

MINUTES

Meeting of the Woolverstone Parish Council

Thursday 12th October. 7.30pm at Berners Hall

1. Apologies: Jen Young, Adam Golding, Allison Gladding
2. Attendance: Simon Quantrill, Phil Mayhew, Elspeth Iskander, Simon Pearce, Derek Davis, Mark Bostock, David Wood, Kathryn Deaton
3. Declaration of any prejudicial interest – none.
4. Minutes –
13 July 2017 – Proposed Elspeth Iskander. Seconded Phil Mayhew.
10 August 2017 – Proposed Simon Quantrill. Seconded Mark Bostock.
14 September 2017 – Proposed Phil Mayhew. Seconded Simon Quantrill.
5. Matters Arising.
Simon Pearce is to write to Arthur Charvonia, Simon Bailey and James Cartlidge regarding the building within the Nursery area.
There may be two more potential members of the Parish Council.
6. Report from Councillors and District Councillors
David Wood:
 - a. On 28th September he won a deferment of a change of policy with regards to school buses and potential savings. This was changed in Essex and ended up costing more.
 - b. Suffolk Observatory new website has been launched. This allows you to research information on the County.
 - c. Suffolk Fire and Rescue started a campaign to raise awareness and the benefits of having a fire escape plan.
 - d. A12 – four village bypass. This is being considered as a result of Sizewell C
 - e. New system for highways reports. First contact – highwayreporting.suffolk.gov.uk or call 03456066171 – log reference is received. If there is no resolution then you contact the County Councillor.
 - f. Local Bus 98A is going to be cancelled due to low revenue and the local government subsidy being removed. The 07.50 and 3.15 will continue to run as this is essentially a school bus. Simon Pearce suggested that the notice should go in “In Touch”. Discussion followed over how new houses could be built in an area that does not even offer a mode of public transport.
 - g. Simon Quantrill raised the issue of poor sign maintenance and the safety impact this has. David Wood has a meeting relating to this.
 - h. A case is being presented for a 40mph speed limit through Freston crossroads.**Derek Davis:**
 - a. Boundary Commission – villages have been linked and are done on the basis of size and supposedly location however Woolverstone has been linked with Chelmondiston, Bentley and Freston. The feeling was that villages on the peninsula should remain together. We have

until 11th December to write a response to this. This will be dealt with at the 9th November meeting.

Discussion followed over staffing issues within Babergh and the constant changing of staff within the council. This means that work is not being done.

b. Ganges – Babergh have applied for an 8.2 million grant to help with the infrastructure of the build. If this is granted the aim is that this is spent on the Freston crossroads, the road and the buses. It has been suggested that Haylink should build sheltered housing in lieu of the swimming pool. If the grant is received the mast will be taken down, renovated and erected again. The developers want to start next year but will not put the mast back up before the homes around that area are completed.

The grant will be approved/declined in January.

c. Simon Pearce asked that Derek Davis take on the matter of building without planning permission within the village. Simon Pearce will write to the Chief Enforcement Officer at Babergh.

d. Within Shotley a traveller caravan site has developed. The site is a holiday site not a permanent residence and some disturbance and issues have arisen as a result.

e. Shotley Pier- Derek Davis has left the board for this.

7. Report back from BAPTC Meeting (10th October)

This is a group of Parish Councillors and Simon Pearce felt that a link with larger councils would provide us with good support.

A suggestion was made that we raised money through section 137

It was suggested that Babergh cabinet ministers are taking money from the Treasury, then buying buildings that are a better investment in other areas of the country and making money. The company is SIFCO. Simon Pearce had searched online for any reference to SIFCO but found nothing at this stage.

The merger of the councils is inevitable and as a result many of the staff are working from home.

There is a shortage of planning officers in government as called to help with Brexit.

8. BDC and Mid Suffolk Local Plan Consultation

a. Feedback from Village Meeting (11th October)

Attendance was low but those present felt that we should proceed. Phil Mayhew suggested that we add awarded points for having Broadband but the lower level as it is not fast! The cancellation of the bus service is also to be included.

It was decided that Simon Pearce would add some initial responses and email it to the group by 28th October. This would then go to the council for approval / additions by 3rd November, Simon Pearce will submit this by the deadline of 10th November. This was agreed.

9. Fundraising activities for Autumn.

On 26th October there is the inaugural meeting of "Friends of Woolverstone".

Punch and Pie is on Sunday 3rd December. There will be stalls selling "goods", pies and drinks.

A music evening is being planned for 2018 but this will involve a lot of work in planning and setting this up however it is expected to be a major event attracting lots of people.

10. Finance

We have £1092 in the bank, VAT repayment £6475. It was decided however that early repayment of the loan should not be done as it was not required.

Chelmondiston has paid for their share of the speed camera - £400

Grass Cutting at the Church and Pond – this was paid for last year but is now being done inhouse at a significant saving.

11. Planning

There are to be seven dwellings in the barn at White House Farm. Approved.

Home Farm – planning has been agreed in principal but with some amendments to the access point from Main Road.

12. Correspondence

None

13. AOB

Phil Mayhew has a meeting about the cycle path next week. He does not feel this is viable.

He also has a meeting about the footpath along the coast as there will be an issue between Freston and Royal Harwich Yacht Club.

Simon Quantrill raised the issue of the hedge obscuring the view when exiting Marina Road.

Simon Pearce advised that a member of the council was required to be in charge of data protection.

Meeting closed at 21.40

Signed:

Date:

Simon Pearce, Chairman.