

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at Sutton St Edmund Village hall commencing at 7.00pm.

Cllr Ramkaran in the Chair.

In Attendance, Cllr Rogers, Cllr Morris, Cllr Watts, Cllr Coleman, District Cllr Seymour , County Councillor Webb and Mrs J Ripley Parish Clerk.

The Chairman read out Cllr Durston's resignation from Council.

**1) 80.13 Apologies:**

Cllr Marthews sent his apologies and council RESOLVED to accept them. PCSO Harrington also sent apologies.

**2) 81.13 Declarations of interest & dispensations in accordance with Localism Act 2011:**

None

**3) 82.13 The Notes from the last meeting:**

The notes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013 were taken as read, approved and signed by the chairman.

**7.03pm Cllr Coleman entered the room.**

**4) 83.13 Police Matters**

The problem of mud on the roads caused by farm traffic at this time of year was discussed.

**5) 84.13 Clerks Report**

All requested correspondence from the September meeting has been dealt with.

Council have successfully passed the 2013 External Audit.

The Visit to NLDIDB took place in October and was attended by two council representatives.

Councils Play inspection company, Digley Associates have gone into liquidation.

All Allotment rents are in for October.

**6) 85.13 Finance**

a. Payments for approval

Date	Payee	Ref	Item	Chq No	Net	VAT	Gross
19/9/13	Woodcock Ltd	T13	Gravel		£250.00	£50.00	£300.00
28/9/13	Mrs J Ripley	T14	Wages Sept		£208.92		£208.92
28/10/13	Mrs Ripley	T15	Wages Oct		£208.92		£208.92
26/11/13	LALC	T16	Training		£7.00		£7.00
26/11/12	Maples	T17	Allotment Rent		£375.00		£375.00
26/11/13	Mrs J Ripley	T18	Expenses		£120.10		£120.10
26/11/12	Mrs McKinnon		Litter Collection	100782	£120.00		£120.00
28/11/13	Mrs Ripley	T19	Wages Nov		£208.92		£208.92
28/12/12	Mrs Ripley	T20	Wages Dec		£208.92		£208.92
5/1/14	HM Cust & Rev	T21	PAYE		£156.60		£156.60
28/1/14	Mrs Ripley	T22	Wages Jan		£208.92		£208.92

28/2/14	Mrs Ripley	T23	Wages Feb		£208.92		£208.92
---------	------------	-----	-----------	--	---------	--	---------

Money In: SHDC- Grant for Gravel £300 Allotment rent £819

Council RESOLVED to make payments as put before them  
The Clerk handed out the 2<sup>nd</sup> ¼ bank reconciliation to the end of September 2013.

**7) 86.13 Correspondence**

- a. SHDC – Copies of meeting agendas and minutes
- b. Grant Thornton – Audit conclusion.
- c. E mail – Cllr Durston
- d. SHDC- Scrap metal law
- e. Marie Curie – Fund raising
- f. LALC- AGM Agenda
- g. Maples- Allotment rent review  
Copy to be sent to Mr J Castley
- h. LCC- Highways, Road Closures
- i. LCC – Library consultation update
- j. Parishioners e- mail – Bulk buying of electricity
- k. SHDC- Recycling
- l. Wicksteed Play – discount voucher
- m. LALC – News and training fees  
Cllr Coleman took news to read
- n. SHDC- Self- help Winter weather
- o. NALC – Council Tax Benefit Support Grant (item 16)

**7.23pm Cllr Webb entered the room**

**8) 87.13 To Discuss Playing Field**

**a. To Resolve on Annual Play area inspection**

Two quotes were discussed for annual Play area report, following the liquidation of Digley Associates. Council RESOLVED on FLP at £40 + VAT for 2014 provided they can provide a timed appointment to enable a councillor to be present.

**b. To Resolve on council inspections of play area**

Council RESOLVED to inspect play area monthly through the winter.

Cllr Rogers – December

Cllr Morris – January

Cllr Ramkaran – February

Cllr Coleman – March

**9) 88.13 Highways**

- a. Update on outstanding matters

Luttongate has been temporarily patched and is down for topdressing in the 2014 budget year. Temporary Road Closure of New Fen Dyke for one week during period of 1/12/13 to 30/12/13 for resurfacing work.

- b. New Matters to report

Junction of Chapel Rd and Hallgate a very deep dangerous dip in the road surface, Clerk to report.

**10) 89.13 Planning:**

- (a) The Clerk read out a brief report on applications and appeals received.

**Consultation:**

H019-0728-13 Mr C Winch, Eye Farm, Broadgate  
Replacement dwelling (circulated)

*Council supported this application*

H19-0811-13 Mr M Sands, Smiths Farm, Gaunockgate  
New dwelling (circulated)

*Council supported this application*

**Approval :**

H19-0595 Bernard Matthews, Gedney Hill Farm, Luttongate Road  
8 Biomass heating plant rooms

H19-0811-13 Mr M Sands, Smiths Farm, Gaunockgate  
New dwelling

**Refusal:**

H019-0728-13 Mr C Winch, Eye Farm, Broadgate  
Replacement dwelling

**Enforcement Notices:** None

**Appeals:**

The Wind Venturer appeal has been turned down. Hopefully the 6 week period to appeal to the High Court has now passed without an application.

**11) 90.13 To elect a Parish Council representative to the Poores Charity**

Council RESOLVED for Cllr L Watts to take this position.

**12) 91.13 Library Provision in Sutton St Edmund Parish (Cllr Marthews)**

A report from Cllr Marthews was read in his absence and council RESOLVED to defer the item to the next meeting when hopefully he will be able to attend.

**13) 92.13 To discuss and Resolve on Parish Meeting Agenda**

Several items and the way in which they be brought to the Parishes attention were discussed.

Items RESOLVED on were:

Library Provision for the Parish

Uses for the Phone Kiosk

Distribution of the agenda to households was discussed; Council RESOLVED to put Agenda on Notice boards and Web site only for Sutton St Edmund Village due to lack of interest following past years of delivering to every household.

Cllr Morris proposed that should Cllr Ramkaran wish to deliver an agenda to each household in Throckenholt he would gladly print them for her.

**14) 93.13 To adopt new Standing Orders**

Cllr Morris proposed the new Standing orders be adopted as read, Cllr Rogers seconded and item RESOLVED.

**15) 94.13 To resolve on whether the council should move into closed session for discussion of the following agenda items, on the grounds of confidentiality.**

This was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED.

**Cllr Seymour & Cllr Webb left the meeting at 7.45pm**

**16) 95.13 To Resolve on 2014/15 Budget and Precept**

The Clerk advised Council of the concerns of NALC that should SHDC not pass on the Council Tax Benefit Support Grant to Parish Councils there will be a shortfall in the Budget to be made up by either an increase in precept or cutbacks in Councils outgoings. The second possible consequence of this could be a cap on council precepts from Government in future

years. The Clerk also advised that in putting the budget together this year council had already made cuts to spending.

Cllr Morris proposed that the planned 5% increase to budget and precept be accepted as stands, this was seconded by Cllr Coleman, a vote followed with 2 in favour and 3 against.

A discussion ensued, Cllr Ramkaran proposed the 5% be accepted as long as the grant was passed on by SHDC but with a second increased amount agreed should the grant not be passed on. Cllr Morris told council that the shortfall would be a small amount and not affect the reserves figure considerably. Council were not happy with this.

Finally Cllr Ramkaran Proposed that the 5% increase be accepted as long as the grant be passed on but should this not happen Cllr Morris, who during the discussion's had offered to make up the shortfall from his own pocket, make up the deficit. This was seconded by Cllr Coleman, 3 votes for and 2 abstentions, Item RESOLVED.

**17) 96.13 To discuss 5 year Budget Plan**

Cllr Rogers proposed the council accept the 5 year working Budget plan as put before them, also to put the Budget and plan on the council web site and Notice boards. Cllr Coleman seconded and item RESOLVED.

**18) 97.13 Date of next meeting**

March 4<sup>th</sup> 2014 8pm (or following the Parish Meeting) at Sutton St Edmund Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.15pm

Signed:

Chairman

Dated: