

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8TH MAY 2018 AT 7.30PM  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT- Mr P. Mortimer, Chairman, , Mr P.Twiss. Mrs D. Fowler, Mrs S. Hatchman

District Councillor Lavinia Hadingham

2 members of the public

APOLOGIES -Mr P Schwier, Mr T. Godbold, Mr C. Osborne.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None

1.ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN - The vote was unanimous. Mr Mortimer took the Chair. Proposed Mr Twiss, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mrs Hatchman.

The resignations of Mr Williams and Mrs Glaysher were noted. A letter of thanks will be written to them both. An advertisement for new councillors by co-option will be placed on the noticeboards.

2. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS - The following were appointed- proposed Mr Mortimer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr Twiss

Vice Chairman – this will be deferred until the July meeting

Internal Auditor – Ms Wendy Abbott

Tree/footpath Warden - This will be discussed at the next meeting

Responsible/Proper Officer – Mrs Silvester, Clerk

3. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS 2017/2018 - these were approved. (proposed Mrs Fowler. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mrs Hatchman)

4. MINUTES – The minutes for the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018 were approved and signed.

5. MATTERS ARISING

The matter of Data protection regulations for Parish Councils is being brought to Parliament. Therefore the matter is ‘on hold’ for the time being.

The Clerk has emailed Guy McGregor about the highways issues raised at the Annual Parish Meeting. No reply as yet.

6. PLANNING– Application No. DC/18/01452 -Land to south side of Christmas Lane  
Erection of two dwellings, cartlodes, access and landscaping.

The applicant introduced the application and explained that pre-application advice had been sought and was favourable. He knew there were problems with the drainage ditches and undertook to see these were resolved before building commenced.

Councillors looked at the plans and largely approved the scheme, Concern was raised by one councillor over the number of entrances onto Christmas Lane that would result. They also agreed that the problem of the road flooding would need to be resolved. Clarification was also needed as to where the water from sewage digesters would go.

The Application was approved but with the reservations above. The Clerk will put these to MSDC.

Application no. DC/18/01950 6 Honeymoon Row. Replace windows and paint external render.

Councillors had no objections to this application provided the scheme is in keeping with the other cottages in the row.

Application no. DC/18/01942 – Cherry Tree Farm Metfield – Timetable for demolition of temporary structure. Extension of time from 1 year until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018

Councillors strongly objected to this proposal. A vote was taken and 3 councillors were against and there was 1 abstention.

Permission for this building was only given provided it was removed after 1 year. There has been a great deal of disturbance during the rebuilding which has impacted on the neighbouring properties. Councillors felt that this condition of planning permission should be upheld.

#### 7. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR LAVINIA HADINGHAM

Mrs Hadingham reported that the move to Endeavour Houses in Ipswich has potentially saved £5.8 m in running costs. There has been investment in projects such as revitalising Stowmarket Town centre and other projects.

MSDC's part of the Council tax will increase by 0.5% but this is only 10% of the total household tax bill.

Housing remains a priority and 98 new homes will be provided by 2021.

Mrs Hadingham gave the Clerk the Annual Report Summary.

#### 8. FINANCE

a. The following Annual Payments were approved Proposed Mr Twiss, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr Mortimer

SALC subscription – £179.08

Insurance - £390.90

Donations – £30 -SARS

£150- towards the upkeep of churchyard

£200 -Donation towards free carparking in Harleston

£150 – MSDC for dog and waste bin emptying

Also approved were payments –

£50 -Mr T Scholey -maintenance

£50 – Mr T Horton - maintenance

b. AUDIT DOCUMENT – As expenditure and receipts are under £25000 we are exempt from an Audit. The Exemption Certificate was signed by the Chairman and Clerk. The Governance Statement was completed and signed.

c. The Accounting statements were completed and signed by the by the Chairman and Clerk.

An advertisement for a new clerk will be placed in 'Sixth Sense' and on village noticeboards.

#### 9. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Metfield United Charities – Mr T. Beckwith and Mrs S. Hatchman were approved as Trustees for another 3 year Term.

The Cemetery gates will be removed and the posts repaired.

The Clerk, Mrs Silvester told the meeting she is resigning from the role. An advert will be placed in Sixth Sense, on the website and on noticeboards together with that for Co-opted Councillors.

Mrs Silvester will give any help required by the new clerk during the transition period.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018 Meeting closed at 9 pm

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018 AT 2PM IN  
THE VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT – Mr P. Mortimer, Chairman, Mr P. Twiss, Mr T. Godbold, Mr P. Schwier, Mr C. Osborne, Mrs S. Hatchman.

1 member of the public

Declarations -None

1. Deed of Easement Document for Access to Street Farm.

The owner explained to the meeting that the buyers of Street Farm required this easement to be signed before purchase. It will give a continued right of access on foot over the village green and the continued right to drive over the small strip in front of the driveway.

Councillors walked to the village green to see the land to which the document referred.

On returning to the hall, Councillors agreed to sign the deed of Easement. This was signed by 2 councillors and witnessed.

2. Trees on Meadow.

Councillors agreed to the trimming of some trees on the Meadow to allow ease of mowing. The Chairman will contact Paul Godbold about this.

3. The Chairman is to contact Suffolk County Council about the lack of action concerning the hedge on the Fressingfield Road and the drainage on Skinners Lane and Christmas Lane.

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018 AT 7pm IN THE  
VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT – Mr P. Mortimer, Chairman, Mr P. Twiss, Mr C. Osborne, Mr T. Godbold, Mrs S. Hatchman, Mr P. Schwier.

1 member of the public

DECLARATIONS-None

1. APPLICATION NO DC/18/02396 -Land adjacent St Johns Cottage, Skinners Lane,

The Applicant showed the plans to Councillors and explained the reasons for changes to the original approved plans. These have had the result of making the house slightly higher, but the roofline will now accommodate solar panels. However, the overall length and depth remain the same.

Councillors were concerned that the design was plain and that the front windows could overlook the houses opposite. A suggestion was made that the addition of a chimney could make the roof more interesting.

The applicant pointed out that these windows were bathroom and landing windows and could be of obscured glass.

When put to the vote, councillors agreed to the plans. However the Clerk was asked to add the comments that the front windows be of obscured glass and perhaps a chimney be added.

2.The Chairman told the meeting that he had contacted Mary Evans a County Councillor about our concern over the lack of action by the Highways department concerning the water on the road on Christmas Lane and Skinners Lane. Also the hedge outside 'The Gable' has still not been cut back.

The Chairman said Mrs Evans is looking into our complaint.