

Cookley & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday, September 15th 2015 in the Pavilion, Walpole at 7-30pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. David Cask (Chairman), Cllr. Mike Porter (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. Michael Bygrave; Cllr. Rob Chase; Cllr. Zoé Mair; Cllr. Ian Newton; Cllr. Anne Thomas; Cllr. David Whitwood and Cllr. John Winter:

Also Present:

Jonny Hawes (Speaker); Paul Widdowson (Clerk) and District & County Cllr. Stephen Burroughes:

Apologies:

Cllr. Nick Jarvis:

To receive declarations of interest:

Cllr. M. Porter and Cllr. A. Thomas declared personal interests in Cookpole Energy Action and the Allotments. Cllr. Z. Mair declared a personal interest in Cookpole Energy Action.

To receive a talk from Jonny Hawes from the 'Alzheimer's Society':

Jonny Hawes said that the 'Alzheimer's Society' had stands at surgeries and elsewhere to meet people and raise awareness. He said that there was a Carers Group in Halesworth. He said that people can become 'Dementia Friends' who raise awareness of dementia at meetings, work with businesses to increase awareness and generally look out to help people at places such as supermarket checkouts where those with dementia can get confused. Jonny Hawes explained how to get involved and that the 'Alzheimer's Society' covered all types of dementia.

In answer to Councillors' questions, Jonny Hawes said that the 'Alzheimer's Society' gained income from fundraising, government, wills and legacies and they were also involved in the new Health Centre in Halesworth. Councillors said that they would consider a donation in March 2016 and suggested that schools may be a good place to visit. __

To receive a report from the County and District Cllr. Stephen Burroughes:

Cllr. Stephen Burroughes reported that the County Council is very interested in perhaps taking advantage of the Government's policy to devolve power. He said that the County would be bankrupt in three years' time unless they save £50-£60 million but he said that there was good news in that Suffolk Coastal District Council was in good shape financially.

Cllr. Stephen Burroughes said that he would help fund speeding signs as he had £1500 left in his County Council Locality Budget which had to be spent by Christmas. Cllr. Stephen Burroughes asked if the Parish Council still supported the Marsh View initiative which was confirmed. He also reported that Suffolk County Council is stopping their transport bus system. Cllr. D. Cask asked where the money received from selling the buses would go as he thought it should be reinvested into community transport. Cllr. M. Porter said that the Church Wall is crumbling and he wanted to know who should fix it. Cllr. Stephen Burroughes said that he would find out. Cllr. R. Chase asked about the spread of broadband to rural areas. Cllr. Stephen Burroughes said that British Telecom is connecting villages but they do say that connecting some isolated properties are uneconomic to connect. Cllr. Stephen Burroughes said that he would try to arrange for someone from BT to come to speak to the Council.

Public Session:

There were no members of the public present but the Police Report was circulated. PCSO 3195 Julie Hinton based at Framlingham Safer Neighbourhood Team had sent a written report which reported that there were six crimes in all for the period 1st June 2015 to 31st August 2015 – five in Cookley and one in Walpole. The crimes in Cookley were 1 x Theft Other; 1 x Theft of Pedal Cycle; 3 x Criminal Damage and 1 x Burglary other for Walpole.

The report also stated that the local police officer is PC 1410 Burt and the three PCSOs are PCSO 3195 Hinton; PCSO 3034 Hassler and PCSO 3051 Mann. The report also reminded everyone that in an emergency always dial 999 and to report a crime dial 101. It said that any member of the team can be contacted at the following email address: FRAMLINGHAM.SNT@SUFFOLK.PNN.POLICE.UK and the website www.suffolk.police.uk can be checked for the team's engagements and can offer further general help and advice.

It was also noted that the Ramblers Association had invited everyone to walk along every footpath in a poster which should be put on noticeboards and websites. _

It was noted that a new institution had been set up in Cookley called the 'Attic'. Cllr. A. Thomas said that she had met the Deputy Head and was willing to come to speak to the Council. It was agreed that she would ask him to come to a Council Meeting soon.

To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on July 21st 2015:

These were agreed.

Matters arising:

A 'Speedwatch' scheme was discussed. It was reported that one email asking for volunteers had had no replies. Cllr. A. Thomas said that she knew of four people who may be interested and suggested that a meeting was held at the Pavilion to discuss speeding and traffic issues. Cllr. M. Porter added that vehicles had got wider but the roads had not. It was agreed to look at holding a meeting.

Cllr. Z. Mair reported on the progress of clearing up the Churchyard.

Planning Matters:

There are no Planning Applications

Clerk's Report and Correspondence:

The Clerk reported that he had obtained a Bank Account Change of Address Form and was to update the Insurance Policy Asset Register.

Financial Report:

The Clerk reported that:

Community Account at September 7th	£4 493-25
Business Account at September 7 th	£1 095-50

Invoices for Payment:

100894	Clerk's Pay for July until September 2015	£420-00
100895	Clerk's Expenses for July until September 2015	£55-95
100896	HMRC for Clerk's Salary	£105-00
100897	Ladywell Accountancy Services – Clerk's Salary	£28-00
100898	SALC: June 18 th Briefing for Cllrs. Cask, Mair and Porter	£60-00
100899	SCDC: Parish Council Election Fee	£100-00

These payments were approved to be paid.

Receipts:

Cemetery – Headstone	£25-00
Cemetery – Interment	£60-00
Business Saver Account Interest – June to September	£0-14
Picnic Table Payment from Walpole and Cookley Playing Field Trust	£402-00
Loan Payment from the Walpole and Cookley Playing Field Trust	£70-00

Initiatives to cut Speeding:

It was agreed that this issue had already been discussed.

Red Telephone Box:

It was agreed to repaint it and to look for the materials to do so as it was agreed that the telephone box needed some attention.

Village Green:

There was no report.

Flagship Affordable Homes:

Cllr. A. Thomas said that she had written to Flagship Housing and they had replied that they do not know what will happen in view of the Government's policy to force Housing Associations to sell their rented housing under the 'Right to Buy Scheme'. Cllr. M. Porter said that he thought the Council should be proactive in finding out whether the houses in Neave Close could be sold in this way as the Council believes that they were built on land released in perpetuity on condition that the houses built on the land would always be available for rent by local people and so could not legally be sold off under a 'Right to Buy Scheme'.

Councillors agreed that they wanted to know about the legal situation of the houses in Neave Close and therefore the Clerk was asked to contact Flagship to clarify the legal situation and, if possible, secure paperwork showing the legal situation. They also asked that someone from Flagship Housing was invited to speak at a future meeting.

Highways:

Cllr. M. Porter asked the Clerk if he had contacted the County Council regarding the road problems identified at the end of July. The Clerk said that he had and several repairs had been carried out by the emails he had received from the County Council. The Clerk was asked to contact Bob Clench again for a tour of the Parishes again next year.

Cllr. M. Porter also expressed concern at the number of cycle races being held during the harvest period as he said with so much heavy farm equipment on the roads, there had already been some near accidents and he feared a serious accident may happen soon.

Footpaths:

The Clerk read out a written report from Cllr. N. Jarvis. The Report said that Cllr. N. Jarvis had had a meeting about footpaths with Suffolk Coastal District Council where all the following points had been pointed out to them:-

- 1 – Path on Rockstone Lane, which at the moment is unpassable, should be cleared and checked.
- 2 – Path above Further Hill Farm should be cut back
- 3 – Path joining road near Brook Farm
- 4 – Path from School Lane to the Meadows will be inspected to see what can be done to improve walking conditions. Cllr. N. Jarvis said that one possible solution is to put in a raised walkway and drainage.

Cllr. N. Jarvis reported that all the paths are being walked by the hikers group and that any further points are being reported back to the council. It was also noted by Cllr. N. Jarvis that he had cut and trimmed the path and hedge by his house and cut and trimmed back the hedge. He had also cut the green and bank in front of Cookley notice board and cut the hedge at the playing field.

Trees

Cllr. Z. Mair said that there was nothing to report. Cllr. M. Porter asked if the trees by the roadside could be cut back as wing mirrors were being hit by the trees.

Cemetery:

The Clerk reported that he had received payment for the requested headstone and for the interment that had taken place recently.

It was also agreed to keep the prices unchanged.

CEA & Allotments:

Cllr. Z. Mair reported that Cookpole Energy Action (CEA) had played a supportive role in the Flower and Produce Show and had loaned out the electric bikes from time to time. The CEA was also focusing on the Winter Craft Barns on November 14th and 15th. Cllr. Z. Mair said that all the stalls for this annual event have now been booked out to both returning and new crafts people.

Cllr. A. Thomas reported that there had been 120 entries at the Flower and Produce Show and many children had entered with the quality being very high. Cllr. A. Thomas said that the Chair of Suffolk Coastal District Council, Cllr. Susan Harvey, had spent much time at the show and that many photographs had been taken. Cllr. A. Thomas reported that she did not know yet how much money was raised. The Chair congratulated Cllr. A. Thomas and all involved with the Allotments on a very good day.

External Meetings & Training:

Cllr. Chase said that he had still not been on a new Councillor Course. The Clerk said that he may like to look at the Suffolk Association of Local Council's Website and to look at their training information.

Matters of Information from Members:

Cllr. Z. Mair said that the Former Councillor Bill Camplin had cycled the length of the Danube and had been caught up in the Refugee Crisis from Syria.

To receive agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting to be held on October 20th 2015:

It was agreed that Cllr. A. Thomas would contact the Attic's Deputy Head to invite someone to speak to the Council in October.

It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Flagship for a spokesperson to speak to the Council in November.