

BUXHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th November 2013 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr. Peter Jordan (in chair) Cllr Derrick Gant
Cllr Keith Proctor Cllr Chris Hall
Cllr David Steed Cllr Anne Hicks
Cllr Hall
Paula Gladwell – Clerk PCSO Denny (part)
1 member of the public District Cllr Matthissen (part)

- 2013/418 **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr. Hubert Mitson, County Cllr Penny Otton
- 2013/419 **Declarations of Interest** – None
- 2013/420 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** – It was proposed by Cllr Jordan that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meetings were approved with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 22nd July 2013 and the Planning Committee minutes of 4th October 2013 were signed as a true record.
- Adjournment for:**
- Cllr Penny Otton's Report** – This is a summary of Cllr Otton's Report. The verges and "step up" on Combs Lane have had one cut this season, Cllr Otton has asked if this stretch can be added to the cutting schedule next year but Highways have refused. They will consider doing it if outside funds are available. Pressure to get the 30mph speed limit extended along the High Street in Great Finborough is not looking hopeful. There is however a council policy panel looking into speed reduction including any new 20MPH zones so if anyone thinks there is an area suitable in Buxhall let Cllr Otton know. SCC have submitted new plans for the extension to Great Finborough Primary School. The councils scrutiny committee has challenged BT on the extent of the roll out of super fast broadband.
- Police Report** – PCSO Colette Denny gave her report. There have been no crimes in the village since the last meeting. Please be aware of theft of fuel from motor vehicles crimes which are again on the increase. Immobilise.com is a national property database linking with all major UK police forces. This website is open to everyone and you can register mobile phones, laptops, electrical equipment, bikes etc. You stand a far better chance of getting any stolen or lost property back if it has been registered. Police Direct – this is a high tech messaging service provided by Suffolk Constabulary. The service provides the latest local news about crime in your area straight to your phone or PC.
- Public Session** – No questions
- Meeting resumed:**
- 2013/421 **Planning** – There were no applications to consider.
- 2013/422 The following MSDC decisions were noted; 2690/13 Erection of a porch, 10 Edmunds Road – GRANTED
- 2013/423 **Finance** – The clerks financial report for November was approved.
- 2013/424 The following payments were approved with all in favour: Clerks salary for Sept & October 2013
- 2013/425 MSDC Play inspection £62.04
- 2013/426 Discussion took place regarding the first draft of the budget for 2014/15. It was agreed to make various amendments with a view to further consideration at the next meeting. It was agreed that every effort would be made to ensure residents did not incur any rise in the parish council part of their council tax for next year.
- 2013/427 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.

2013/428 **Annual Playground Inspection** - The overall Assessment score of 8 Low Risk was noted. Various action points were considered and it was agreed that some pieces of play equipment were in need of extensive work and were probably reaching the end of their expected life span. It was agreed that a review of the play equipment be carried out early next year with a view to considering any replacement or renewal.

Adjournment for

County Councillor John Matthissen's Report – Cllr Matthissen confirmed that the grant extended to parish councils last year would be phased out over the next 3 years. MSDC are under constant pressure to reduce costs with their funding being extensively cut by government.

Textile recycling is encouraged using the bags provided to put out with your black bin. The less going in the black bin the better, even a 5% reduction by all households would save a massive £500million per year.

Meeting resumed

2013/429 **Housing Needs Survey** – The report from the Housing Needs Survey Working Group meeting of 16th October 2013 was noted and the following recommendations considered;

2013/430 *"That council agree the wording of a cover letter"* It was resolved to approve the wording of the letter. Proposed Cllr Steed with all in favour.

2013/431 *"That council approve an approximate expense of £1 per household for carrying out a Housing Needs Survey"* It was resolved to approve £200 into a Housing Needs Survey budget heading, Proposed Cllr Hicks with all in favour.

2013/432 *"That council approve a distribution date for the questionnaires"* It was agreed that the first weekend in March 2014 would be suitable for delivery. Production of the questionnaires would be arranged with Suffolk Acre to coincide with this date. Cllr Steed will produce a comprehensive map and list of properties and a distribution list for each councillor would be finalised at the January meeting.

2013/433 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – Cllr Jordan confirmed that the new road sign would be erected as soon as possible. It was suggested that a mirror be placed at the junction of Brettenham Road and Mill Lane to improve visibility for vehicles turning right. It was agreed that Highways would be unlikely to approve this, therefore efforts would be made to cut back the hedge.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place at 7.30 on Monday 20th January 2014.