

BOTESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held Monday, 10 December 2018
Botesdale Village Hall

Present: Cllr John Abraham
Cllr Ernie Baxter
Cllr David Green
Cllr Caroline Stratford
Cllr Des Bavington-Lowe
Cllr Victoria Curry
Cllr William Sargeant (Chairman)

Parish Clerk – Leeann Jackson-Eve
County Cllr Jessica Fleming
2 Members of the Public

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Chris Lambert and Greg Russell
2. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held 5 November 2018.** The minutes, circulated prior to the meeting, were agreed and signed.
3. **Members Declarations of Interests and Dispensations:** None.
4. **Public Forum:** Cllr Fleming reported that the application for the new roundabouts at the A140 Eye had been submitted. Winter preparations were underway, including a new grit bin policy and securing drivers and local contractors to respond to harsh conditions. She wished to remind everyone to report defects, drainage problems or dangerous winter road conditions using the reporting tool on the Highways website followed by a phone call to Customer Service, then to her. She also requested parents to let her know if they experienced problems with changes to the new school transport policy as it starts to phase in for the following school year. Finally, she reported that MSDC had put aside funding for two additional PCSOs.
5. **Planning:**
 - 5.1 **Planning Applications:**
 - 5.1.1 **Box Tree Cottage, Cherry Tree Lane.** Ref. DC/18/04856. Planning Application - Erection of an extension to form additional living accommodation (amended scheme to that approved under planning permission DC/18/01821). For noting only as extension to deadline not granted.
 - 5.2 **Notice of Intent to prune/remove tree(s) in the Conservation Area:** None.
 - 5.3 **Notification of Planning Decisions/Appeals by Mid Suffolk DC:** None.
 - 5.4 **Neighbourhood Plan Update:** The Consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Plan was underway, starting with three launch events in November. The deadline for comments was 21 December.
6. **Progress Reports:**
 - 6.1 **Chairman:** The Chairman reported that the police crime map reported two crimes in Botesdale and Rickingham. There was a significant amount of mud on The Common where construction was taking place.
 - 6.2 **Clerk:** None.
7. **Correspondence:**
 - 7.1 **SCC:** The PC had been asked to consider street light programming over the Christmas/New Year period and it was agreed to follow the SCC option to leave Part Night lights on all night on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.
 - 7.2 **MSDC:** The Housing Strategy Consultation was noted.
 - 7.3 **MSDC:** The information about PC precepts and tax base was noted.
 - 7.4 **Mid Suffolk CAB:** It was noted that funding was now being phased out rather than withdrawn and would be reduced by 50% next year. It was agreed to consider the request for funding in April.
 - 7.5 **Enchanted Cinema:** The availability of a mobile cinema was noted.

7.6 **NHS Suffolk:** The availability of the GP+ service, offering evening and weekend appointments at various locations in Suffolk, was noted and would be publicised in the parish magazine.

8. General Items:

8.1 **Roadworks:** It was noted that a large pothole in a Back Hills passing place had become at least 9" deep and several feet long, causing damage to cars. However, because it was at the edge of the road and in a passing place, it was subject to different criteria from regular potholes and SCC did not consider it a priority. For this reason and due to its position on the route to the health centre and the school, it was felt that an exception could be made allowing the PC to fund work that should be carried out by SCC. It was therefore RESOLVED, with all agreed, to accept the quote for £1,524.90 for filling the pothole in the Back Hills passing place and cutting drainage grips on the north side of the road. The Clerk would confirm whether a guarantee would be available for the work.

8.2 **Play Inspection Reports 2018:** These would be considered further in January.

8.3 **Play Area Consultants:** The PC noted the information from Play England. The Clerk also reported that help might be available from Groundwork East and it was agreed to pursue this before considering a commercial organisation.

8.4 **Christmas Events:** It was RESOLVED, with all agreed, to donate £50 to Gislingham Band for the lights on event, in addition to the collection on the night. Thanks were extended to Chris Burnard for help with the tree and lights. The lights on event had been well attended.

8.5 **Disposal of Council property:** The PC approved the disposal of a filing cabinet which was no longer needed by the Clerk.

8.6 **VAS:** The November data was noted.

9. Finance

9.1 **Account Balance:** £38,954.46
Income: £ 306.15 MSDC Street Cleaning Grant

9.2 Accounts for Payment:

Admin Payments	£	736.76	Not itemised due to GDPR
Street Sweeping etc.	£	146.12	St Clean/Play Area/VAS Dec 18
SALC	£	61.80	Cllr Training – V Curry
Gislingham Silver Band	£	120.00	Remembrance Day
M Bishop	£	60.00	Remembrance Day
TBS Ltd	£	44.40	Xmas Tree barriers Nov
Mobile Jet Wash – R Womack	£	70.00	Play Area Surface Clean

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

9.3 **Draft Budget 2019-20:** The draft budget for 2019-20 would be considered further at the next meeting.

10. Councillors Reports:

- **Playing Field:** It was agreed to ask Tim to clip the ivy on the roadside fence.
- **PRoW:** Cllr Lambert had sent the Clerk a list of ploughed-over fields and these had been reported to SCC. One reported in October had already been reinstated.
- **SALC/Parish Liaison:** Cllr Sargeant had attended SALC AGM on 6 Nov and SALC Mid Suffolk North meeting on 5 Dec.
- **Village Hall:** Cllr Sargeant had given notice to leave his many roles on the VH committee. The VH committee were considering adding a safety light to the front of the building.
- **Website/Facebook:** The Clerk asked for ideas/photos/etc for Facebook.

11. **Highways Issues:** None.

12. **Welcome Pack:** One for St Catherines.

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

14. **Next Meeting:** 10 January 2019

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 pm.