

Cookley & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday, April 25th 2017 in the Pavilion, Walpole at 7-30pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. David Cask (Chairman); Cllr. A. Thomas (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. Robert Chase; Cllr. N. Jarvis; Cllr. Z. Mair; Cllr. S. Moore; Cllr. M. Wenham; Cllr. J. Winter and Cllr. David Whitwood:

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk)

Apologies:

Cllr. I. Newton; Cllr. M. Porter; District and County Cllr. S. Burroughes:

1) To receive declarations of interest:

Cllr. Z. Mair declared interests in CEA and Cookpole.

Cllr. A. Thomas declared an interest in the CEA.

Cllr. M. Wenham declared an interest in the planning application DC/17/1313/FUL

2) Requests for dispensations:

There were no requests for dispensation.

3) To receive a report from the County and District Councillor:

Cllr. Stephen Burroughes sends his apologies. His reports are available and I sent them to you by email.

4) Public Session: Members of the public have fifteen minutes to ask questions on topics on the agenda.

There were no members of the public at the Meeting.

5) To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on March 21st 2017 and Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on April 10th 2017:

The Minutes of March 21st 2017 were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair: Second: Cllr. A. Thomas:

Development Management Policy 13 on Page 99 states:

'Where a substantial reconstruction is necessary, the proposal will be considered in the same way as a new building in the countryside and assessed against other Strategic and Development Management policies of the Core Strategy. 'Substantial reconstruction' means either the preparation of new foundations or floor slab or the complete rebuilding of any 2 external load bearing walls and more than 50% of the original roof.'

Given the present condition of the buildings on The Elms site it is hard to see how reconstruction on this scale can be avoided and the Parish Council would wish to see a planning application for 'new build' on this site rather than one 'for change of use and conversion of redundant outbuildings'.

Archaeology:

This site is situated between 'The Elms' and Walpole Old Chapel (with a small terrace of 4 x 19th farm workers cottages and a small track/public right of way between them) Both are Grade 2 listed buildings of 16th/17th c - The Elms - having been a hall house and containing some medieval wall paintings is almost certainly the oldest. There are 2 other buildings of a similar age nearby - Oak Cottage and Walpole Hatch Farm, both Grade 2 listed. The track/public right of way known as Salter's Lane, was formerly the main route to Halesworth (the present route went to Mells and beyond) with Blyth crossings near the site - a ford almost immediately adjacent and a bridge further along the river near to the present bridge where there was also a cottage - now barely even a ruin. While there has never been a full archaeological survey on The Elms site, former owners/residents Bob and Frances Sutherland - respected amateur archaeologists - found a number of items and artefacts on the Elms site including small fossils; Roman pottery fragments, amulets, jewellery and coins; knives, loom weights, buckles from later periods, as well as musket balls, livery buttons and other items. While many of these still remain with the Sutherlands - now very elderly and living in Devon, a small number of these items have been donated by them to Walpole Old Chapel where they can be viewed upon request or when the chapel is open to visitors. Historic items continue to be found across the wider area, including- very recently - a Tudor/Elizabethan silver shilling found in the field opposite The Elms. There is also some evidence of early earthworks in the vicinity in fields off Yoxford Lane (known locally as Gillett's Lane) similar but not as clearly evident as those in Bramfield.*

Although no mention is made in the Planning Application, it would seem to be entirely relevant to request at the very least an archaeological inspection/study of the site before any building works can commence.

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair: Seconded: Cllr. S. Moore:

10)Clerk's Report and Correspondence:

The Clerk reported that he had received the 'Clerks and Councils Direct' Newsletter, Wicksteed Playgrounds and Glasdon Brochures, the Adnams Community Trust Report and Accounts 2015-2016, Suffolk Annual Training Programme and 'Local Councillor' Newsletter. He also said that he had received the 'Countryside Voice' Magazine for CPRE and the 'Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies – Development Plan Document' for January 2017.

Finally the Clerk said that Community Action Suffolk (CAS) had invited the Council to renew its membership for Free. It was agreed to renew the Parish Council's membership of CAS.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Thomas: Second: Cllr. N. Jarvis:

11) Financial Report:

a) Balances at the Bank on April 7th 2017:

Business Community Account	£6 374-18
Business Premium Account	£1 096-20

Balances at the Bank on March 31st 2017:

Business Community Account	£6 729-18
Business Premium Account	£1 096-20

b) Cheques for payment:

Chq. No. 100951	'Alzheimer's Society'	£50-00
Chq. No. 100952	Age UK Suffolk	£25-00
Chq. No. 100953	Disability Advice Service (East Suffolk)	£20-00
Chq. No. 100954	East Anglia's Children's Hospices	£20-00
Chq. No. 100955	East Anglian Air Ambulance	£75-00
Chq. No. 100956	Suffolk Accident Rescue Service	£50-00
Chq. No. 100957	Halesworth Volunteer Centre	£35-00
Chq. No. 100958	Halesworth Community Nursing Care Fund	£100-00

Proposer: Cllr. N. Jarvis: Second: Cllr. J. Winter:

c) Receipts:

First Precept Payment	£4000-00
Walpole and Cookley Playing Fields Association	£1675-00

d) Accounts year ending March 31st 2017:

(1) To approve Section 1 of the Annual Return and sign declaration:

It was agreed to approve Section 1 of the Annual Return and to sign the Declaration.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Thomas: Second: Cllr. N. Jarvis:

(2) To approve Section 2 of the Annual return and sign declaration:

It was agreed to approve Section 2 of the Annual Return and to sign the Declaration.

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair: Second: Cllr. D. Whitwood:

To agree the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2017:

It was agreed to approve the accounts for the Year Ending 31st March 2017.

Proposer: Cllr. J. Winter: Second: Cllr. R. Chase:

Acceptance of financial report and year end accounts:

It was agreed to accept the financial report and year end accounts.

Proposer: Cllr. S. Moore: Second: Cllr. A. Thomas:

e) Clerk's Pay for 2017 – 2018:

It was agreed to place the Clerk on Point 22 of the Pay Scale.

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair: Second: Cllr. A. Thomas:

12) To receive reports on the:-

a) Village Green:

There was no report.

b) Flagship Affordable Homes:

There was no report.

c) Highways:

There was an email report from Cllr. M. Porter which said he had contacted Suffolk County Council Highways Department concerning the following three problems:

WALPOLE LANE, WALPOLE

Date reported: 16/04/2017

Description: Edge of road deteriorating due to road not wide enough for vehicles to pass each other. These holes were filled with type1 material a number of years ago and nothing has been done since. Holes standing with water and traffic having to via into road to avoid damage to vehicles

PEASENHALL ROAD, WALPOLE

Date reported: 16/04/2017

Description: Road badly cracking since the sewage was installed 15+ yrs ago. This part was not dressed 5 yrs ago when the rest of Peasehall road had dressing because the condition was too bad to dress!

MELLS ROAD, WALPOLE

Date reported: 16/04/2017

Description: Hedge overhanging the road so that lorries and tractors are breaking mirrors or not able to drive to the edge of the road. The whole road here is very narrow for 2 cars let alone 2 lorries to pass which is impossible. The other side of the road is also bad where the bank is crumbling into the highway.

d) Footpaths:

It was reported that the wood was rotten in the footbridge at the Cricketers Meadow and that the sign was down as well. Cllr. J. Winter said that he would contact Suffolk County Council.

e) Trees:

There was no report.

f) Cemetery:

There was no report.

g) CEA & Allotments:

Cllr. Z. Mair reported that the CEA had not held a meeting but the land between the playground and Peasenhall Road had been completed by Community payback and the land was now an amenity to the local population.

External Meetings & Training:

It was reported that there was a course on 'Energy from Waste' in Claydon and it was agreed that Cllr. Z. Mair and Cllr. M. Porter would attend.

There was still concern regarding West House and the lack of response to communication with Suffolk Coastal District Council.

It was noted that the Annual Parish Council Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting would take place next month.

The Meeting ended at 9-29pm.