

KNODISHALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 14th 2016

PRESENT: Councillors J. Staff, C. Lister, J Mayhew, J Pipe, J. Read, G Smith, The Clerk J.O’Hear, SCC Cllr. Smith, 3 Members of the Public

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllrs G. Baly, A Wigg, SCDC Cllrs. TJ Haworth-Culf & Maureen Jones
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – None for December – Cllr. Mayhew duly signed the Register for November, which is now up to date.
3. **MINUTES** – of meeting held on November 16th 2016.
Following amendment of community defibrillator research suggestion from Cllr Read to Cllr. Staff, November minutes proposed by Cllr. Lister and seconded by Cllr. Pipe and agreed by the Parish Council to accept the Minutes of the last meeting
4. **CLERKS REPORT AND MATTERS ARISING**
 - As requested, to acknowledge the various village contributions made by the Plymouth Brethren in 2016, the Clerk had sent a message of thanks from the Parish Council.
 - Cllr Wigg has been booked on the Scattered Orchards January tree and shrub pruning workshop.
 - Following last month’s salary review, the Autumn Budget means that the minimum hourly wage will increase to £7.50 per hour.
 - The Clerk has received detailed latest electronic and hardcopy Sizewell C Stage 2 Consultation updates which are available on request.
 - The Clerk shared some preliminary research into organizing a community defibrillator for Knodishall. This included administrative and legal requirements plus potential costs and available funds. Given the relative complexity of matters to consider, not least the cost as The East of England CoOp financial support scheme has ended, it was agreed to agenda the matter for January’s meeting. SCDC Cllrs. TJ Haworth-Culf and Jones have indicated that they would explore grant availability and SCC Cllr. Smith advised that following receipt of a comprehensive cost breakdown, he would consider a grant of up to £500 from the Locality Budget - but that this would need to be submitted by March 23rd 2017.
5. **PLANNING**
 - Ref: DC/16/4839/LBC – Like for like replacement of existing casement windows to first floor at Billeaford Hall, Sloe lane, Knodishall – approved by all councillors.
 - Ref: DC/16/4618/FUL – Application for construction of a two storey extension at rear of 4 Burchs Close, Knodishall, IP17 1XG - the Potential Referral of Planning application to SCDC Planning Committee approved by the parish council as a consultative trigger point has been raised.
 - Ref: DC/16/5152/FUL – Erection of one pair of semi-detached two-storey dwelling houses on land to rear of 29 Leiston Road, Knodishall – refused by council on basis of loss of required parking space for neighbouring properties.
6. **PLAY AREA**

Cllr. Mayhew advised that meetings with potential suppliers were being organized to review their quotes for the required in more detail. Hopefully these would be ready for discussion at the January meeting.
7. **COMMON**

The meeting was advised that the first phase of the annual winter gorse clearance was successfully completed and the Community Payback team would return in January for a second phase. The Clerk advised that Sodexo was still providing this work free of charge and that the portable toilet would be removed until the commencement of the second work phase.

A second detailed quote from Sean Wright Tree Services for the required tree pollarding was circulated by Cllr. Staff and the Clerk was instructed to request a similarly detailed quote from WJ Berry & Sons Ltd before commissioning the work to start as soon as possible after Christmas and New Year.

The Clerk reminded the meeting that the annual HLS Capital Works Claim needed to be submitted by March 1st 2017 and that clarification of what work was eligible was needed. Given the current lack of clarity on this and also accurate pesticide record keeping, it was agreed that the Clerk would investigate Capital Works categorization within the HLS Agreement by following up with Susan Stone of Suffolk Wildlife Trust as soon as possible in early January.

8. MATTERS RAISED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS

- Cllr. Smith reported that rubbish collection from outside the Village Hall was increasingly erratic. The Clerk will follow up with SCDC and SCN about this.
- Cllr. Staff advised that he would review and identify which bins on the Common need repairing and/or moving. Cllr. Pipe added that the bin on Fitches Lane also needs repairing.
- Cllr. Staff asked the Clerk to report faded/missing white lines on the cycle path in front of the garage on Leiston Road.
- Cllr. Lister asked the Clerk to post grateful thanks to the recent “mystery” clearers of the village verges and footpaths.
- Cllr Pipe suggested that some or all of the large digital portfolio of photos of Knodishall being collated by the Local History Group would enhance the Parish Council website. Following unanimous agreement, she will liaise with Clerk about publishing them over the next few months.
- Cllr. Smith advised with apologies that due to being overseas he would be unable to attend the next two Parish Council Meetings – i.e. January and February 2017.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- Information about the potential merger of SCDC and Waveny was circulated and has been posted on the website.
- The Clerk shared a promotional letter from SCN promoting its grass cutting services and it was agreed that a quote for the grass areas around the Village Hall and the Common Pond area should be requested.
- A promotional request for posting a link to a new local job search site was rejected because of the potential to link to other inappropriate connections and advertising.

10. CLERK’S MONTHLY HOURS

Following a review at the November meeting, in order to fulfil the current extended scope and responsibilities of the function, it was agreed to increase the employed monthly hours of the Clerk to 40 from December 2016.

11. 2017/18 PRECEPT

The revised Precept submission for 2017/18 of £13,952.13 was proposed by Cllr.Lister and seconded by Cllr. Smith.

12. FINANCIAL - The Clerk had prepared a copy of the Financial Statement relating to due payments. This was proposed by Cllr. Pipe and seconded by Cllr. Bay. The Parish Council agreed to pay the following:

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| • DD Hall Hire | £17.00 |
| • H Mayhew Wages | £172.80 |
| • J O’Hear Wages | £320.80 |
| • Premier Toilet Hire (VAT £5.40) | £32.40 |
| • Barnes Rocher (£5.83) | £34.97 |

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak after which the public meeting was closed at 8.47 pm

REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

From SCC Cllr. Richard Smith:

- The SCC draft budget is now undergoing scrutiny prior to official confirmation of County Council grants. Expected required SCC savings of £46 million will mean using reserves of £10-12 million to balance the accounts.
- It is worth responding to the Sizewell C Consultation by the closing date of February 3rd 2017 not least because of the potential impact of significant road changes and the influx of a large number of contract workers to the local area.
- Cllr. Smith wished Knodishall residents and Parish Council a very Merry Christmas.

Contributions from Members of the public

Ms Pat Cassidy expressed extreme concern about regular anti-social parking in Post Office Road, which urgently needs better control. Is it possible for the Parish Council to support some improvement? Cllr. Staff suggested placing no parking signs in strategic places but pointed out that unfortunately the Parish Council has no official remit as it is a police and SCC matter.

Regarding the increasingly dilapidated Play Area equipment, Ms Cassidy suggested that if it is too expensive to repair then perhaps it should be removed, Also is any relevant funding available from SCDC?

