

# Cookley & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

**A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday, April 19th 2016 in the Pavilion, Walpole at 7-30pm.**

## **Minutes:**

### **Present:**

Cllr. David Cask (Chairman); Cllr. Mike Porter (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. Michael Bygrave; Cllr. Nick Jarvis; Cllr. Zoé Mair; Cllr. Ian Newton; Cllr. John Winter and Cllr. David Whitwood:

### **Also Present:**

District & County Cllr. Stephen Burroughes and Paul Widdowson (Clerk):

#### **1) Apologies:**

Cllr. Rob Chase; Cllr. Anne Thomas; Cllr. Mark Wenham:

#### **2) To receive declarations of interest:**

Cllr. Z. Mair and Cllr. M. Porter – Cookpole and CEA:

#### **3) To receive a report from the County and District Cllr. Stephen Burroughes:**

County and District Councillor S. Burroughes said that the County Council 2% increase in Council Tax was to pay the National Living Wage to those in the Social Services Department in line with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's view. He also reported that the OFSTED grade of 'Good' for the County's Children's Services had retained staff and the Chancellor of the Exchequer had announced funding of £70 million for the Lowestoft Third Crossing and the 'Wet' Crossing in Ipswich with County paying the difference in overall costs. Councillor S. Burroughes said that Suffolk Coastal District Council would be able to move into their new offices in the summer and then the old offices would be demolished to make way for new housing and flats with nice views over the Deben.

#### **4) Public Session:**

There were no members of the public present.

#### **5) To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on March 15th 2016:**

The Minutes were agreed.

#### **6) Matters arising:**

The Clerk reported that advice from the Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) had said that the co-option of Cllr. W. Austin was void because he had a pecuniary contract with the Council and this was now seen as employment. Therefore he was disqualified from being a Cookley and Walpole Parish Councillor. Councillors expressed considerable disagreement with his disqualification and it was agreed that Cllr. S. Burroughes would ask the Suffolk Coastal District Council Solicitor, Hilary Slater, for her view.

The Clerk reported that he had sent a letter to the Attic, Walpole and he had received no answer.

#### **7) Planning Matters:**

The Clerk reported that he had sent a letter to the AAIB, Walpole and he had received no answer.

### **7) Planning Matters:**

DC/16/1228/DRC – Discharge of Conditions: 7,8,12,16 and 17 on application C/13/0417.

Part Side Garden, Mount Pleasant Cottage, Church Hill, Walpole, Suffolk.

The Clerk reported this planning application to the Council but said that the Council had no decision to make on this planning application.

### **8) Donations:**

The following charities had all asked for donations over the past year - 'Alzheimer's Society' (Jonny Hawes had come to speak to the Council in September); Headway Suffolk; Age UK Suffolk; Disability Advice service (East Suffolk); British Red Cross; East Anglia's Children's Hospices and Coastal Accessible Transport Service Ltd:

The Councillors added Cookpole; East Anglian Air Ambulance; Suffolk Accident Rescue Service and the Drop-in Centre in Halesworth:

### **9) Defibrillator:**

It was agreed to defer this issue until the next meeting as Cllr. R. Chase was not at the meeting. The Clerk was asked to email him regarding any news.

### **10) Initiatives to cut Speeding:**

Cllr. M. Porter said that there was nothing to report except Suffolk County Council Highways seemed to be slow in completing their aspects of cutting speed in Walpole. Cllr. S. Burroughes said that he would speak to Bob Clench at Suffolk County Council over the issues.

### **11) Emergency Plan:**

Cllr. M. Bygrave said that in Mid-March, he had sent to all Councillors an email asking them to find out if any parishioners had special skills that would be of help in an emergency. Cllr. M. Bygrave also asked if two Cookley Councillors could volunteer to help in an emergency. He said that there may be some expenditure in the future for a two-way radio so all the emergency councillors could stay in contact.

### **12) Clerk's Report and Correspondence:**

The Clerk said that he had received 'Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies' annual Booklet and he circulated it to Councillors.

### **13) Financial Report:**

#### **a) Balances at the Bank on March 31st 2016:**

Business Current Account	£4 060-90
Business Savings Account	£1 095-78

#### **b) Cheques for payment:**

The Clerk said that there were no outstanding cheques.

#### **c) Accounts year ending March 31<sup>st</sup> 2016:**

#### **To discuss Internal Audit:**

#### **A review of the internal audit was carried out.**

Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) was confirmed to be the Internal Auditors for the 2015-2016 Accounts as this was decided in January.



Finally, Cllr. Z. Mair said that other initiatives such as the Community woodland work and the compilation of a Recipe Book to raise funds are ongoing.

**21) External Meetings & Training:**

Cllr. Z. Mair said that she hopes to attend a planning meeting.

**22) Matters of Information from Members:**

Cllr. Z. Mair said that Cllr. M. Wenham had made a good suggestion on having a walk around the parishes. Cllr. I. Newton said that he and Ian Cook had written a musical comedy called 'The Best Man' and it was opening next Tuesday in Beccles.

**23) To receive agenda items for the Annual Parish Council Meeting to be held on May 17th 2016:**

There were no agenda items.

**The Meeting ended at 10-15pm**