

Minutes of the BRUISYARD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Tuesday, 17th November 2009, at 7.30pm in the Vestry, St Peter's Church, Bruisyard.

Present: The Clerk, Peter Robinson (Chairman), Margaret West, John McKee, Shirley Smith, Sonia Richards and Jeremy Holland-Howes

AGENDA

1) Apologies for absence:- Eleanor Berwick, Pc Mary Thompson and County Councillor Colin Hart.

2) Minutes of the last meetings:- The minutes of the last meeting have already been circulated and read. John McKee proposed that the minutes for the meeting held on 15th September 2009 be accepted and Margaret West seconded this proposal. All were in favour.

3) Matters arising:- Changes have been made to the conditions for hire and the booking form to reflect the views expressed at the last meeting. These documents have also been checked by Christopher Green, a corporate lawyer, and changes made to make them legally correct.

4) Village Hall Committee Report:- Since the last Parish Council meeting on 15th September, the village hall committee have met twice, on 7th October and 26th October.

a) Update on funding:- Total expenditure to date for the construction phase is £174,259 of which £16,859 has been paid directly by the Suffolk Environmental Trust to the contractors. The grant money received since the last meeting is £4433.26 from ScottishPower Green Energy Trust, £22530 from the Big Lottery Fund and £10,000 from Suffolk Coastal District Council. The remaining grant money yet to be claimed from the main funding bodies is as follows;

The Big Lottery Fund	: £45722
ScottishPower Green Energy Trust	: £5392
Suffolk Environmental Trust	: £10466

The grants from Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council have been received in full.

The total funds available in the village hall bank accounts on 17 November amount to £16,948.59. This figure includes donations received to date from residents of £980.

b) Construction update:- Since the last meeting, the cesspool has been installed, grading the ground around the building has been completed and the area turfed and seeded, and the footpath foundation completed. All tiling work is now finished and looks excellent. The kitchen units and appliances with the exception of the cooker hood have been delivered and installed. The air-source heat pump and solar storage vessel have been installed. The major construction work remaining is plumbing and installation of the sanitary ware, completion of the electrical installation, and final work on completing the footpath and car park area. This work remains on target for completion by the end of December. The orders for chairs, tables, glassware, kitchen utensils, fencing and field gate, hedging plants and shrubs have yet to be placed. Erection of the 3 rail fencing, 5 bar field gate and planting of the hedging plants and shrubs to comply with the planning consent conditions for the car park and leasehold agreement will be done by volunteers after the construction work has been completed by Simmons Builders. This should be done in January/February and will be publicised through the Bruisyard Newsletter asking for willing volunteers.

c) Premises Licence:- The application for a premises licence for the sale of alcohol, dancing, plays, music and films, was submitted to SCDC and the other relevant authorities on 20 October, and the public notice was displayed on the Parish Park notice board and published in the

November Bruisyard Newsletter. The application has been made under the new regulations applying to village halls in which the need for a Designated Premises Supervisor is no longer needed with the responsibility for supervising compliance with the licence being with the Village Hall committee. This is the first application to SCDC under this new regulation. The decision on granting the premises licence should be made in early December.

The Members were concerned that the alcohol licence ending at 10:30pm would put prospective hires who would like to hold a party in the hall. The clerk will confirm with the Secretary of the Village Hall Committee that it is possible to have an extension to the licence for these events.

5) Resignation of Councillor Shirley Smith:- Shirley Smith wishes to tender her resignation from the Parish Council for personal reasons with effect from the January meeting.

6) Financial Matters:- a) Payment to Simmons Builders Ltd:-

i) A cheque of £26,820.62 was issued from the Abbey Reserve account on the 10th October for work carried out in September. Margaret West proposed that this was in order and Sonia Richards seconded this proposal and all agreed.

ii) Simmons Builders Ltd has not tendered an invoice for the work carried out in October to date. John McKee proposed that their invoice be paid on receipt Sonia Richards seconded this proposal and all agreed.

b) Shirley Smith proposed that it was in order to have paid Essex and Suffolk Water £25.97 from the Abbey Reserve account to cover bill No 029. Peter Robinson seconded this proposal and all agreed.

c) Sonia Richards proposed that Suffolk Coastal District Council be paid £38.76 for the Licence for use of land at Rendham Road. Jeremy Holland-Howes seconded this proposal and all agreed. A cheque from the Parish Council's Barclay account was duly written and signed.

d) The invoice for the cutting of the grass in the Park by Norfolk County Services has not been received as yet. Margaret West proposed that the invoice should be paid on receipt. Shirley Smith seconded this proposal and all agreed.

e) Margaret West proposed it was in order to have paid Suffolk Coastal District Council £100 for the premises Licence from the Abbey Reserve account. Jeremy Holland-Howes seconded this proposal and all agreed.

f) Peter Robinson proposed to remove Oliver Hitchcock from the mandate of the Abbey account. John McKee seconded this proposal and all agreed.

g) David Smith, secretary of the Village Hall committee requested a petty cash fund. Shirley Smith proposed that the petty cash fund be set up with the £20 donation received this last month. This would enable the Parish Council to reimburse him from this fund for the purchase of a diary for the village hall. John McKee seconded this proposal and all agreed.

7) Adoption of telephone kiosk:- BT has invited Parish Councils to adopt, for £1, the telephone kiosks within their Parishes. The telephony facility would be removed and it is up to the new owners to decide what to do with the red telephone kiosk. Bruisyard's kiosk only had 21 calls from it in the last 12 months making it uneconomic for the phone company to maintain. From the information given by BT and Suffolk Coastal District Council it appears that if the kiosk is not adopted the telephony service will not be removed immediately. The only mobile service at that site is T mobile.

The Members agreed not to adopt the kiosk as they felt the upkeep would be too costly. No action needs to be taken.

8) Park:- a) The park has had a final cut for the year in the last two weeks. The contract for the cutting of the grass will be reviewed in the New Year. There may be changes required in the nature of the cutting as turf has been laid around the new village hall. John McKee offered to look after the newly turfed and seeded area of grass for the coming year. The other Members thanked him for this offer. 100sqm of turf was donated and the rest to be purchased at cost. The invoice for this has not been received as yet. Again the Members thanked John McKee for arranging this.

9) School catchment area survey:- Jeremy Holland-Howes has analysed the information from the school survey questionnaires. There are 15 households with children and 26 children in the village:-

6 children (23%) go to a school within the catchment area.

11 children (43%) go to a school outside the catchment area.

9 children (34%) go to a private school.

These figures are almost identical to the response to the questions on schools in the Parish Plan survey carried out in 2005.

On the question of changing the catchment area to the Framlingham High school catchment 14 of the households were in favour of the change and the other had no objections to the change.

Jeremy Holland-Howes has also calculated that the nearest primary school to Bruisyard is at Peasenhall and Thomas Mills High School in Framlingham is half the travelling distance for children than to Leiston High School – the present catchment area high school.

Jeremy Holland-Howes will write to the Education Authority to ask for the change of catchment area for Bruisyard to the Thomas Mills High School, Framlingham area using the survey as proof of strong support in the village for the change. He will point out that on average it will only involve 2 children per school year and that the children of Bruisyard in their present catchment area are not attending the closest schools geographically.

10) Date of next meeting:- 26th January . The dates for meetings for the year 2010 were fixed.

11) Miscellaneous Items :- The County Councillor, Colin Hart has money in the locality budget available. The Members agreed to ask him for £1000 towards the cost of the chairs for the hall. Shirley Smith has observed that the foot bridge on Church Road was overgrown with vegetation. The Clerk will contact Highways Department to ask for the access to the bridge to be cleared. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:40pm and thanked the PCC for the use of Vestry

Report from Colin Hart, the District and County Councillor

He reports that both District and County Councils are going to be under severe financial pressures for the foreseeable future. Given the state of the public finances Central Government grant is unlikely to increase and may even reduce. The District Council is therefore seeking to reduce costs by at least 20% over the next three years. It is hoped to achieve this partly by sharing services with Waveney District Council but the possibility of reduced service levels in some areas cannot be excluded and even the elimination of some services. Parish councils have all been invited to consultation meetings to offer their ideas on the options on cutbacks.

The County Council is under similar pressures. He is now Chairman of the Resources, Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee. In mid-December this committee will be looking at the proposed SCC savings for 2010/11. The proposed savings are likely to be in the public domain at the start of December.

The county councillor's locality budget is still available for 2009/10 and he invited the Parish Council to request funding for a project if required.

The position over the wind farm is that the planning permission has now expired. If the developer wishes to go ahead, the process has to start again from scratch with a complete new planning application. He considers this a highly satisfactory outcome and a victory for common sense.