



## **MINUTES**

Meeting of the Woolverstone Parish Council

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023 7.30pm Berners Hall

1. **Apologies:** Simon Kent. Simon Harley SCC and Jane Gould BMSDC.
2. **Present:** Simon Pearce, Philip Mayhew, Sarah Harris, Alison Glading, Jamie Mayhew, Matthew March.  
  
Resident of Woolverstone.
3. **Prejudicial interests.** None\_
4. **Open Session.** Resident attended to raise the issue of parking outside their house on the Main Road. There are, the resident feels, issues with the grass being churned and becoming unmanageable due to their neighbour parking their van unsympathetically. The resident feels that the area is being negatively affected:
  - a. SP suggested the possibility of tarmacking outside the houses or having a disabled parking spot allocated. SP will also ask people not to park on the path outside the Widows Homes.
  - b. The PC has no authority, the verge is the responsibility of SCC and parking of tenants BMSDC. SP suggested that first recourse with issues such as this are sorted with goodwill, but this seems to be lacking.
  - c. The resident feels that they are being bullied. The van parking outside their house also makes it difficult to see out or be seen when leaving and arriving at the house. Last year the Babergh Neighbourhood Team asked tenants to park in allocated places, but this has not lasted. SP to contact Simon Harley and BDC Housing Officer.
  - d. The resident suggested the planting of a tree.
5. **Matters Arising.**
  - a. The pothole opposite the nursing home has been filled. Some progress also with drains.
  - b. Spring Clean went well.
  - c. Road is an ongoing problem and little active support from SCC. Monday's crash is a case in point. ANPR camera recorded speeds, speeds higher in many other places, but drivers coming from a 40mph limit to 30mph.

- d. James Carlidge has visited the village to discuss the Berners Project. Subsequently he has written warmly to offer his formal support to the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund
6. **Reports:** Reports from district and county councillor have been circulated.
7. **Finance:** Allison had previously circulated a draft financial statement and following a brief analysis it was agreed that it would form the basis of the statement of finance
8. **Coronation.** Possibility of planting two oak trees, eighteen birches and a garden in the proposed community area outside the Berners Hall. Jamie Mayhew updated on progress on Mayhew Farms' housing development. Almost at a stage of marketing the proposed properties. Babergh still have to respond. Mayhew Farms keen to support parish initiatives. Sarah suggested that the trees available via Natural England are not very exciting and a brief discussion ensued with the suggestion that Friends of Woolverstone might purchase some Himalayan birch trees from a specialist nursery. Sarah to investigate.
9. **Verge Conservation:** Sarah reported that the trees planted on Marina Drive seem to have taken well although a number of supporting canes have disappeared. There followed a brief discussion on Horsepond's Green which was endowed to the Parish on the understanding that it would be an area for nature and biodiversity. The dead tree overhanging the road is to be removed by Phil and the furniture inside the area needs replacing. SP has asked Karen to cut back the jasmine that overhangs the path outside her house on the Main Road.
10. **Speed Survey** reported upon earlier in the meeting.
11. **Warm Thursdays** have gone well through the winter.
12. **Correspondence:**
  - a. Nominations for local elections were a debacle. Chief Executive of Babergh has apologised.
  - b. Babergh JLP so far with Inspector over where houses can be built. Highways issues to an extent actioned.
  - c. Ben Clark of Wavensmere has been contacted concerning contractors' trucks breaking speed limit through the village.
13. **Planning Applications.**
  - d. Ridgway extension proposal will remove conservatory on the east end and replace it with a two-storey extension. With the exception of the downstairs window, the PC was happy with the application.
  - e. The Marina has applied to remove more trees. The tree canopy is reducing all the time. The PC does not support the proposal due to implications for wildlife and biodiversity.
  - f. IHS have made retrospective planning application for the wooden gates which they placed outside the church. The PC does not believe that this meets the context of the area which is made up of traditional metal fencing around the adjacent church. SP to photograph the context and point out to Babergh what was in the original application.
13. **Berners Hall:** There was a double booking this evening. Increased bookings, financially viable.
14. **FOW:** Sarah Harris to become Treasurer following Pat's death. A Committee Meeting to be held in near future.

- a. Berners 250. The Exhibition is going to be expensive. Cost likely to be circa £3000. Application has been made to the Heritage Fund. If this is not forthcoming, possibility of approaching local businesses to sponsor boards at circa £150 each. It can also be utilised into the future for schools and other venues to celebrate the history of our village. Orwell Stores to sell tickets for the talks at £10 each.

**15. AOB:**

- a. Michael Norman insect pile on end of Glebe Lane. There is now a sign explaining why it is there.
- b. PC offered a warm and heartfelt vote of thanks to Phil Mayhew for his many years of loyal service to the PC, particularly as vice chairman. His wisdom and local knowledge have been greatly appreciated. A gift of a Woolverstone rose will wing its way to him in the Autumn.

**Dates of future meetings:** May 11, June 8, July 13, September 14, October 12, November9, December 14.