning staff hours. It was proposed by Cllr Manning seconded by Cllr Chris Hall with all in favour to temporarily exclude the Public and Press due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

- 101218/31 The Clerk left the meeting room
- 101218/32 The Council considered recommendations from the staffing committee following the staff appraisal
- 101218/32 The Clerk re-entered the meeting room
- 121118/51 **Date of the next meeting:** Cllrs were asked to note the date of the next scheduled meeting as 14th January 2019 at 7.30pm in the village hall.
- 121118/53 Chairman Steed closed the meeting at 21:03hrs

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