

Minutes of Great Bealings Parish Council meeting held at the Bealings Village Hall at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 17th November 2015.

Present: Charles Barrington (Chairman), Colin Hedgley, Martin Cripps, Mrs Sally Johnson, Paul Norris, Anthony Shepherd, John Carter-Jonas

In attendance: Mrs Dee Knights, Clerk to the Council; Mr Will Self

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Eric Barnett

2. Declaration of Members' Interests in any items on this Agenda

There were no interests to declare

3. To approve the Minutes from the Meetings held on 1st September and 29th October 2015

These were approved and signed as a true record

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

War Memorial – Charles Barrington is still progressing this

5. Report by District Councillor Colin Hedgley

- Cllr Hedgley reported that SCDC have decided not to charge its residents extra money for collecting waste from brown bins. This decision will be reviewed annually, depending on affordability.
- The Suffolk Public Sector Leaders believe that Suffolk should offer to take up to 200 Syrian refugees who will predominantly be settled in the Ipswich area.
- Suffolk and Norfolk's proposals re devolution have been presented to Government. If these are accepted - they will be developed further.

6. Planning

DC/15/4279/FUL – Bridge House, Lodge Road, Gt Bealings – Alterations and extensions to bridge house, including new cart lodge garage

Mr Self explained to Councillors the outline of his plans for this property and said he will be retaining the two trees at the front.

It was **RESOLVED** that this application be supported as the trees will be retained.

7. River Lark Embankment

Charles Barrington read an email from the owner of Orchard House in which he provided details of further reports and reviews that he has commissioned. Mr Barrington will reply to this asking the owner to provide copies of these reports to the Environment Agency.

8. Neighbourhood Plan Update

Charles Barrington explained that the WG are hoping to get an 8 week public consultation underway from 1st December. The draft has been amended slightly, although not its basic structure. SCDC have been extremely supportive in all matters relating to the NP. He will send the draft to Cllrs before 1st December and invite comments. A leaflet will be sent to every household in the Parish and a copy of the Plan will be sent to all businesses in the Parish. The final draft will be formally submitted to SCDC after the consultation has ended.

9. Highways

- (i) Hasketon Road – The Clerk read a letter received from a resident of Hasketon Road about the traffic problems on that road, in particular HGVs. Cllrs discussed these problems which had previously been raised last year. It was regretfully decided that there was no easy solution to this matter. Mr Barrington will reply to the letter on behalf of the PC.
- (ii) Other Highways matters – Lodge Road up to the Rosery Farm boundary has still not been attended to. This has been reported to SCC. Martin Cripps reported that the gulleys are blocked again on Boot Street, by the hump-back bridge. The Clerk will report this to SCC.

10. Finance

1. The following cheques were authorised; proposed by John Carter-Jonas and seconded by Paul Norris:

Chq No	Payee	Description	Amount £
424	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.11.15)	November salary	137.91
425	HMRC (dated 06.12.15)	November PAYE	33.69
426	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.12.15)	December salary	137.40
427	HMRC (dated 06.01.16)	December PAYE	34.20
428	Mrs D P Knights	Office expenses	16.99

2. The draft budget for 2016/17 had been circulated to Cllrs. A sum of £150 has historically been allocated across the same four local charities, but it was suggested that the residents of the Parish should be consulted as to which local charities they would like us to support. A request for ideas will be put in the next Benefice News. The proposed budget for £4500 was accepted by the Council, proposed by Colin Hedgley and seconded by Martin Cripps.
3. The report of the External Auditor was read to the Council. The only item which was highlighted was an error from previous years which was corrected for 2014-15. It was proposed by Colin Hedgley and seconded by Martin Cripps that the audit report is accepted.
4. Bank Reconciliation- this showed that the second half of the precept had been received and was signed by Charles Barrington

11. Risk Assessment

This draft document had been issued to Councillors and the Chairman asked if there were any comments. A discussion arose over the use of the words “Existing procedures adequate” and a substitute was agreed. The final version will be circulated to everyone and comments will be required within seven days, otherwise it will be deemed that it is accepted. The Standing Orders should include a provision for the Risk Assessment to be reviewed annually.

12. Emergency Plan

Anthony Shepherd has attended an SCC Emergency Planning Conference and has some templates to work on. He has also signed up to SOS Watch. He now needs to draft a Plan and will need volunteers to help compile some of the required information that will need to be included in the Plan.

13. Dates of Meetings for 2016

The following dates were approved:

Tues 12th January

Tues 8th March

Thurs 12th May (APM and AGM)

Tues 5th July

Tues 6th September

Tues 8th November

14. Correspondence

- (i) Scheme of delegation of deciding planning applications – notification of the new scheme has been received from SCDC and Colin Hedgley gave a further explanation – if we object to an application, we have the right to have it referred to the Planning Committee but must be prepared to state our reasons.
- (ii) Suffolk Constabulary – a letter has been received from the Chief Constable explaining why police officers will no longer be able to attend Parish Council meetings. Colin Hedgley has advised Cllrs that Gt Bealings will now come under the Woodbridge SNT and he has asked them how information will be relayed in future. The Clerk has been contacted by our new Police Constable Karen Clabburn and she will be arranging a meeting shortly with her and Charles Barrington. Colin Hedgley said he would also like to attend.

15. Any Other Business

- (i) Trees – John Carter-Jonas has been doing some research into the provision of more trees and an approach has been made by a local nursery who is selling off some stock. However, these are still quite costly. It was decided to put this matter on hold until after the Neighbourhood Plan is published. A suggestion was made for an additional sum to be put in the budget, thus increasing the precept, for tree plantation. It was proposed by Paul Norris and seconded by Anthony Shepherd that the precept is increased next year by £100 for this purpose.

- (ii) Community Defibrillator – A discussion was held on the feasibility of providing a defibrillator for the parish. It was agreed that it was a good idea in principle, but not very practical, although the Village Hall would be the best place. The Clerk will write to Little Bealings and ask if they would be prepared to share the cost in principle only, as no costings have yet been calculated.
- (iii) Community Asset – Further to our unsuccessful bid, SCDC have said that there is no right of appeal, but a further application can be submitted providing there is further new evidence of community use. Charles Barrington asked all Cllrs to email him with any information they have so he can make a list of all previous community uses of the land to date.
- (iv) Broadband – Charles Barrington is waiting to hear from Phil Holmes – he will contact him.
- (v) East Anglia THREE – the letter which had been received referred to a map which was not enclosed. The letter referred to temporary construction compounds of up to 3700sq.m. but it was thought that this was a generalised provision which would relate to larger Parishes/Towns. The Clerk will request a copy of the map which will hopefully illustrate how large these sites will be.

The meeting closed at 8.50p.m.

Signed
Chairman