

HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 7 September 2009
at Hoxne Playingfield Pavilion at 1930 hours

Present

Philip Flagg (Chairman), Michael Knights, Rod Searle, Victoria Williams, Tim Craven, Vivienne Bradford, Ted O'Connor, Kate Leith, Stuart Jarrold, Mick Procner and Sarah Foote (Clerk).

Also present: Brian Lomax - Suffolk County Council Highways (left meeting at 20.30), Cllr Guy McGregor (left meeting at 20.50), Mr Abbott - architect planning application 2011/09 (left meeting at 19.52) and one member of the public.

ACTION

1. Apologies

Cllr John Brawn, Elizabeth Gibson-Harries (Mid Suffolk District Council).

2. Order of Business

Councillors were content with the order of business as set out in the agenda.

3. Declarations of Interest

None.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 August 2009 were amended (point 5 health not heath), agreed and signed as correct.

5. Public forum

Meeting adjourned and reconvened as no speakers yet present.

6. Ratification of appointment of new Clerk

The appointment of Sarah Foote as new Parish Clerk as of 15 August 2009 was unanimously agreed by Councillors.

7. Road Safety Improvement – Presentation

Meeting adjourned and reconvened as no speaker yet present.

8. Planning applications and notifications

Determinations:

To note the following determinations:

Ref: 1392/09

Location: The Anchorage, 5 Cross Street.

Proposal: Erection of garage and new pergola – permission **granted**.

Ref: 1895/09

Location: Fir House, Green Street.

Proposal: Alteration to outbuilding to form residential annex – permission **granted**.

Ref: 1307/09

Location: Plot adjacent The Laurels, Cross Street.

Proposal: Erection of two three bedroom houses – application **withdrawn** by applicant.

Planning Applications:

The following planning applications were considered:

Ref: 2011/09

Location: Abbey Farm, Abbey Hill

Proposal: Conversion of redundant farm buildings to residential use using existing vehicular access.

Councillors discussed this matter in detail and unanimously agreed to recommend **approval** of this application with the following comment: the application is regarded as an improvement to existing structures (proposed Cllr Flagg, seconded Cllr Jarrold). *Whilst Mr Abbott the architect concerned with this proposal was present at the meeting he did not make comment. The Chair thanked Mr Abbott for attending.*

Other Planning Matters

Ref:1245/09 Longfields, Nuttery Vale – The appeal lodged against refusal of application for erection of detached garage/ancillary block had been dismissed.

Philip Flagg (Chair)

Sarah Foote (Clerk)

HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 7 September 2009
at Hoxne Playingfield Pavilion at 1930 hours

Ref: 2519/06 Plot adjacent the Old Grapes, Cross Street – correspondence received from MSDC detailing changes to front and rear elevations. To note for information only.

7. Road Safety Improvement – Presentation

Meeting adjourned at 19.55 as Brian Lomax and Cllr McGregor were both now present

Brian Lomax, Road Safety Engineer, Suffolk County Council (BL) reported that he had been asked by both the Parish Council and Cllr McGregor to look at possible traffic slowing measures for the junction of Goldbrook Bridge/Low Road junction (*scheme 1*). Plans were presented to Councillors for a 'kerb build out scheme'. BL explained this was the maximum recommendation for the build out as he was aware of lorries using the junction and too much build out would force traffic to the wrong side of road. A computer generated diagram was also presented of the path of a large vehicle using the road. BL estimated total cost of £4500 (£3000 for the works plus traffic management and utility costs).

Detailed discussion took place with views such as trial measures, increasing kerb height (BL confirmed height could increase to 125mm), drainage, road markings, possible use of bollards, any adverse affects on safety at the bus stop, increased signage before junction and on opposite side of road, changing priorities over bridge. BL summarised saying he felt his proposed scheme "would slow most drivers down". It was then suggested by Cllr Procner to look at slowing traffic over Swan Bridge before they approach above junction (*scheme 2*). BL felt "this may not have desired impact due to acceleration speeds of modern vehicles".

Chair summarised that all agreed improvement was needed and there was a mandate to do so. It was resolved to receive detailed quotations for both schemes. Scheme 2 will involve liaison with Mid Suffolk Structures team re. loading on Swan Bridge and BL made Council aware this would be the more costly scheme. Proposed Cllr Bradford, Seconded Cllr Williams.

BL asked Cllr McGregor to comment on funding options and he confirmed there is a 'quality of life' budget with funds available but as already stretched could not commit to total cost. Chair asked for approval of a 50/50 cost split to a maximum total cost of £4500. Proposed Cllr Knights, Seconded Cllr Jarrold.

BL will meet with technicians next week and costs will be ready in 4 – 6 weeks.

Chair thanked both Mr Lomax and Cllr McGregor for their time and budget proposal.

Schemes to be published in Village Voice and notice boards for public consultation.

PF/Clerk

5. S.C.C. – Cllr G McGregor reported:

Budget: He had been involved in detailed budget preparation and based on figures he had seen highways spending will be restricted.

Strategic Waste Agenda: Working on the need for proper waste management plan with concern that landfill is not a sound option. Plans to deal with the full amount of waste generated in county include site identified in Brome near Eye. Public enquiry 2010.

Downbridge footway: Cllr McGregor confirmed this had been looked at. Cllr Jarrold reported that he had been in attendance whilst MSDC used sand bags to temporarily support bridge but felt a permanent solution to prevent the bridge from being washed away was still needed.

Councillors also kindly noted that Cllr McGregor is considering road safety improvements in our village; Goldbrook and Abbey Corner, Cross Street (where a further £3,000 could be earmarked) as well as works in neighbouring village (Wingfield cattle grids).

Meeting recommenced at 20.40

Philip Flagg (Chair)

Sarah Foote (Clerk)

HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 7 September 2009
at Hoxne Playingfield Pavilion at 1930 hours

Agenda
item

PF/Clerk

Agenda
item/Clerk

9. Reports from Chairman

Naming of road in support of affordable housing scheme to rear of St Edmund's House: – Cllr Brawn has suggested that a name could possibly reflect the work of past councillors. No other responses received from Councillors. Agenda for next meeting and possible inclusion in Village Voice

Possible erection of Horse Shelters, Land next to Cedar Lodge: A letter has been received enquiring if planning permission is required. This has been referred to MSDC. Outcome could reflect on other similar structures in village.

Horn noise nuisance: Report from parishioner received on late night/early morning horn noise from vehicle driving through Goldbrook. Will be referred to PC Green for advice.

Theft of Fire wood: From land near River Dove approaching Oakley, as detailed in correspondence. PC Green has been informed.

Parish Plan: Cheque has been raised to TW Gaze for payment of printing etc.

Brakey Wood: Parishioner Chris Johnson has expressed interest in involvement with both woodland management and footpath clearance. Visit from Woodland Trust to be arranged. Council to check insurance covers volunteers at work on footpaths

Budget Preparation: Chair forewarned councillors of need to draft budget proposals for agreement at November meeting. Consider and agenda for October meeting how best to budget factoring in current economic climate and reserves held.

10. Correspondence

To note the following correspondence previously circulated for information:
(italic shows date of circulation)

- New contact number for Parish Council – 07554 733621 25.08.09
- New bus timetable with effect from 1 September 2009 25.08.09
- Highway safety – correspondence from public and S.C.C. Highways concerning Nuttery Vale 25.08.09 and Suffolk County Council response 01.09.09
- Rural Service Network Parish Newsletter August 2009 25.08.09
- Distribution of 2009 Mid Suffolk Messenger (MSDC annual magazine) 28.08.09
- Allotments (MSDC) 28.08.09
- Fieldwork (CPRE) September 2009 edition 28.08.09
- The Gambling Act 2005: Triennial Review of Mid Suffolk's 'Statement of Principles' 28.08.09
- NHS – Scheme to test ambulance journey times to heart attack centres 28.08.09
- 'Motorcross' noise nuisance – email from Syleham P.C. 28.08.09
- NHS Suffolk – Sudbury Group Task and Finish press release 31.08.09
- Clerks and Council Direct September 2009 01.09.09

In addition, Councillors discussed and Chair reported that if request criteria was met for the provision of Allotments the Council would have a responsibility to provide.

11. Financial matters and payments due

Report:

Councillors noted that as of 7 September 2009 the Community Account held £1093.10 and the Business Premium Account held £8,690.30.

Payments – it was unanimously agreed to pay the following:

- £520.95 to T W Gaze Parish Plan stationery and printing Chq No 100843
- Clerk's attendance on New Clerks Day (1 October 2009) £45.00 + VAT and Book keeping, Annual Return, Audit etc workshop (26 October 2009) £25.00 + VAT

Philip Flagg (Chair)

Sarah Foote (Clerk)

HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 7 September 2009 at Hoxne Playingfield Pavilion at 1930 hours

- £405.97 to 121 Computer (Diss) for the purchase of lap top for Clerk's use (to remain Parish Council property) *Chq No 100846*
- £55.00 to SALC for the purchase of Local Council Administration (yellow book) 8th edition published 30 June 2009.
- £246.13 Clerk's salary and expenses month ending 14 September 2009. *Chq No 100844*
- £150.00 payment for Hoxne Heritage maps (Parish Council contribution to total project cost of £350.00 – Councillor Leith to hold cheque until Suffolk County Council release their cheque for the remainder. Parish Council also needs to be in receipt of an invoice, or copy, for the account. *Chq No 100845*

KL

12. Consultations

None.

13. Reports

Parish Plan: Cllr Knights reported he had spoken with Parish Plan Chair and had been informed that data processing is in hand.

Village Hall: The picnic bench by the notice board has now been made safe.

Playing Fields: No report. Need to be advised of next meeting date.

SALC: No report.

14. Matters of Report by Individual Councillors

Noise nuisance – Cllr O'Connor reported on behalf of his neighbours irritation at sounding of a car horn during unsociable hours. He felt the possible reason could be a car parked by the side of the road in Goldbrook, just past village hall, but noted there are no parking restrictions on that part of the road. Also reported egg throwing at windows of 65 Goldbrook during the early hours of 6/9/2009. Suggested all residents concerned speak to PC Green and Cllr O'Connor will also contact PC Green

PF/TC

Removal of Gate – Cllr Bradford reported that she had been made aware the gate had been removed from the field next to the playingfield. It was suggested concerned parishioner contact land owner directly.

Parking at Heckfield Green – Cllr Procner reported that cars were again parking on the grass at Heckfield Green and too close to the road junctions around the school. Letter to be sent to the school to ask for their assistance in this matter of road safety.

Cllr
O'Connor

Website – Cllr Leith reported that Alister Leith felt unable to take on the running of a Parish Council managed and sponsored website (www.hoxne.suffolk.gov otherwise accessed at www.hoxne.com) but would be happy for Parish Council to have access to his private website hoxne.net for the publication of agendas and other information etc.

Clerk

15. Urgent matters

None

The meeting was closed at 21.17 hours.

Philip Flagg (Chair)



Sarah Foote (Clerk)

