

HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 11 July 2011
at Hoxne Playingfield Pavilion at 1930 hours

Present:

Cllrs Edward O'Connor (Chairman) John Brawn (Vice Chairman), Michael Knights, Kate Leith (arrived 19.49), Ellen Pitt, Mick Procner, Rod Searle, Izzy Shaw

Also Present:

Sarah Foote (Clerk), Cllr Elizabeth Gibson-Harries (left 20.15) and Cllr G McGregor (left 20.20)

1. Apologies

Cllrs Couche, Hart and Jarrold and PCSO Steven Long

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 13 June 2011 were amended (point 8 delete word 'under'), agreed and signed as correct by the Chairman and Clerk.

5. Matters arising from Minutes of 13 June 2011

None.

6. Public forum

Meeting closed 19.40

Cllr G McGregor – Suffolk County Council reported:

Friday 15 July event will be hosted by Cllr McGregor with representatives from CPRE, other local campaign groups as well as technical officers at Suffolk County Council to discuss the issue of electricity pylons threatening our countryside. Cllr McGregor feels there are alternatives to pylons (which lose some the energy during transmission) and that National Grid, who distribute electricity and gas across the country, have not researched this completely. The County Council will oppose any plans for new pylons if they are not content enough has been done by National Grid.

An announcement is due from National Grid on the preferred route for further pylons between Bramford to Twinstead (South Suffolk and North Essex).

Libraries Consultation – all libraries are recognised, in particular those serving centres like Stradbroke and Eye. A Community Interest Company could be formed to run the library service throughout Suffolk. Cost savings must still be made.

Cllr Knights commented that the size of tractors and trailers is also increasing as well as the speed at which they travel. These are damaging the verges. Lower speeds may help the problem.

Cllr E Gibson-Harries – Mid Suffolk District Council reported:

Brome HWRC site - a commercial operator may be interested in operating the site and make a charge per car per visit. However, it is inevitable that the site will close on 31 July and then, possibly, reopen at a later date. If this does not come to fruition, MSDC will increase 'bring sites' and the provision of brown bins.

Suffolk Police – in the absence of PCSO Long a report was read by the Clerk which detailed one burglary to an outbuilding in Chickering Road.

Cllr Knights will thank Mr J Havers for cutting the verges in Nuttery Vale.

Meeting reconvened 20.15

7. Planning

Planning Applications:

It was noted that confirmation had been received from Mid Suffolk District Council that planning application 0385/11- wind turbines, Airfield Industrial Estate, Eye which had been on the agenda for consideration, had been withdrawn by the applicant.

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The following planning applications which had been received since publication of the agenda were considered:

Reference	Location	Proposal
1943/11	Park Side, Eye Road	Two single storey extensions to existing dwelling house. (Application for a new planning permission to replace extant planning permission 2198/08 in order to extend the time limit for implementation.)
It was proposed and unanimously agreed to recommend approval.		
2274/11	Pen Bryn, Green Street	Remove 1 No. Norwegian Spruce
It was proposed and unanimously agreed to recommend approval subject to MSDC Tree Officer's comments.		

It was agreed to consider **2187/11** (land opposite Hedgerows, Denham Road, Hoxne) at the next meeting when clarification on the location of the site was received from the District Council and Councillors had chance to consider the application in detail.

Determinations:

Ref 1131/11 - Denham site, Horham Road – change of use buildings for the assembly and parts of storage of solar PV systems and wind turbines (use Class B1) – Planning Permission has been granted.

Ref 1310/11 – Barn at Chickering Hall, Chickering Road, installation of 16 no. photovoltaic solar panels to the south facing roof of the unlisted barn – Planning Permission has been granted.

Ref 1784/11 – Ivy House, Cross Street – Eucalyptus remove – MSDC does not wish to object.

8. Allotments

It was agreed all Councillors would give thought to possible sites and further discussion will take place at the August meeting.

9. Parish Plan

It was agreed to propose to Suffolk Acre that the remainder of the budget be spent on provision of allotments (land acquisition, legal fees, associated drainage or land works etc.) which the Parish Council are actively considering as an Action Point from the Parish Plan. The funds will be earmarked and held as part of the Council's reserves. *Action: Clerk to write to Suffolk Acre.*

10. Meeting Venue

It was agreed in principal to hold meetings during the six summer months at the Playingfield and the six winter months at the St Edmund's Hall. Cllr Brawn to discuss availability and any hire charges with the Hall Management Committee. Cllr John Brawn will discuss with Cllr Jarrod (Playingfield Representative) and bring costs details to the next meeting. *Action: Cllr Brawn and Cllr Jarrod.*

11. Street Caretaker

Cllrs were in agreement to confirm the appointment of Mr Roger Knight as the new Parish Street Caretaker for the Conservation Area (paved areas from top of Church Hill to outside Mill House, Cross Street, as per initial MSDC funding). The possibility of increasing from five hours per week to seven was discussed to extend the area cleaned to include up to and around the primary school. Offer of employment letter, risk assessment and time sheets to be sent to Mr Knight. The position will be reviewed after two months and a contract of employment will be issued. Expenditure to £75 to cover the cost of equipment was also agreed. *Action: Clerk to organise paperwork and contact Mr Knight.*

12. Brome Household Waste Recycling Centre closure

Cllr Knights reported that the Brome site will close on 31 July 2011. Due to numbers using the site and the current low costs being achieved from recyclables, there is no data to confirm a community group could run the site and make it balance. It is hoped a commercial operator will

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come forward to run the site as a 'pay to throw' service. It is believed that three private operators may be interested. Figures provided by the County Council were incorrect - the previous published figure of 17,500 had been revised to 60,000 visits per year. Cllr Knights expressed concern that some people currently only visit Brome because it is near and it is free. Where will these people take their rubbish if they have to pay? There are also indications that if a 'Pay to Throw' scheme is in place there will be fewer visits to the site – the County Council estimates 50% less rubbish and a third less visits.

13. Reports from Chairman and Clerk

OS Map - Cllr Brawn will enquire if there is room for the large map, which was purchased as part of the Parish Plan work, to hang in the Church. *Action: Cllr Brawn*

Bank Mandate – The Clerk confirmed that she had received the paperwork to confirm the bank signatories as Cllr Brawn, O'Connor and Knights.

Amenity Land – a meeting will be held with Orwell Housing on Thursday 14 July at the site to discuss the way forward with the acquisition of this piece of land.

14. Correspondence

The following correspondence previously circulated for information was noted:

- SCC Rights of Way Annual Surface Clearance Programme 2011 10.05.2011
- Suffolk Acre - Digital Switchover Volunteers required 18.05.2011 + 06.06.2011
- SCC invitation to the launch of new Suffolk-Links Demand Responsive Transport Service 19.05.2011 (event at Laxfield on Wednesday 15 June 2011)
- Suffolk Police Catalytic Converter marking Barley Green Garage, Laxfield Road, Stradbroke – Saturday 6 August 06.06.2011
- Suffolk Acre AGM and Localism Conference notification (Wednesday 13 July) 06.06.2011
- Leiston Town Council via SALC Proposal by Ron Bailey re Planning Applications 27.06.2011
- Suffolk Links Hoxne Area Demand-Responsive Transport Service 27.06.2011
- SALC Wind Farm and above Ground Electric Lines – major development off Sizewell notification 27.06.2011
- MSDC/Babergh Town and Parish newsletter 04.07.2011
- Suffolk County Council, via SALC, Fire Service – Thatch Register request 04.07.2011

15. Financial matters and payments due

Report: The Council's financial situation as at 11 July 2011 was presented to Councillors. Community Account Balance £4862.00. Business Premium Account Balance £5646.84.

Cllrs were provided with a report of spend against budget for the first quarter of the financial year and, as part of financial regulations, Cllr Searle checked the bank statements against the above figures and confirmed his agreement.

It was unanimously agreed to make the following payments:

- £5.75 Clerk's expenses 5 May to 11 July 2011
- £134.85 Street Caretaker salary July 2011
- £ 87.50 Mid Suffolk District Council non-contested election fee
- £50.00 SALC New Councillor briefing 13 June 2011

Councillors also agreed to make the following payments for invoices received after the agenda was published:

- £15.00 Anglia Book-keeping for payroll services April, May, June and July
- £2.60 HMRC PAYE (Period 4) May 2011

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Donations: Consideration was given to the donation payments for the 2011/2012 financial year. It was unanimously agreed to make the following payments:

- £150.00 Citizen's Advice Bureau
- £200.00 Friends of St Peter and St Pauls' Church
- £150.00 East Anglian Air Ambulance
- £100.00 Eye First Responders (East Anglian Ambulance Service)

16. Consultations

Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework: Revised Further Issues and Options of the Minerals Site Specification Allocations Development Plan Document

Norfolk Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies Development Plan Document: Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal and Focused Changes

The above consultations were noted.

17. Reports

Village Hall: Cllr Brawn reported that the health and safety check had been completed and resulting issues with storage were being dealt with.

Playing Fields: No report

Brakey Wood and Footpaths: Cllrs were asked to consider a liaison role between Chris Johnson and the Parish Council and to assist Mr Johnson with correspondence and paperwork.

18. Matters of report by individual Councillors

Cllr Knights – welcome pack to be updated. All councillors to look at the current pack and make comments. Clerk will also mention this in the next issue of the Village Voice and ask local organisations to come forward with up to date details. *Action: All*

Cllr Procner – asked who appoints the contractor to cut the verges? He is concerned that the one size of tractor used cannot fit down all rural lanes. Write to County Council to express concern on knock on effect of verges being damaged and ditches being blocked. *Action: Clerk to write to County Councillor.*

Cllr Brawn – Could the landowner be contacted to remove the tree that is partly fallen on the footpath between Downbridge Farm and the Hoxne Swan? *Action: Clerk*

19. Urgent matters and matters for information

None

Date of next meeting: Monday 8 August 2011.

The meeting was closed at 21.32 hours.