

BUXHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 19th January 2015 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr. Hubert Mitson Cllr David Steed
 Cllr Derrick Gant Cllr Anne Hicks
 Cllr. Peter Jordan Cllr Keith Proctor
 Cllr Chris Hall

Paula Gladwell – Clerk District Cllr John Matthissen
1 member of the public

2014/590 **Apologies for Absence** – PCSO Ryan Brunning, County Cllr Penny Otton

2014/591 **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Mitson declared an interest in Item 11 (minute no.2014/608) Cllr Hicks declared an interest in Item 7c (minute no. 2014/601)

2014/592 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** – It was proposed by Cllr Mitson that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 17th November 2014 were signed as a true record.

2014/593 **Adjournment for:**

County Cllr Penny Otton – Cllr Otton’s report was given by the clerk. There is a meeting with the Highways Agency planned to discuss the issue of road noise on the A14. SCC Highways - the poor weather has delayed ditch clearing and caused problems with pothole repairs and grit replenishment. Cllr Otton, together with Cllr Matthissen are trying to action an extension to the 30mph limit on Finborough Road if the planning application there is approved.

The recent Council meeting received a report on property assets which including county farms totals 12,826 acres of land. It has been agreed that they continue to be managed to maximise viability but also to support the “Greenest County” including “Grow your future” working with Otley College.

SCC will lead a Suffolk campaign for better mobile coverage seeking investment from government. Suffolk Energy Action are offering free loft and cavity wall insulation to everyone regardless of income, age or status, contact www.suffolkenergyaction.org for more info.

Police Report – The clerk read PCSO Brunning’s report – No crimes were reported since the last meeting, seven telephone calls were recorded relating to road offences, domestic incidents, suspicious circumstances, harassment and road collisions. Community Speedwatch volunteers are needed across the county, some village groups folded last year and concerns are expressed that this valuable asset, that makes a significant difference to speeding in the villages, is not lost in more areas.

The Priority meeting for January identified outbuilding burglaries and heating oil thefts for Safer Neighbourhood Teams to focus on over the next 3 months.

District Cllr John Matthissen – Cllr Matthissen reported that the briefings on the Community Infrastructure Levy and S106 changes had been rather overtaken by a new Government announcement that S106 cannot be used to gain affordable homes or tariff based contributions on sites of less than 10 dwellings, with a clause suggesting that in rural areas this may be reduced to 5 dwellings. The usual door to door distribution of Christmas refuse collections will not take place next year, Cllr Matthissen confirmed that he is asking for village newsletters to be paid to distribute them in November issues.

Public Session –

It was confirmed that there was no formal request from the Village Hall Committee at this time for debate under Item 11.

Meeting resumed:

2014/594 **Planning** – There were no applications for consideration.

2014/595 There were no MSDC decisions to note.

- 2014/596 **Clerks Report** – A second quote for resurfacing the car park has come in at £22,950 this is for a complete job on all 452m² for full tarmac, edging and traffic management. This compares with the small job of filling holes with shingle quoted at £710.00. Once council can confirm the level of job they require further quotes can be sought. The telephone box at Edmunds Road has been repaired. The Government are to refund War Stocks, a claim form was completed to ensure the PC receives the amount due to them. Santander has returned the capital monies as well as the interest from the matured bond in error. They have offered a new bond at 1.1% for 12 months. The capital will be reinvested and a complaint made to seek recompense for any lost interest.
- 2014/597 **Finance** – The clerks Financial Report for January 2015 was approved.
 2014/598 The following payments were approved proposed by Cllr Mitson with all in favour:
 Clerk's salary Nov & Dec,
 2014/599 HMRC Quarter 3,
 2014/600 Hall Hire £12.50,
 2014/601 Allotment rents were reviewed for 2015-16 It was resolved to make no changes, proposed Cllr Mitson, sec Cllr Proctor with all in favour.
- 2014/602 The budget for 2015/2016 was reviewed following confirmation of the tax base from MSDC. The budget was approved and has generated a precept requirement of £3864.
 2014/603 It was resolved to set the precept for 2015/2016 at £3864 and the request forms were completed and signed. Proposed Cllr Hall, seconded Cllr Proctor with all in favour
- 2014/604 **Correspondence** – It was agreed that councillors would seek further information regarding the changes to the Joint Local Plan by visiting the website or the council offices to view the draft documents in order to consider submitting a comment to the consultation. Should any councillor wish to put forward comments they will indicate this to the clerk who will call a special meeting to consider formulating a response.
 2014/605 There were no comments to other tabled correspondence.
 2014/606 **Village Maintenance** – It was noted that the fencing on the east side of the playing field is in disrepair. It was suggested that quotes be sought to remove any wire fencing causing safety concerns together with a quote to replace the fencing with post and wire.
- 2014/607 **Housing Needs Appraisal** – Following discussion of the results of the survey it was agreed that the next step would be for the Working Group to meet with Sunila from Suffolk Community Action and the Housing Enabler at MSDC. Cllrs Proctor and Mitson joined the Working Group and the clerk will arrange a meeting.
- 2014/608 **To consider a request from the Village Hall Management Committee** – Item deferred.
- 2014/609 **Motion to exclude temporarily the Public and Press** - It was resolved to exclude the Public and Press pursuant to 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 salaries and personal information.
- 2014/610 **Review of Staff Contracts** -It was resolved to effect the National Salary Award scale point changes and the one off payment to the clerks salary. Proposed Cllr Mitson, with all in favour.
- 2014/611 It was resolved to pay holiday pay to the clerk in lieu, Proposed Cllr Mitson with all in favour.
- 2014/612 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – Potholes in Kiln Lane will be reported to SCC Highways. It was agreed that Mr Davison be asked to continue to cut the additional footpaths and the perimeter of the playing field and to deal with the overhanging blackthorn on one footpath.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place at 7.30 on Monday 16th March 2014.