

BUXHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 15th September 2014 in the Village Hall

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

Paula Gladwell – Clerk District Cllr John Matthissen 0 member of the public

- 2014/540 **Apologies for Absence** – County Cllr Otton, PCSO Ryan Brunning.
- 2014/541 **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Steed declared a non pecuniary interest in Item 5b as a friend of the applicant. (min no.2014/545)
- 2014/542 **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 July were signed as a true record.
- 2014/543 **Adjournment for:**
County Councillor Otton’s Report –Cllr Otton’s report confirmed that the Gypsy and Travellers transit site consultation has now been halted as landowners have put forward alternative site suggestions. A new consultation will take place. It has been confirmed that schools will be ready to comply with the new policy to provide a free hot meal to all primary school children. There were no major incidents reported during the industrial action of the fire service. Arrangements to provide shared accommodation for police and fire services in Stowmarket and Ipswich are being looked at similar to that in Elmswell. Cllr Otton has asked that a condition to any planning permission at Red Willows, Finborough Road should include an extension to the 30MPH limit.
District Cllr Matthissen’s Report – Cllr Matthissen gave his report confirming that the textile recycling scheme introduced in 2012 has proved a modest success with a new contract signed which should ensure regular deliveries of bags. The second week of October has been designated as lift share week to encourage reductions in petrol bills and emissions, for more information www.suffolkcarshare.com. Together with Babergh DC, MSDC has now approved a plan for 2014 – 2019 setting out priorities for Economy and Environment, Housing and Communities. The plan is very thin on detail other than the solar panel project which should earn a useful income. There is at last a commitment to building new council houses and tackling the large number of empty properties.
Police Report – The police report confirmed one crime reported since the last meeting, it relates to an allegation of assault and currently still being investigated. The SNT priorities for July – Sept were anti social behaviour on school premises and the security of school premises, the next area forum and Priority Setting meeting will be at Needham Market Council Offices on Thursday 2nd October at 7pm, members of the public are welcome to attend and put forward ideas for priorities for the coming quarter.
Public Session – no questions
- 2014/544 **Meeting resumed:**
Planning – It was resolved to send the following comments to MSDC; 2724/14 Convert open air store/garage into an unheated store/utility room, The Old Forge, Mill Road – *"Buxhall Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available"*
- 2014/545 1804/14 Use of land as campsite, Fasbourn Hall, Valley Lane - *"Buxhall Parish Council has NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available"*

- 2014/546 The following MSDC decisions were noted; 1732/14 Convert open air store/garage into an unheated store/utility room, The Old Forge, Mill Road – REFUSED and
- 2014/547 Prior Approval of proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to Dwelling House, Barn 25m west of Fasbourn Hall, Valley lane – REFUSED.
- 2014/548 **Finance** – The clerks Financial Report for September 2014 was approved.
- 2014/549 The following payments were approved proposed by Cllr Mitson with all in favour:
Clerks salary for July and Aug 2014
- 2014/550 Village Hall hire £12.50,
- 2014/551 Eon £23.14 Direct Debit.
- 2014/552 D Davison £616.22
- 2014/553 The Asset Register was reviewed along with insurance provision. A proposal by Cllr Hicks to take out a 3 year long term agreement with Zurich was not seconded. It was resolved to renew the Insurance cover with Zurich via Suffolk Acre for one year at the renewal premium of £578.88, proposed Cllr Gant, seconded Cllr Hall with a majority in favour.
- 2014/554 It was agreed that the correspondence address for banking be changed and the letters to Barclays and Santander were duly signed.
- 2014/555 Various options for investment of capital amounts had been investigated, with high street safe banks offering well below the reinvestment opportunities offered by Santander. It was resolved to reinvest the capital sum of £100,000 with Santander at their offered 1.1% bond for a further 12 months. Proposed Cllr Hall with all in favour.
- 2014/556 It was resolved to award the following grants, Prop Cllr Proctor with all in favour; Mid Suffolk CAB £50, Buxhall Broadcast £160
- 2014/557 It was resolved to award the following grants under S137, Proposed Cllr Proctor with all in favour. SARS £50.00, Optua £50, St Elizabeth Hospice £50
- 2014/558 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2014/559 **Diversion of Footpath no's 19 (part), 20 and 21 (part)** – It was resolved to SUPPORT the application to divert the footpaths following agreement that the field edge path would provide better and easier walking for all with ease of maintenance for the landowner. The movement of the path through the yard will improve security and privacy for the residents.
- 2014/560 **Playing field** - Consideration of the Annual Playground report and its recommendations was taken. The clerk pointed out that various actions for repair and replacement had been suggested and a summary of all the points highlighted had been circulated. It was agreed that no action needed to be taken at this time.
- 2014/561 Consideration was given to the request from a resident to provide a roundabout on the playing field as an extension of the play area provision. It was agreed that there were no plans for new equipment at this time.
- 2014/562 **Traffic Calming** – It was resolved to complete the application form for the purchase of a VAS as part of Cllr Otton's joint initiative with neighbouring councils. Various locations were discussed and it was agreed that an article be placed in the newsletter encouraging a coordinator to come forward who could take on the task off moving the VAS around the various sites once confirmed.
- 2014/563 **Internal Control Documents** – Following changes to legislation relating to the recording of meetings by the press and public an amendment to standing orders was approved. Standing Orders and Financial Regulations together with all policies and procedures were reviewed with no further amendments proposed. It was resolved to approve the reviewed documents, Proposed Cllr Mitson with all in favour.
- 2014/564 The Risk Assessment was reviewed and it was agreed that no amendments or additions were identified. It was resolved to approve the reviewed Risk Assessment, proposed Cllr Mitson with all in favour.
- 2014/565 A review of the effectiveness of councils governing arrangements and systems of internal control was carried out. All controls in place were felt to be effective and no areas for development were identified.
- 2014/566 **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – A request from Buxhall Football Club to use the playing field this season was granted.

Concerns have been expressed regarding the surface of the playing field car park when the car park is used as an overflow for the village hall. Various options and costing for resurfacing the area will be sought.

Concerns were expressed regarding the overgrown black thorn on the footpath between the chapel and Brettenham Road, Cllr Gant will ask Mr Davidson to cut it back next time he cuts the footpath.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place at 7.30 on Monday 17th November 2014.