

# BOTESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 12 December 2016  
Botesdale Village Hall

**Present:** Cllr John Abraham  
Cllr Ernie Baxter  
Cllr Ken Liddle  
Cllr Caroline Stratford

Cllr Desmond Bavington-Lowe  
Cllr Mike Bishop  
Cllr William Sargeant (Chairman)

District Councillor Derek Osborne  
County Councillor Jessica Fleming  
Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.
2. **Casual Vacancies:** None.
3. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 14 November 2016.** The minutes of the Meeting, circulated prior to the meeting, were agreed and signed.
4. **Members Declarations of Interests and Dispensations:** None.
5. **Public Forum:** 7.32pm RESOLVED, with all agreed, to adjourn the meeting for the public forum. *District Cllr Osborne reported that Alberts Close in Rickingham had been "de-sheltered" and there would no longer be a visiting warden. County Cllr Fleming reported that a combined Norfolk-Suffolk deal was not now going ahead. Suffolk County Council voted on 23<sup>rd</sup> November to continue to explore possibilities for Suffolk following rejection of a combined proposal by King's Lynn and West Norfolk Council on 21<sup>st</sup> November. The Chief Veterinary Officer had declared a Prevention Zone to help protect poultry from a strain of Avian Flu in Europe. This required keepers of poultry and other captive birds across England to keep their birds indoors, or take appropriate steps to keep them separate from wild birds. The government had sponsored a new digital project to provide better information to large vehicle operators which would include updated Ordnance Survey based mapping linked to SatNav. There was an added cost to access the full data and it would need input from local sources to improve accuracy. Residents were urged to use the Highways reporting tool to tell SCC about faulty streetlights, empty grit bins or any other problem on the highway.* The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.38pm.
6. **Planning:**
  - 6.1 **Planning Applications:** None.
  - 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 been unable to contact the Post Office representative and therefore had no further information about the PO in the villages. He had attended the Suffolk Association of Local Councils' Mid-Suffolk North meeting which had focussed on the County Council draft budget and the development of the Local Plan at the District Council. A handbill had been circulated in the parish magazine advertising the Neighbourhood Plan meeting on 18 January at 19:30 in the Rickingham Village Hall. The Christmas tree had been delivered on 25 November and decorated that weekend. The tree was smaller than the size ordered and the Clerk had negotiated a reduction in price. The Chairman thanked Chris Burnard for help with placing the tree, hiring the mobile platform, arranging the electrical connection and inspection and assisting with the decoration of the tree. He also thanked Cllr Bishop for securing the Gislingham Silver Band and performing host duties at the Lights-On event.
  - 7.2 **Clerk:** The Clerk reported that the new footpath leaflets were available.

## 8. Correspondence:

- 8.1 **MSDC:** The PC received the consultation on street naming methods and a proposal for parish councils to each send in a list of potential street names to streamline the process. The PC agreed that names were often very local in nature and there were unlikely to be any which would be appropriate for all locations. It was noted that parish councils could continue to offer names on an ad hoc basis if they wished.
- 8.2 **Suffolk Police:** The PC noted that a review of the service was underway.
- 8.3 **Pre-School:** It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to give £300 to the Pre-School for new fencing around their woodland area.
- 8.4 **Streams and Footpaths:** It was noted that work parties continued and some work was planned to remove a tree from the main stream.
- 8.5 **Gislingham Silver Band:** It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to give £150 to the Gislingham Silver Band towards replacing their hut with a new hall. This was also an acknowledgement of their playing at the Christmas Lights-On event.

## 9. General Items:

- 9.1 **Play Area:** The Clerk had prepared some examples of play equipment to note the variety and prices. This would be discussed further in January along with some form of local consultation. Cllr Baxter and the Clerk had been in touch with J Foulger about the swing chains and bushings and he had agreed to get prices.
- 9.2 **Christmas Event:** It was noted similar arrangements to previous years were being developed to support the Christmas Eve visit from Father Christmas. There would be a working party to erect the grotto at noon on Christmas Eve and the Clerk would give out flyers at school and erect posters to advertise the event. It was agreed that donations would go to the Health Centre.
- 9.3 **Footpath Map Display:** It was noted that Rickinghall PC had concerns about people sitting on a lectern style display and had asked the Clerk to get quotes for an upright information board.
- 9.4 **Neighbourhood Plan:** The proposal from residents to develop a plan was noted and the Clerk had put the "Roadmap Guide" to NPs on the website along with an advertisement for the meeting in January.

## 10. Finance:

10.1	<b>Account Balance:</b>	£ 33,288.31	
	<b>Income:</b>	£ 280.80	MSDC – Cleansing Grant
		£ 1.82	Bank Interest
10.2	<b>Accounts for Payment:</b>		
	L Jackson-Eve	£ 569.67	Sal/Exps Nov 16
	T Gaddis	£ 122.55	Street Cln/Play Area Dec 16
	Redgrave Parish Magazine	£ 35.00	Neighbourhood Plan Insert
	MSDC	£ 165.25	Footpath Leaflet printing
	Elveden Farms Ltd	£ 535.20	Xmas Tree 15ft
	C Burnard	£ 126.00	Hire of hydraulic lift

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

- 10.3 **Budget 2017/18:** This would be agreed in January.

## 11. Councillors Reports:

- **Barwoods:** It was agreed to ask Barwoods to produce signage for Millers Orchard similar to Northfield Woods and Low Meadow.
- **Public Rights of Way:** The steps near the new house at the end of Bridewell Lane needed a handrail on both sides (currently only on right side).
- **War Memorial:** The PC agreed that the Clerk would pursue getting the memorial listed.

12. **Highways Issues:** None.

13. **Welcome Pack:** None.

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

15. **Next Meeting:** 9 January 2017

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.58pm.