

BOTESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 14 September 2015
at Botesdale Village Hall

Present: Cllr John Abraham Cllr Desmond Bavington-Lowe
Cllr William Sargeant (Chairman)

District Cllr Derek Osborne
County Cllr Jessica Fleming
2 Members of the Public

7.30pm The Chairman welcomed those present and opened the meeting.

1. **To receive apologies for absence.** Cllrs Mike Bishop and Ernie Baxter.
2. **Casual Vacancies in the Office of Parish Councillor:** There were no applications for the post of parish councillor (4 vacancies)
3. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 13 July 2015.** The minutes of the Meeting, circulated with the agenda, were agreed and signed.
4. **Members Declarations of Interests and Dispensations:** None.
5. **Public Forum:** 7.34pm RESOLVED, with all agreed, to adjourn the meeting for the public forum. The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.56pm.
6. **Planning:**
 - 6.1 **Planning Applications:** None.
 - 6.1.1 **Barn at Lodge Farm, The Common.** Ref. 2793/15. Prior Approval of Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to Dwellinghouse (Use Class C3), and for associated operational development. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to have no objection.
 - 6.2 **Notice of Intent to prune/remove tree(s) in the Conservation Area:** None.
 - 6.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions by Mid Suffolk DC:** None.
7. **Progress Reports:**
 - 7.1 Chairman: The Chairman had received a call about a wall which he had inspected and found to be in good repair.
 - 7.2 Clerk: None.
8. **Correspondence:**
 - 8.1 **MSDC:** The Gambling Act Consultation was noted.
 - 8.2 **MSDC:** The Licensing Act Consultation was noted.
 - 8.3 **MSDC:** The Affordable Housing Newsletter was noted.
 - 8.4 **Bowls Club:** The PC noted the request for support for a new mower and works to make the clubhouse more eco-friendly. It was RESOLVED, with all in favour, to make an s137 grant of £50 towards the projects.
9. **General Items:**
 - 9.1 **Christmas Event:** The PC RESOLVED, with all in favour, to accept the quote for £513.00 for the Christmas tree. The tree would be delivered on Friday, 27 November and Chris Burnard would be asked to hire a platform to put up the lights on Sunday, 29 November. The Lights On event would take place at 6.15pm on Saturday, 5 December. It was agreed to hold the school art competition.
 - 9.2 **Footpath Maintenance:** Some complaints had been received concerning the state of paths as side-growth had been rampant in the past two seasons and some paths were now partially blocked. It was noted that side-growth was the responsibility of the landowner and if landowners refused to cut back their hedges, SCC could serve notice on them but preferred to do it by co-operation. The Clerk

had been in contact with the SCC Rights of Way team and reported that SCC had put additional money into a programme of side clearance to be carried out over the Autumn/winter period.

- 9.3 **Walks Leaflet:** It was agreed to form a working party to take this forward. A request for volunteers for the working party would go in the parish magazine.
- 9.4 **Footpaths and Streams Project:** The clerk was waiting for more quotes for a new litter bin.

10. **Finance:**

10.1 **Account Balances:**

Current Account £ 21,270.50

10.2 **Accounts for Payment:**

| | | |
|----------------|------------|--|
| L Jackson-Eve | £ 285.37 | Sal/Exps Aug 15 |
| L Jackson-Eve | £ 1,919.71 | Reimbursement for deposit made for payment of July invoices |
| T Gaddis | £ 431.80 | Street Cln/Play Area/Grass cut Aug 15 |
| G Lawrence | £ 106.53 | Insurance for RBGNS volunteer drivers (1/2 with Rickinghall) |
| Harry Stebbing | £ 758.40 | Notice Board (1/2 with Rickinghall) |
| SALC | £ 15.95 | Parish Cllrs Guide for W Sargeant |
| Came & Co | £ 977.47 | Insurance Renew 01-10-15 to 30-09-16 |
| Botesdale VHMC | £ 71.00 | Hire of Village Hall April – Sept 2015 |

RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts detailed above.

11. **Councillors Reports:**

- Street Lighting: The light near the middle of Chapel Lane was covered by branches.
- PC Surgery: Cllr Bavington-Lowe would attend the surgery on 10 October.
- Village Hall: Anita Burnard had retired as booking secretary and William and Ursula Sargeant had taken over the job.

12. **Highways Issues:** The Clerk would follow up on the pothole in Chapel Lane and the H-marking at Warrens Lane.

13. **Welcome Pack:** None.

14. **Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council:** None.

15. **Next Meeting:** 12 October 2015

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.02pm.