

KNODISHALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 21st 2016

PRESENT: Councillors J. Staff, G. Baly, C. Lister, J Mayhew, J. Pipe, J. Read, The Clerk J.O'Hear, SCC Cllr. Smith, 4 Members of the Public

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr Wigg, SCDC Cllr. TJ Haworth-Culf

2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** –None

3. **MINUTES** – of meeting held on August 17th 2016.

Proposed by Cllr. Baly seconded by Cllr. Pipe and agreed by the Parish Council to accept the Minutes of the last meeting

4. **CLERKS REPORT AND MATTERS ARISING**

- The Clerk has booked to attend the SALC Budget Workshop on October 6th ahead of preparation of the half yearly accounts and 2017-18 precept setting process.
- SCC is outsourcing management of onesuffolk parish council internet provision to Community Action Suffolk and an annual charge of £50.00 plus VAT will be payable from November 1st 2016. As this is a very short time period in which to assess alternative competitively priced web management providers, in the short term this may be continuing – however the Clerk will monitor options before a final decision is made at the October parish council meeting.
- Citizens Advice in Leiston has requested a £200.00 donation towards the support of its free local advice service provision, The Clerk will add this to the February 2017 KPC meeting agenda for approval.
- The AONB Scattered Orchard application for donated trees for Knodishall has been submitted. Cllr Wigg will continue to liaise with AONB regarding appropriate planting areas.
- In response to complaints by local residents about the increasing flood risk to their homes, the Clerk has followed up verbally and in writing with the Environment Agency about the overdue Hundred River inspection and weed clearance. The EA has promised to review and schedule an inspection in early October. The Clerk will continue to monitor.
- The Clerk advised that there is no longer a requirement to report ragwort sightings on the Common or Play Area to Natural England as it is now acceptable to apply herbicide by weed wiping or spot treatment.

5. **PLANS**

Planning application Ref: DC/16/3550/FUL to replace garage flat roof with pitched roof and continue over existing garden shed at 27 Hawthorn Close, Knodishall, IP17 1XW was reviewed by Cllrs and duly approved.

6. **HILLCREST ROAD AND PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE**

As recent written responses from SCC Highways and Flagship continue to deny ownership or duty of care responsibility for the neglected road and pavement maintenance in Hillcrest, SCC Smith agreed to make some further enquiries within SCC and the Clerk will do the same within SCDC.

7. **COUNCILLOR VACANCIES**

- In accordance with statutory electoral requirements, the Casual Vacancy process created by the resignation of Cllr. Kerridge has been activated and anyone interested in standing for election has until October 13th to notify the Clerk.
- Following the close of the electoral period following the retirement of Cllr McHardy, Graham Smith of The Travis, Mill Road, Knodishall, IP17 1YS was duly co-opted onto the parish council.

8. **ALLOTMENTS**

- The Clerk advised that the annual allotment land rent would increase from £320 p/a to

£350.00 (rounded down from £320.69) and would continue to be administered by Bidwells LLP (www.bidwells.co.uk) on behalf of The Ogilvy Family Trust

- Cllr Read proposed that the annual rent for the individual allotment plots be increased from £35.00pa to £36.00pa and a half yearly rent should be set at £19.00. This was seconded by Cllr. Baly and duly agreed. The Clerk will draft renewal notification letters which will be distributed by Cllr Read.

9. **COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN**

Cllr Staff advised he has now submitted the completed Community Emergency Plan to Keith Fawkner Simpson from the Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Unit as required

10. **COMMON MANAGEMENT**

- Cllr. Lister requested that the Clerk should contact Sodexo to arrange the recruitment of a Community Payback team to help with the winter Common clearance and maintenance work. The Clerk to follow up, including arranging a porterloo.
- Cllr. Baly queried whether the Common has Higher Level Stewardship status and this was confirmed by the other councillors

11. **MATTERS RAISED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS**

- Cllr Staff reported that the installation of the 2 new fido bins meant the now spare smaller bin in Judith Avenue could be usefully relocated. Cllr Read offered to manage this.
- Cllr Lister requested that the Clerk contact Leiston Town Council to arrange for the jointly purchased mobile traffic control equipment to be made available for use in Knodishall. He also reported that the bench donated by Plymouth Brethren as part of the Queen's 90th Birthday event had now been installed and asked the Clerk to send a thank you note to Ian Flint.
- Cllr Mayhew reported that the repairs to the Play Area woodwork were ongoing.
- Cllr Pipe reported that the recently installed folding bollard on the Methodist Hall track was working well. She also thanked everybody who had helped with the recent Newsletter delivery and asked for undelivered copies to be returned to her.
- Cllr Staff reported that the collection for retired councillor Ulyth McHardy was continuing and would be presented to her shortly. He also suggested that unless any objections were raised, he would advise Mr Ds Chalk that the Parish Council had no objection to him installing additional drainage at the rear of 1 Stone Cottages, Knodishall to prevent flooding of his property from the road and local driveways. No objections were made.
- Cllr. Lister commented that he thought the recent Devolution Survey was much too long and therefore both the public response and result were inconclusive..

12. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Copies of East Suffolk Partnership annual forum and East Suffolk Priority Action circulated
- Suffolk Police Public Meetings schedule and Safer Neighbourhood report circulated.
- Housing Planning Survey results distributed
- The Clerk notified that the SCDC Draft September Ward Report had been received from Cllr. Haworth-Culf

13. **FINANCIAL** - The Clerk had prepared a copy of the Financial Statement relating to due payments. This was proposed by Cllr. Lister and seconded by Cllr. Baly.

The Parish Council agreed to pay the following:

• DD Hall Hire	£17.00
• H Mayhew Wages	£172.80
• J. O'Hear Wages	£223.86
• J.O'Hear - postage expenses	£15.36
• Came & Co – KPC annual insurance	£681.17
• Robert Cassidy – Play Area repairs	£237.60
• Barnes Rocher – printer ink	£36.06
• CDC Blowers – village grass cuts x 3	£1674.00
• Leiston Press – September Newsletter	£85.00

- Michael D. Easy – grass/vegetation cut £75.00
- John Bridges (Replaced cheque #102106) £190.00

The meeting was closed at 8.35 pm and the Chairman invited members of the public to speak although no contributions were made.

REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

From SCC Cllr. Richard Smith:

- The reduced SCC budget for next year will mean cuts to services but the minimum requirement of £46 million would be found from reserves and council tax will be frozen.
- SCC cost cutting is and will affect service provision resulting in outsourcing such as the onesuffolk web management to Community Action. Independent providers have to charge to cover their costs.
- Parish councillors should remember that there are still available funds in his locality budget for certain local purchases – e.g. towards the cost of a village mower.
- While the Devolution poll result was inconclusive he would be voting against another tier of government.

At a meeting with Suffolk Police Commissioner Tim Passmore, he had stressed that the reduced funding of PCSO resulting in the 18.00 hour scheduled end of all PCSO shifts was insufficient and unreasonable.

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