

# BOTESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 11 April 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)

County Councillor Jessica Fleming  
Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve  
1 Members of the Public

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

1. **Apologies for absence.** None.
2. **Casual Vacancies in the Office of Parish Councillor:** None.
3. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 14 March 2016.** The minutes of the Meeting, circulated with the agenda, were agreed and signed.
4. **Members Declarations of Interests and Dispensations:** None.
5. **Public Forum:** 7.32pm RESOLVED, with all agreed, to adjourn the meeting for the public forum. *County Cllr Jessica Fleming reported on the Community Bus - the new service arrangements would come into effect on 13th June 2016 and the Rickingham & Botesdale Good Neighbour Scheme would continue to provide service more or less unchanged. Grass Verge Cutting - Suffolk Highways would commence the first of two cuts on the A and B road network in May and take around two weeks to complete. The second cut would be in July. C and U road verges would receive a single cut beginning around 6th June and would take around six weeks. Details and updates could be found at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/grass-cutting](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/grass-cutting). Weed-spraying would commence during April and be repeated in August. Recycling - Garden waste composting items were available at discount from [www.getcomposting.com](http://www.getcomposting.com). Devolution – A proposal had been drafted to include Local Enterprise Partnerships with Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk and Suffolk. The positions of the relevant local authorities regarding the proposal and regional elected major was not yet resolved and public consultation was expected over the summer period. Background to the project could found in a 2012 Report by Lord Heseltine entitled 'No Stone Unturned in the Pursuit of Growth': [www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-stone-untuned-in-pursuit-of-growth](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-stone-untuned-in-pursuit-of-growth). The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.40pm.*
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:**
    - 6.3.1 **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. PRIOR APPROVAL GIVEN.
    - 6.3.2 **Land to the rear of Osmond House, The Street, Botesdale.** Ref. 0319/16. Erection of 3no. dwellings, shared carport; parking & turning. Retention of boundary walls and gazebo. PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED.
    - 6.3.3 **Osmond House, The Street, Botesdale.** Ref. 0320/16. Retention work to boundary wall to form vehicular access in association with erection of 3no. dwellings, shared car port and parking & turning area. Listed Building Consent GRANTED.
7. **Progress Reports:**
  - 7.1 **Chairman:** The Chairman had attended a SALC Executive meeting which discussed the work SALC did for other county associations. He had received a

request from the Greyhound PH for a later switch-off time for nearby street lights, which it was agreed to request from SCC. He had also received a suggestion for a car park at the south end of the play area with new access. This would be considered during future discussions of the play area.

- 7.2 **Clerk:** The Clerk reported that SCC had been out to dig a test hole on the bank near the Blue Orchid and there were as yet no results reported.

## 8. Correspondence:

8.1 **Suffolk Constabulary:** It was noted that Suffolk Constabulary had undertaken a review of local policing and changes had been made. There would no longer be a regular police presence at parish council meetings but they would attend where there was a specific issue that required discussion and would attend Annual Parish Meetings where possible. There would be a new form of monthly reports which would cover the whole of the SNT area (Stowmarket) rather than just the parish, and would be available on the Constabulary website, [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk).

8.2 **MSDC:** The Town and Parish Council Newsletter was noted.

8.3 **UK Power Networks:** It was noted that UK Power Networks provided a free Priority Services Register for those who needed more support in the event of a power cut, e.g. residents with a disability, were blind or visually impaired, were chronically sick, dependent on medical equipment or had young babies. It was agreed to put contact information in the parish magazine.

## 9. General Items:

9.1 **Tree Work at Play Area:** The recent tree work had highlighted the need for further work to two horse chestnut trees. The council was advised that there were a significant number of damaged, broken and rotting limbs visible in the canopy and a further quote for £560 was received. It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to ask advice about tree work at this time of year but otherwise to accept the quote. The council had also been advised to pollard the lime trees down to 25' at a cost of £680 but it was agreed to delay any further work.

9.2 **Payment of Grant funding:** The Council RESOLVED, with all agreed, to make the following payments from its 2016/17 budget, leaving a balance of £445:

Botesdale Village Hall	£1,000	s133 LGA 1972
RBR PCC	£ 600	Churchyard Maint s214(6) LGA 1972
Rickingham Day Centre	£ 110	s137 LGA 1972
Royal British Legion	£ 65	s137 LGA 1972 (wreath)
Barwoods	£ 50	s137 LGA 1972
Botesdale & Rickingham NHW	£ 30	s137 LGA 1972

It was noted that funding for the Remembrance Ceremony and wreath would be paid closer to the date and other grants paid in May.

9.3 **Streams and Footpaths Project:** It was noted that modifications to raise the water level had been carried out by a nearby landowner and it was agreed to leave them in place and monitor the results. The PC reaffirmed its support for the work done by the Project.

9.4 **Neighbourhood Plan:** The Chairman had written to Rickingham PC to get its views and this would be considered further on receipt of a reply.

9.5 **Annual Parish Meeting:** The traffic survey results would be available as a handout.

## 10. Finance:

10.1 **Account Balance:** £20,083.10  
**Income:** £ 280.80 MSDC Street Cleaning Grant

### 10.2 Accounts for Payment:

L Jackson-Eve	£ 826.59	Sal/Exps Mar 16 / Hol OT 15-16
T Gaddis	£ 242.55	Street/Play Area/Grass Apr 16
HMRC	£ 89.40	PAYE Quarterly Pmt (Jan-Mar 16)
Redgrave Parish Magazine	£ 130.00	Ad in Parish Mag for 12 months
Society of Local Council Clerks	£ 49.67	Annual Subscription 2016-17

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

10.3 **Quarterly Budget Report:** The report for Jan – Mar 2016 was noted.

11. **Councillors Reports:**

- **Playing Field:** A working party would meet at the playing field on 30 April at 10am to do any necessary small jobs.
- **Public Rights of Way:** SCC had completed the programme of side clearance and installed a new railing at the footpath entrance on Bridewell Lane.
- **Tree Warden:** Cllr Liddle agreed to be tree warden.
- **War Memorial:** Cllr Baxter had tidied away the wreaths.

12. **Highways Issues:** The Clerk would ask SCC to sweep Bridewell Lane from Farnish House to The Bridewell due to mud on the road.

13. **Welcome Pack:** None.

14. **Items for the next meeting:** None.

15. **Next Meeting:** 25 April 2016 (Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm)  
9 May 2016 (PC Meeting)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm.