

KNODISHALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON November 18th 2015

PRESENT : Cllr Lister – Chair, Cllr Wigg, Cllr Staff, Cllr Baly, Cllr Read, Cllr Mayhew, Cllr Pipe, Clerk J Harrison, SCC Cllr Smith, 6 Member of the Public

1. **APOLOGIES** – PCSO Maples, SCDC Cllr Jones & Haworth-Culf
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – Cllr Mayhew,– Item 7
3. **MINUTES** – of meetings held on October 21st 2015. It was proposed by Cllr Read seconded by Cllr Pipe and agreed by the Parish Council to accept the Minutes of the last meetings, with the adjustment to remove payment to F Masters.

4. CLERK'S REPORT AND MATTERS ARISING

- a) The Clerk had emailed and telephoned Holmes for confirmation of a date for the pond work.
- b) A thank you letter was sent to Mr Cassidy for his help fixing the zip wire.
- c) The clerk sent a further email and letter to Flagship reference Hillcrest, and had requested that Cllr Haworth-Culf involve further members of SCDC
- d) A key was sent to the owner of the Ebenezer Chapel to allow access only
- e) Mr Brewell has taken over allotment No.1 and has been sent a contract. Two ½ allotments are available.
- f) The Police Report had been received 1 offence of driving motor vehicle with excess alcohol and one of theft (copy with main minutes)

5. PLANS

None received

6. KNODISHALL COMMON

Cllr Wigg and the Clerk had met with Susan Smith from Suffolk Wildlife on 2nd November to identify areas to be cleared. Community Payback had begun work on the 15th November and will continue for 3 weeks (optional extra week). Work was commencing well and Cllr Wigg was overseeing the work. The clerk had sent photographs of the proposed work to the willows to Matthew Ginn of Natural England he had responded 'that nothing that was planned goes against the requirements of the agreement and leaving the Poplars would not breach the agreement.' It was agreed to pollard the three large willows + others which are considered dangerous and remove the dead tree which is outside the HLS area, and pollard the smaller trees next year. This was proposed by Cllr Wigg, Seconded by Cllr Staff and agreed by Council. Cllr Wigg has obtained a caravan chassis and with the help of Mr Pipe hopes to make a fire sledge for the Council.

7. CLEANERS WAGES

The Clerk stated that the current minimum wage was £6.70 and that this would rise to £7.20 in April. It was proposed by Cllr Read and Seconded by Cllr Staff to increase the rate of pay to £7.20 in April.

8. NEW CLERK

The Clerk had advertised the position; at present only one interested party had come forward, but had not sent a CV. Clerk to continue to advertise.

Cllr Mayhew asked that Item 10, be taken before item 9, this was agreed by the Chairman

9. PRECEPT FOR 2015/16

The Clerk had prepared a draft budget which had been distributed to the Council before the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Mayhew and seconded by Cllr Pipe and agreed by Council to accept the budget, but to await the SCDC budget decision before setting the precept at the next meeting.

10. PLAY AREA

The Play Area report had been received, it identified several areas requiring repair. The most important being rotten posts on the balance beam and bridge. Clerk to obtain quotes for repair. £3,000 had been allocated in the budget for repairs; Cllr Mayhew felt that this level should be maintained for several years with the works being carried out in stages.

11. EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr Staff is working on the areas of responsibility, and will include in the newsletter a request for contacts so a pyramid of people can be identified so in case of emergency the alarm can be raised, and the plan put into action.

Cllr Kerridge arrived at the meeting

12. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Wigg mentioned the supply of water on the allotments, point to be raised again when SCDC Councillors are present

Cllr Pipe asked if the textile bank was required – item for December agenda

Cllr Read stated that Mr & Mrs Smith from the Methodist Hall asked if a bollard could be put over the new bollard in the dark to make it more visible – Cllr Staff to obtain tape.

Cllr Staff showed a notice which had been put on a car visiting a resident in Old School Road, stating that parking was private – this is not a private parking area.

Cllr Mayhew attended the Festival of Remembrance and said how many people attended

Cllr Kerridge raised the issue of the HiVis jackets, and asked if a bus shelter could be put opposite the existing one.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

Email received from Friston Parish Council reference Handyman

Ltr from Galloper reference drop in sessions

Ltr from SCDC – new scheme of delegation for deciding planning applications.

Ltr from Mr Lowry with petition – trees on the Common

14. FINANCIAL

The Clerk had prepared a copy of the Financial Statement showing the Council's financial position on 18TH November 2015. Proposed by Cllr Read, seconded by Cllr Staff.

The Parish Council agreed to pay the following

- Hall Hire 17.00
- H Mayhew – Wages 163.20
- J Harrison – Salary 223.50
- (PAYE – DD) 56.00
- Playsafety 103.20
- Barnes 13.34
- TBRL – Poppy Wreath 17.00

The meeting was closed 8.20pm

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SCC Cllr Smith apologised for missing last month's meeting. SCC had just released the draft budget for the next 2 years, savings of 73M needed to be made; this will include using 14M from reserves however this should be repaid by savings in future years. £470M is spent in Suffolk each year, £200m on frail/elderly & £100M on vulnerable young people this being a statutory duty. There will be no increase in Council Tax next year or year after and has been frozen since 2010. Cllr Smith will include that Knodishall is looking for a new clerk in pieces he writes for the Leiston & Aldeburgh newsletters.

Mrs Cassidy stated that Cllr McHardy was in Ipswich Hospital if the Council would like to send a card.

Mr Lowry said that the petition had taken a long time to collect, and was pleased the poplars would remain, but asked if all the willows proposed needed to be done at once. Cllr Wigg stated that the 3 Willows earmarked were dangerous and needed to be done this year, and the dead tree needed to be cut down. Mrs Cassidy mentioned the trees at Thorpeness Meare which are regularly pollarded and grow back very quickly.

Mr Fletcher was pleased that the poplars would not be removed and asked how long they would remain. Cllr Wigg stated that EDF may remove them as they are near the electric wires, if they become a problem.

