

BOTESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 8 February 2016
Botesdale Village Hall

Present: Cllr John Abraham
Cllr Ernie Baxter
Cllr William Sargeant (Chairman)
Cllr Desmond Bavington-Lowe
Cllr Mike Bishop
Cllr Caroline Stratford

Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve
4 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:** One prospective candidate, Ken Liddle, was considered by the Council. It was RESOLVED unanimously to co-opt Mr Liddle, who was invited to take his seat on the Council.
3. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 11 January 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:** 7.33pm RESOLVED, with all agreed, to adjourn the meeting for the public forum. *Dog fouling was discussed and a request was made for a no dog fouling sign to be erected on the footpath at the bottom of Fen Lane. The Clerk reported having recently attended a training session which focussed on ways of dealing with dog fouling and other inconsiderate behaviours. There would be a full report at the March meeting. Another resident noted that large lorries were breaking up the road surface on Mill Road South/The Common from Lodge Farm to Slough Road. This would be reported to the County Council.* The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.45pm.
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 attended a SALC Board meeting focussing on the relationship with NALC and the effect of the proposed devolution of Norfolk and Suffolk at county level. He had circulated notes of a meeting with Rickingham PC and MSDC planning development officers to discuss development in the villages. He had received some feedback that not all copies of the parish magazine had contained traffic survey forms, but that the survey had raised significant interest. There was also a lot of interest in the possibility of the soap-box derby being held again.
 - 7.2 Clerk: The Clerk reported a very good number of responses to the traffic survey and confirmed that the results were unlikely to be ready before the April meeting.
8. **Correspondence:**
 - 8.1 **SCC:** The Clerk would email a working link to everyone.
 - 8.2 **MSDC:** It was noted that the Community Infrastructure Levy would be in effect from 11 April. It was noted that councils with a Neighbourhood Plan would receive 25% of the CIL rather than 15% and it was agreed to discuss drafting a Plan at the March meeting.
 - 8.3 **MSDC:** The Town and Parish Council Newsletter was noted.
 - 8.4 **Big Lottery:** It was agreed that the information about an event on 1 March concerning funding for small organisations would go on the notice board.
 - 8.5 **Harrod UK:** It was agreed to enter the Sad Goalpost competition and Cllr Bishop would take a "sad" photograph at the playing field.

8.6 **Trading Standards:** The PC noted the information about where to sign up for the Trading Standards Bulletin.

9. **General Items:**

9.1 **Footpaths and Streams:** There were a number of requests from the Footpaths and Streams working group. The Chairman would talk to the landowner about a dead tree which had fallen across the top stream and the Clerk would write to the landowner about the state of the wooden fence that defined the boundary between the meadow and the footpath. It was also agreed to invite the Community Payback Team over for a session of gully re-defining and ditch clearance to deal with flooding problems. It was noted that sessions with the CPT had a daily fee of £70 around two years ago and it was agreed that a similar figure was acceptable. Finally, it was noted that a bonfire session would be needed at the end of March.

9.2 **Annual Parish Meeting:** It was agreed to hold the meeting at 7pm on Monday, 25 April. It was noted that the deadline for reports would be 15 April. The provisional theme would be the results of the traffic survey but councillors would consider other topics before the March meeting.

9.3 **Annual Newsletter:** It was agreed to have the theme of traffic issues and it was noted that the deadline for reports would be 15 April.

9.4 **Internal Audit Review:** The Chairman would carry out the review.

9.5 **Street Lighting:** At the January meeting, the PC had agreed to go ahead with plans to replace lights 4, 6 and 8 (on The Street) as per the schedule from SCC and light 15 (on Bridewell Lane opposite the junction of Chapel Lane), which was not on the schedule. The cost of light 15 had been confirmed as £1,589.50 and it would not require road closure. However, SCC had questioned whether the grass bank was "maintainable highway" and had suggested that the light be moved across the road. Light 14 (on Bridewell Lane at the junction of The Street) could not be replaced on the soffit of Mill House due to the increased weight of the new lanterns and it had been suggested that a new column could be installed close to the existing location. The Clerk had arranged a meeting at 11am on 24 February to discuss these issues with the SCC lighting engineer and councillors were encouraged to attend.

9.6 **Tree Survey:** It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to accept the quote for £610 from CC Tree Services to do the tree work identified by the recent survey.

10. **Finance:**

10.1 **Account Balance:** £ 22,157.26
Income: £ 280.80 Transparency Code Fund

10.2 **Accounts for Payment:**
L Jackson-Eve £ 415.54 Sal/Exps Jan 16
T Gaddis £ 764.54 Street Cln/Play Area up to Feb 16
RBR PCC £ 35.00 Traffic Survey Flyer in Parish Magazine
Realise Futures £ 52.25 Printing Traffic Survey Flyer
RESOLVED, with all agreed, to approve payment of the accounts detailed above.

11. **Councillors Reports:**

- Public Rights of Way: The railings at FP 4 (Bridewell Lane) had still not been repaired. The Clerk would follow up.
- War Memorial: It was noted that the wreaths would be left on the memorial until April. The Clerk would arrange cleaning.

12. **Highways Issues:** There were some potholes on the B1113 to be reported.

13. **Welcome Pack:** Two for Cllr Sargeant.

14. **Items for the next meeting:** Dog Fouling, Soap-box Derby and Neighbourhood Plan.

15. **Next Meeting:** 14 March 2015

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.