

# BUXHALL PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

on 20th March 2017

in the Village Hall

Present:

Cllr David Steed (chair)

Cllr Anne Hicks

Cllr Arthur Hicks

Cllr Hubert Mitson

District Cllr John Matthissen

Cllr Jacqui Taylor

Cllr Malcolm Manning

Cllr Chris Hall

Tina Newell - Clerk

County Cllr Penny Otton

2 members of the public

2017/002 **Apologies for Absence** - none

2017/003 **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Anne Hicks declared a non pecuniary interest in item 10a as an allotment holder (minute no 2017/025).

2017/004 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** – It was proposed by Cllr Steed that the minutes of the previous Parish Council meetings were approved with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017 and the Planning Committee meeting minutes of 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017 were signed as a true record.

2017/005 **County Councillor Penny Otton's Report** – Cllr Otton gave her report which will be attached to these minutes.

Thanks were given to Cllr Otton for her donation towards the replacement swing seats and chains along with thanks for her involvement in getting Infinity broadband into Buxhall.

**District Councillor John Matthissen's Report** – Cllr Matthissen gave his report which will be attached to these minutes.

Cllr Manning gave thanks to Cllr Matthissen for his involvement and support in a recent environment issue (minute 2017/029).

Further to Cllr Mathissens advert in the local newsletter it was requested that the transport offered be addressed to all ages and not only 'youngsters' as the advert suggested.

**Public Session** – A member of the public asked why, since yellow paint had been marked around pot holes in Kiln Lane, had no further action been taken. Clerk to contact Suffolk Highways.

Cllr Otton has asked the council for the number of claims received in relation to damaged caused to vehicles by pot holes.

2017/006 **Approval of Contract of Employment** - Proposed by Cllr Arthur Hicks and seconded by Cllr Manning. Cllr Steed signed one copy for council records.

2017/007 **Clerks Report** – Clerk confirmed all relevant notices and reports were included as agenda items under relevant headings.

## **Planning**

2017/008 Planning 0660/17 Notification for prior approval for a change of use from storage or distribution buildings (class B8) and any land within its curtilage to three dwelling house (class C3) Building and land at Maypole Farm, Rattlesden Road, Buxhall IP14 3DJ. The clerk sent round a letter received from Mr O Watson regarding this application. It was resolved to send a response of NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available.

2017/009 The following MSDC decisions were noted:

0351/17 Erection of cupola on coach house Buxhall Vale, Purple Hill – GRANTED

0352/17 Works to facilitate erection of cupola on coach house Buxhall Vale, Purple Hill – GRANTED

0388/17 Erection of single storey front extension to dwelling for porch, new detached garage and workshop building with extension to external parking and turning area and all associated works 5 Brettenham Road, Buxhall - GRANTED

## **Finance**

2017/010 The Finance Report for February 2017 was approved.

2017/011 Concern was raised over when funds were received for the purchase of the laptop. Clerk will confirm date at the next meeting.

2017/012 The following payments were approved, Proposed by Cllr Mitson, sec Cllr Manning with all in favour: Outgoing clerk's salary & exp Jan. & Feb., Current clerks salary & exp Jan., Feb and March 2017

2017/013 Hall Hire £37.50

2017/014 Vertas £240.41

2017/015 Salc £120.00

2017/016 Eon Electricity £25.05

2017/017 G.B. Sport & Leisure £403.62

2017/018 It was resolved to re-invest the Santander bond for a further year at 0.5%. Any interest accrued will be transferred to the Barclays current account ending 2793. Clerk drew to the councils attention the limit of £85k applied by the FSCS.

2017/019 It was agreed with all in favour to inform Barclays bank of the new clerks details and request all correspondence to be sent to the new clerk with immediate effect. Letter drafted by clerk and signed by Cllr Hall and Cllr Taylor.

2017/020 Cllr Hall suggested we suspend all charity grants other than the contribution to The Buxhall Broadcast of £250.00. This was proposed by Cllr Mitson sec by Cllr Mannings with all in favour.

2017/021 The appointment of Heelis & Lodge as internal auditors was agreed with all in favour.

2017/022 It was resolved to continue using current providers for electricity and water. Time to investigate new suppliers would not be cost effective.

## **Playing Field**

2017/023 Cllr Arthur Hicks agreed to arrange a display of available playground equipment at, and for inclusion at, the Annual Meeting of the Parish with a public consultation to follow.

2017/024 Clerk confirmed MSDC are the new contractors for ground maintenance 2017/18.

## **Allotments**

- 2017/025 Cllr Steed agreed to measure, mark out and number the plots before the June meeting. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Mitson for the hedge cutting.
- 2017/026 Clerk to advertise vacant plots in the next available issue of the Buxhall Broadcast.

#### **Footpaths**

- 2017/027 Clerk read email received from SCC in response to the footpath from village hall to Footpath Cottage where they concluded 'all public footpaths become muddy and further to inspection no further action will be taken'. Cllr Hall suggested we report this again as necessary.
- 2017/028 Cllr Manning confirmed new signage had been received and was in place. Cllr Manning also confirmed Copdock Mill are sponsoring further signage and the printing of pamphlets featuring local walks, although these are yet to be received.
- 2017/029 Cllr Manning informed the council of a recent dog fouling incident which has the potential to be taken further. It was agreed to wait for the outcome of this at the next meeting before including a notice in the Buxhall Broadcast.
- 2017/030 It was agreed that further grit bins are not needed.

#### **Neighbourhood Watch**

- 2017/031 Clerk confirmed that according to the Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association there are two neighbourhood watch schemes currently in operation. No-one present at the meeting knew who the co-ordinators were. The clerk will look further into this and arrange a display for inclusion at the Annual Meeting of the Parish.
- 2017/32 **Road Safety** – Thanks were expressed to Cllr Arthur Hicks for operating the VAS machine. Cllr Anne Hicks suggested that whilst it is working effectively the brightness of the display may benefit from being altered. Cllr Arthur Hicks has requested to have the instructions and the laptop to look into this. Clerk to deliver both.
- 2017/33 **Annual Meetings** – It was resolved to advertise these as in previous years i.e. in the Buxhall Broadcast, on the notice board and on the website.

#### **Correspondance**

- 2017/34 A list of all correspondence received was issued to all councillors.
- 2017/35 The clerk will complete and send the Open Spaces survey as required by MSDC
- 2017/34 Cllr Anne Hicks expressed her apologies for her absence at the forthcoming May meeting.
- 2017/35 It was proposed by Cllr Mitson that the April meeting to be cancelled sec by Cllr Mannings with all in favour.

Cllr D Steed closed the meeting.

**The next Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.30pm**