

**Minutes of the BRUISYARD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING and AGM held on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2004, at 7.30 in the Vestry, St Peter's Church, Bruisyard.**

**Present:** The Clerk, Mr Peter Robinson, Mrs Shirley Smith, Mr Jeremy Holland-Howes, Mr John McKee, Mrs Eleanor Berwick, Mrs Margaret West and Mr Oliver Hitchcock.

**AGENDA**

**1) Election of Chairman:-** The clerk asked the members for nominations for Chairman. Mrs Eleanor Berwick proposed that Mr Peter Robinson be elected Chairman. Mrs Shirley Smith seconded this proposal and all were in agreement and Mr Peter Robinson was duly elected Chairman. The clerk asked the members for nominations for Deputy Chairman. Mr Peter Robinson proposed that Mrs Eleanor Berwick be elected Deputy Chairman. Mrs Margaret West seconded this proposal and all were in agreement and was duly elected Deputy Chairman. Mrs Eleanor Berwick, Mr Peter Robinson, Mrs Margaret West, Mr Jeremy Holland-Howes and Mrs Shirley Smith agreed to sit on the planning sub-committee. Mr Peter Robinson took the chair.

**2) Apologies for absence:-** There were no apologies

**3) Minutes of the last meetings:-** The minutes of the last meetings had been already circulated and read. Mrs Margaret West proposed that the minutes for the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2004 be accepted and Mr Oliver Hitchcock seconded this proposal. All were in favour.

**4) Matters arising:-** there were no matters arising

**5) Co-option of a new Councillor:-** Mr John McKee has agreed to serve as a Parish Councillor. Mr Peter Robinson proposed the members co-opt him to serve as a Parish Councillor and Mrs Eleanor Berwick seconded this proposal. All were in favour. Mr John McKee duly signed a declaration of acceptance and joined the other members.

**6) Planning Matters:-** The revised plans for the proposed function room at the Bruisyard Hall Barn were examined by the members and the changes to the windows were noted.

**7) Parish Meeting:-** The parish meeting will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> May when the Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Committee, Mr David Smith will give a presentation to those present on the Parish Plan. Mr David Smith has made a request for an overhead projector or a power-point projector in order to deliver the presentation. Mr Oliver Hitchcock will enquire if the one he has used is available for that date. The Chairman will ask Mrs Joan Naylor if the church can be used for the meeting in order to accommodate more people.

**8) Assigning leaders for actions highlighted in Parish Plan:-**

1. Mr Jeremy Holland-Howes will contact the education department to inform them of the survey's findings and ask if the catchment area for Bruisyard can be amended.
2. Mr Peter Robinson will chair a social amenities committee set up to investigate the possibility of building a village hall and supply play equipment for younger children in the Parish Park. Mr John McKee, Mr Roger Kindred, Mrs Eleanor Berwick and the Clerk also volunteered to sit on the committee. Other members will be recruited at the Parish Meeting

3. The Parish Plan Steering Committee will send the results of the survey to the CEO's of Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council.
4. The Parish Council has already liaised with the river authorities to ensure regular dredging of the river is carried out to minimize the risk of flooding.
5. The Clerk will brief Pc Miller with the survey findings and invite him to the next meeting.
6. The Clerk will contact the Primary Care Trust to express concerns about the lack of dental treatment provision.
7. John McKee will lead on affordable housing provision.
8. Relevant extracts will be sent to SCDC Planning department to be included in their planning document.

**9) Highway Matters:-** The resurfacing of Mill Lane was scheduled to be carried out between 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May necessitating the road to be closed for 2 days. The work is being carried out at the present time.

Following enquires made by Council, they have received a letter detailing the improved access to public footpath 22. Mr Peter Robinson asked the Clerk to request the addition of gravel to the path as it goes behind Oak Cottage.

The Suffolk's Rights of Way improvement plan has been received and given to the Councillors to circulate.

**10) Financial Matters:- a)** Allianz Cornhill Insurance – Mrs Margaret West proposed that the sum of £292.46 be paid to Allinanz Cornhill Insurance for insurance to cover the Council for 2005/2006. Mrs Eleanor Berwick seconded this proposal and all were in favour. A cheque was written and signed for payment.

**b)** SALC subscription –Mrs Shirley Smith proposed that the sum of £103.40 be paid to SALC for the subscription for 2005/2006. Mrs Eleanor Berwick seconded this proposal and all were in favour. A cheque was written and signed for payment.

**c)** A letter of thanks has been received from Suffolk Accident Rescue Service for the donation the Council granted them at their last meeting.

The East Anglian Air Ambulance has asked the Council for financial support for the coming year. It was agreed that they met the Council's charity donation criteria and Mr Peter Robinson proposed a sum of £15 be paid to East Anglian Air Ambulance. Mr Oliver Hitchcock seconded this proposal and all agreed. A cheque was written and signed for payment.

Aldeburgh, Leiston and Saxmundham Volunteer Centre have requested financial support for the coming year but the members felt they did not benefit all members of the community and they would not support them this year.

**d)** The financial report for 2004/2005 had already been circulated and studied. The value of the items listed in the supporting statement had been increased to the replacement and insurance values and it was agreed the listed value of the sign would cover the cost of replacing the new sign. Mr Jeremy Holland-Howes proposed that the financial report be accepted and Mrs Shirley Smith seconded this proposal. All were in favour.

**e)** Mr Peter Robinson proposed that the Clerk should be paid for 3 hours work a month at the rate of £6.95/ hr starting from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006. Mrs Margaret West seconded this proposal and all were in favour.

**11) Parish Park:-** The Chairman has request a quote from CDC Blowers to cut the Pound area as well as the Park. The park has had one rough cut so far this year.

Mr Peter Robinson has fixed brackets to the notice board by the Park for Mrs Sue Williams to hand flower baskets. Mrs Williams will supply the baskets and the flowers and keep them watered. The Members expressed their thanks for this service.

A very successful litter pick in the Park and the rest of the village was held on 24<sup>th</sup> April with Suffolk Coastal District Council removing all the collected rubbish. Following this Mr David Barham reseeded the grass on the area where the spoil from the ditch had been spread. He will make no charge for this service and the Members expressed their thanks to him.

Mr Peter Robinson has mended the hole in the hedge of the Park with wire and netting donated by the Clerk. The Clerk will request plants from the Parish Tree Scheme to replant this stretch of hedge in the autumn.

Mr and Mrs Ian Berwick have offered to donate 3 waste bins to be placed in the Park. This offer has accepted and they are thanked for their generosity.

**12) Dates of Parish Council Meetings:-** Parish Council meetings will be held on the following dates:- 19<sup>th</sup> July, 20<sup>th</sup> September, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2006, 14<sup>th</sup> March and the AGM and Parish Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May.

**13) Any Other Business:-** There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:15 and thanked the PCC for the use of Vestry.

The District Councillor, Mr Colin Hart addressed the meeting with his annual report.

The major issue facing the District Council again this year is how to balance the budget, with costs rising the increase from central Government does not make up the difference, leaving over £1 million gap on a budget of £12 million even with 4.9% increase in the share of council tax. This gap has been closed by making savings and implementing efficiencies, hopefully without a reduction in services. The two areas Mr Hart is responsible for, community grants and investment in information technology, remain unaffected.

Finance will still be a major challenge in the year to come. Another challenge will be waste management, with determination to increase recycling rates and reduce the amount that goes to landfill. A major review is under way on how to achieve this which will involve parishes.

Mr Hart has been involved in the fight to get the one stop health centre in Saxmundham having had two meetings with the Chairman and Chief Executive of the Primary Care Trust. Unfortunately the PCT is heavily in debt and refuses to countenance the scheme while it remains the case.

The other issue facing the ward is the Parham airfield wind farm application and in his mind the issue is as simple one: is the need for these turbines so great that it is worth disfiguring the landscape and damaging the quality of life of people living so close to it. His answer is a clear 'no' and he will do everything to urge officers and fellow councillors to reject the application.

A discussion followed on the way the garden waste bins were distributed and the lack of consultation as to who needed to have one and the fact that it wasn't easy to have them removed. Mr Hart agreed the distribution was not as sensitive as it might have been.

Mr Hart continued his address to the members in his new capacity as County Councillor for the Framlingham ward, which covers 23 villages in the area.

The Conservative group, of which he is a member, now hold control of the County Council. They met for the first time that morning, when they made the following policy decisions:- recruitment of none front-line staff is frozen until a need is proven, money to be spent on services rather than top heavy administration, the intention of working more closely with district and borough councils to deliver better services and give better value for money and they would like to see an improvement in the relationship between central government and local government.

They plan a number of new initiatives:- dealing with anti-social behaviour, ensuring better care for older people in their own homes, increasing investment in roads, offering a broader range of after-school activities, freeing up council owned land for affordable housing and introducing a 20 mph limit outside schools.

He feels very honoured to be representing one of the loveliest parts of Suffolk and will do his best to represent the electors.

The Chairman thanked Mr Hart for coming and giving his reports.