

BUXHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th October 2015 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Hubert Mitson (chair) Cllr David Steed Cllr Anne Hicks
Cllr Jackie Taylor Cllr Chris Hall Cllr Arthur Hicks

Paula Gladwell – Clerk

0 member of the public
District Councillor John Matthissen

2015/745 **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr M Manning, County Cllr Penny Otton

2015/746 **Declarations of Interest** – None

2015/747 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** – It was proposed by Cllr Mitson that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meetings were approved with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 21st September 2015 and the Planning Committee Meeting minutes of 6th October 2015 were signed as a true record.

Meeting adjourned.

District Cllr John Matthissen – Cllr Matthissen gave his report confirming that MSDC are still in a mess over the lack of a 5 yr land supply and have carried out a limited management review seemingly triggered by one manager leaving. The devolution bid has been lodged with the suggestion from Government that Suffolk is too small for the scheme that was intended so it is thought that talks with Norfolk are scheduled.

Following a question from the floor to Cllr Matthissen asking how much the district council are doing to help Syrian refugees it was confirmed that the councils position was to co ordinate any offers of accommodation, food and clothing and direct them to a suitable voluntary sector partner. The Green group are pushing for the council to do more suggesting that empty houses are brought into use for refugees.

Cllr Matthissen expressed concerns regarding the length of time the Housing Survey is taking to progress and suggested that Community Action Suffolk is no longer included in the process and that the parish council work only with MSDC Housing and Planning to provide an affordable housing scheme. It was agreed by councillors that they would like to keep using the independent input and advice from CAS and have scheduled a meeting for all parties for November when it is hoped that a decision on sites can be made. It was noted that no planning application had yet been lodged for the Mayhew site so it was not known as yet whether an affordable scheme was planned within any application for this site.

Public Session – No questions

Meeting resumed:

2015/748 **Planning** – It was resolved to send the following comments to MSDC for application no. 3503/15 Change of use of land and erection of a new detached building with associated vehicle parking. Land at Pie Hatch Farm, Brettenham Road – “*Buxhall Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available*”

2015/749 There were no MSDC decisions to note.

2015/750 **Finance** – The following payments were approved, proposed by Cllr Mitson, with all in favour: Clerk’s salary September

2015/751 HMRC Q2

2015/752 RoSPA Course £33.00

2015/753 Vertas, grass cutting £227.40

2015/754 **RoSPA Annual Play ground Inspection** – Cllr Arthur Hicks gave a breakdown of the main points of the report. Disabled access was discussed and considered and it was agreed that it would be very difficult if not impossible to improve access due to

the distance from the road of the play equipment across the field making any hard surfacing prohibitive. It was agreed that exploration of an alternative access at the rear of the field would be carried out.

It was agreed that various general maintenance of weeds, hedge growth and cleaning would need to be carried out and the clerk will seek a contractor for this together with some quotes.

Of most concern is the condition of the Multi Play which has attracted several low risk comments from the inspector together with a moderate risk flagging that will need action to be taken to replace some rotten posts, roof slats and missing fixings. It was agreed that an opinion be sought as to the financial viability of dismantling and renewing all the damaged timbers before a decision is made to repair, remove or replace.

2015/755

Matters to be brought to the attention of the council – None

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 16th November 2015, 7.30pm at The Village Hall