

Minutes of the BRUISYARD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Thursday, 15th November 2007, at 7.30 in the Vestry, St Peter's Church, Bruisyard.

Present: The Clerk, Peter Robinson (Chairman), Jeremy Holland-Howes, Oliver Hitchcock, Eleanor Berwick, Margaret West, David Smith (Secretary of village hall committee), Thelma Barham, John Gibb, Paul Church, Nicola Able, John Marten, Robert Smith (Architect)

AGENDA

1) Apologies for absence:- Councillors Jeremy Holland-Howes, Shirley Smith, John McKee, District Councillor Colin Hart and Keelan Smith sent their apologies

2) Minutes of the last meeting:- The minutes of the last meeting had already been circulated and read. Eleanor Berwick proposed that the minutes for the meeting held on 18th September 2007 be accepted and Peter Robinson seconded this proposal. All were in favour.

3) Matters arising:- there were no matters arising

4) Village Hall planning application and Stage 2 application to Big Lottery Fund:-

David Smith the secretary to the village hall committee was pleased to inform the meeting that Suffolk Coastal District Council granted planning permission for the village hall on 13th November. The application did not go to the Planning Sub-Committee as anticipated. To speed up the planning process the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the committee agreed to delegate the decision making to the planning officers. Philip Ridley and Paul Coffey of the planning department negotiated with Environment Agency the conditions they would require for the Council to grant permission for the hall. These conditions are listed in the planning permission.

The granting of planning permission was greatly helped by Colin Hart lobbying on our behalf at a leaders meeting the previous week. He got the support of the Leader of the Council, Andy Smith who has also worked hard on our behalf. Andy Wright the community development officer at Suffolk Coastal has supported the application on the grounds that every village should have a community centre.

Without the above help the planning permission would not have been granted until December which would have meant missing the Big Lottery Fund's deadline of 30th November.

The Stage 2 application has been sent to the Big Lottery Fund electronically today and the hard copy will be posted tomorrow.

The architect Robert Smith and members of the Village Hall Committee who are not Parish Councillors left the meeting.

5) Financial Matters:- a) Margaret West proposed that £52.87 be paid to Geoff Rogers for the cutting of the hedges round the Park, Oliver Hitchcock seconded this proposal and all agreed. A cheque from the Barclays account was duly written and signed. It was noted that Geoff Rogers carried out a very satisfactory job on the hedges and also cut down all the scrub in the ditch.

b) Peter Robinson attended a village hall conference with a workshop on how to raise money for work on village halls. Eleanor Berwick proposed Peter Robinson be

reimbursed the £5 fee for attending the conference, Margaret West seconded this proposal and all agreed. A cheque from the Barclays account was duly written and signed.

c) Peter Robinson proposed that Suffolk Coastal District Council be paid £36.37 for the lease on the land at Rendham Road, Oliver Hitchcock seconded this proposal and all agreed. A cheque from the Barclays account was duly written and signed.

d) The clerk had prepared a budget for the members showing that the minimum outgoings in the next financial year would be £1,380 excluding all work relating to the village hall. This figure did not allow for any capital spending. The Parish Council's estimated reserve at the end of this financial year will be £1,200. The Clerk will email the list of the precept received by all parishes in the Suffolk Coastal District. The members agreed to defer setting the level of precept until the meeting in January.

6) Highways:- The clerk has contacted the Highways Department requesting 'Unsuitable for HGV' signs to be erected at both ends of Low Road. An onsite inspection will be carried out and a decision as to whether the signs are appropriate or not will be made. Margaret West informed the members that one sign for Mill Lane had disappeared and the other had fallen over. The clerk will ask the Highways for replacements.

7) Affordable Housing Survey:- The Members agreed to carry out a Housing Needs Survey, with the help of Suffolk Acre at the May meeting but decided to delay implementation until November. The survey questionnaire drawn up by Suffolk Acre has 3 parts to it. The first asks for details of household's present accommodation, the second section asks for residents opinions as to what development is appropriate in the village and the third section is to be completed only by those who have housing needs or have family members associated with the village with needs. There are 76 households in the village. Margaret West volunteered that her company is willing to donate all the stationery necessary for the survey i.e. printing questionnaires and covering letters and supplying the necessary envelopes. She was thanked for this kind offer by the other members as it will save the Council between £40 and £50.

The clerk will contact Nigel Brett of Suffolk Acre asking him to attend the next meeting if possible. She will modify the questionnaire specifically for Bruisyard residents and prepare a covering letter to go with the questionnaire.

Advance notice of the survey will be publicised on the website and in the parish newsletter.

8) Date of Next Meeting:- 22nd January 2008

9) Miscellaneous Items:- The Chairman noticed that the collection time of post from the post box in Bruisyard had changed and on investigation was told that Bruisyard is now classed by the Post Office as a Deep Rural community and as such will have postal collections anytime between 9am and 4pm. This information is not on the post boxes as yet. These changes will be advertised in the next newsletter.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:40 and thanked the PCC for the use of Vestry.