

MINUTES of the MEETING of BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 7th December 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in Bell House, Stone Street Road, Boxford.

PRESENT: J Fincham-Jacques (Chairman), R Balls, S Impett, S Green, D Waspe, J Moles, A Sargeant, C Hughes, D Talbot-Clarke, D Hattrell (Clerk), B Hurren (District Cllr), J Finch (County Cllr) and 5 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: None.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS: Nothing was declared.

MINUTES OF 2ND NOVEMBER 2015: Accepted as correct.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: It was noted that it is ICENI, the developers not the District Council that are looking for a name for the Sand Hill Local Needs Housing Development.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: A suggestion was made that the Parish Council provides a token of appreciation to R Gates on behalf of the village now he has left the employ of the Post Office. All agreed this was a good idea. A suggestion was made that the Sand Hill development be named "Stationfield" as this is what the field was known as when it was farmed. The issue of village children not getting into the village school was debated. J Finch urged people to apply ahead of the cut off time, as when places remain they cannot be left unfilled. He also referred to the recent consultation on the subject to enable everyone to have their say. Other issues included the bus shelter, the BT phone box, land at the top of school hill, the quality of village sweeping and the state of the permissive path at Stone Street. The discussion became heated during this part. Finally a point was made directly to J Finch of measures to slow traffic at school pick up times. Advisory 20 mph signs were suggested. J Finch agreed to take the traffic concerns away with him.

POLICE REPORT: A police representative was unable to attend. The Clerk shared information from the report for the month of November. During this time, 6 crimes were recorded in the Parish including 3 burglaries, 2 vehicle incidents and an assault.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: County Councillor James Finch attended and reported as follows: -

➤ **Suffolk Highways Winter Programme**

The winter programme for salting and gritting has now started and to date there have been three nights where salt or brine has been spread in parts of Suffolk. From now until the end of the winter there is a team that can be on 24 hour alert to ensure that the roads in Suffolk are kept safe. This week has been unusually warm for the time of year but the team uses Meteorological forecast data together with sensors in the highway to determine what the highway temperature is and thus the need for treatment or not. It is likely that we will have a cold spell before too long and we will be ready.

➤ **Rail Franchise renewal – Bidding deadline 17th December 2015**

The demand for new trains and more frequent passenger rail services on Suffolk's railway were made directly to franchise bidders competing to run the new East Anglia Rail Franchise at the Suffolk Rail Conference which took place on Friday 4th December 2015 in Ipswich.

The Suffolk Rail Conference saw delegates speaking directly to the three short-listed franchise bidders about the rail improvements that are required to meet passenger and the economic growth needs for the future.

Demands included:

- New rolling stock
- Faster and more frequent rail service between Suffolk and London Liverpool Street
- An hourly passenger rail service between Ipswich and Peterborough
- A half-hourly service between Ipswich and Cambridge
- Faster line speeds and more frequent passenger rail services on East Suffolk Line
- A more resilient service on the Felixstowe branch line
- Improvements to stations.

Conference delegates learned more about the East Anglia Rail Franchise Invitation to Tender and the actions needed to ensure the best possible rail franchise and infrastructure deals. Ben Gummer, MP for Ipswich provided information about the work of the Great Eastern Main Line Taskforce and representatives from Network Rail will identified plans for expanding and improving Suffolk's railways.

A series of workshops then took place to draw together discussions and ideas regarding how the county's needs should be addressed by the new rail franchise. The outcomes of these workshops were reported back to the audience at the end of the conference under the four headings of Rolling Stock, Passenger Train frequency, Connectivity and Line Speed and Station Services.

I emphasised that this was important opportunity for us to send a clear and united message to the franchise bidders about what Suffolk needs from the new 10 year rail franchise. I will be listening carefully to what they propose and will offer challenge to ensure they are fully aware of the need for a clear plan that delivers improvement in the quality and provision of network services and new rolling stock. In my opinion Suffolk has been overlooked for far too long and we needed to use this opportunity of the new franchise to redress the balance."

Following his report, R Balls enquired about the plans in relation to Ipswich Park and Ride.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: Cllr Bryn Hurren attended the meeting and confirmed the District Council is currently working on next years' budget. A potential advertising board was discussed and also ways to alert visitors to the location of the butchers. Icen Homes are looking to name the Sand Hill Development and were seeking the views of the Parish Council. The properties will all be for Boxford people and the ones for sale should be slightly below the market value and again preference will be given to Boxford people. The Cygnet Court application was then discussed which was to be decided at Committee. J Finch explained how the highways issues were decided by a separate independent department. D Talbot Clarke agreed to attend the Committee and speak on behalf of the Parish Council. S Green will assist him to prepare. A Sargeant shared concerns of nearby residents to the Sand Hill Development due to site levelling.

CORRESPONDENCE: The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting and members had noted the on-going progress of each item. It was noted that the street lighting LED upgrades would need to be concluded and the project finalised as far as costings and grants are concerned once a decision is made regarding the lighting in conservation areas of the village. It was agreed to include as an Agenda item for the January full meeting - **Action Clerk.** Members are to consider whether the new lanterns should be extended to Cox Hill, Stone Street, Ellis Street and School Hill. The other areas come under the County Council and they have no immediate plans to upgrade.

FINANCE: The Bank balances as at 27th November were £28518.70 in the Community Account, £13326.78 in the Deposit Account and £37138.11 in the Reserve Account making a total of £78983.59. It was agreed to seek an alternative quote for next years' litter contract and to ask our existing contractors whether they are happy with the scope of works as some

residents have expressed concerns regarding the frequency of sweeping - **Action Clerk**. S Impett proposed a contribution of £1750 towards the insurance costs of the Church. This was seconded by D Waspe and carried with one abstention - **Action Clerk**. All were in favour of the lights at Homefield and outside the Village Hall to mirror the County Council arrangements for staying on at night during the festive period. The Precept Calculation Sheet was handed to members and it was agreed a 1% increase as far as residents are concerned to be the basis of the final calculation for approval at the January full meeting - **Action Clerk**.

The following payments were approved: -

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Details
701722	D K Hattrell	791.07	Clerk's Salary
701723	Inland Revenue Only	53.39	Clerk's ddtns & ERS NIC
701724	SCC – Pension ACC	252.59	Clerk's Pension
701725	M Nutt	240.00	Church Clock
701726	Chris Mortimer Grounds	180.00	Sweeping
701727	Topline Pest Control	25.00	Cemetery - Moles
701728	Royal British Legion	30.00	Poppy wreath/ Misc

NAME FOR THE SAND HILL DEVELOPMENT: Following discussion two ideas were considered of "Stationfield" and "Three Acres". D Talbot Clarke proposed "Stationfield" which was seconded by R Balls and carried with 5 votes in favour. ** B Hurren informed ICENI Homes the following day.

ADVERTISING BOARDS: An idea of a wooden sign with slats for each individual business was discussed. This would enable timely updates to be made. B Hurren agreed to make enquiries - **Action B Hurren**.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING: D Talbot-Clarke reported on a successful village meeting with those happy to contribute time to the project. The experiences shared by Lavenham were extremely useful. It was agreed to proceed towards an open day to get things moving forward in Boxford. The skills of contributors are still to be identified. This will be included as an Agenda item for the second meeting in January - **Action Clerk**.

CEMETERY: In view of health & safety concerns it was agreed to authorise the work to fell the diseased oak in the Cemetery - **Action Clerk**. It was agreed to chase a response to our questions regarding the path moss treatment - **Action Clerk**.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: D Waspe agreed to co-ordinate a Christmas Tree for outside the Church. D Talbot-Clarke agreed to assist. S Green suggested a thank you in Box River news for community spirit in caring for the Jubilee Garden and greensward, this was agreed. It was agreed to hold two meetings during January. The first will be the full meeting and include extra Agenda items of a "Community Website" and "Further LED upgrades to Street Lighting". The second will be a planning meeting including "Neighbourhood Planning" - **Action Clerk**. It was agreed to report the poor state of the telephone box near the White Hart to British Telecom - **Action Clerk**. It was agreed for members to review the condition of the boundary fencing outside Boxford House, Stone Street and raise at a future meeting if a polite request is required. The SALC Meeting hand-outs had been distributed via the email to members and D Talbot-Clarke made reference to these. It was agreed to chase the alternative quote to net the bus shelter - **Action Clerk**. C Hughes asked for an Agenda item at the January full Meeting of "A bus shelter for Cox Hill" - **Action Clerk**.

The meeting closed at **10.35 p.m.**

Planning Meeting Held by Boxford Parish Council at Bell House, Boxford on Monday 7th December 2015

The following decisions were discussed from the Planning Authority: -

1) B/15/01424 - Box River House, 1 Broad Street - Listed Building Consent was granted to install and retain roof windows.

2) B/13/01107/FUL - Rogers Farm, Rogers Lane - Notification had been received from the Planning Inspectorate that the appeal in respect of the proposed solar farm had been dismissed.

3) B/15/01471/TCA - 6 The Causeway - proposed tree work can go ahead to 2 silver birch, 1 prunus and 2 copper beech trees.

4) B/15/01062 - 30 Cox Hill - Permission had been granted for continued use of field for storage of agricultural machinery and equipment

5) B/15/01549 - Vermont, 13 Stone Street - Work can proceed to remove willow tree

The following applications were discussed: -

a) B/15/01583 - The Lodge, Stone Street - The Parish Council had No Objections to the proposed felling of an ash tree.

b) B/15/01623/01630/01631/01632/01634 - Goodlands - These applications had only just been received and it was agreed to meet on 21st December to discuss these. An email was to be sent to members with the reference numbers to enable viewing ahead of the meeting date, the papers are also available at Bell House - **Action Clerk and All.**