

MINUTES of the MEETING of BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 4th December 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Bell House, Stone Street Road, Boxford.

PRESENT: J Fincham-Jacques (Chairman), R Balls, A Sargeant, S Impett, D Waspe, M Wooderson, C Hughes, D Hattrell (Clerk), B Hurren (District Cllr) and 1 member of the public.

APOLOGIES: D Talbot Clarke, V Stafford and J Finch.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS: Nothing was declared

MINUTES OF 6TH NOVEMBER 2017: Accepted as correct.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Nothing was raised.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: A representative from the Church attended and thanked the Parish Council for the Christmas tree again this year. He drew the attention of the Parish Council to the condition of the boundary wall and the risk of traffic scraping the wall due to the narrowing of the road with parked cars. Management of the ivy in the Churchyard was also requested. The well used path through the Churchyard, in his opinion, is too narrow. It is believed it is the responsibility of the County Council who provided the path.

REVIEW OF ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC: All areas were to be covered under Agenda items.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: County Cllr James Finch was unable to attend for health reasons and no report was provided.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: District Cllr Bryn Hurren attended and felt that the decision not to pass the further development at Goodlands was excellent and he was remaining vigilant as the applicants may decide to appeal. He was still investigating the situation of the post 16 transport subsidy. He was also pursuing County Highways to cut back obstructing trees at the Stone Street/A1071 junction. The District Councils are now working out of Endeavour House. The move has had consequences in respect of staffing and the additional journey time is considerable. Talks of merger of the District Councils continue which is being challenged. The Clerk confirmed she had issued supportive comments towards the proposed grouping of Parishes with Boxford in the Boundary Commission Review.

CORRESPONDENCE: The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting and members had noted the on-going progress of each item. It was agreed to leave the Parish Council Street Lights on all night on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. A letter from a resident who is receiving regular mis-directed deliveries due to confusion regarding the address of the new property at the corner of Swan Street/Sherbourne Street was read. Members were supportive of getting the matter resolved and believed Royal Mail may be able to assist in respect of the numbering - **Action Clerk**.

FINANCE: The Bank balances as at 4th December 2017 were £29367.46 in the Community Account, £13335.08 in the Deposit Account and £44737.24 in the Reserve Account making a total of £87439.78. The Budget and Precept was then discussed. The Church had asked for assistance towards the insurance costs. S Impett proposed £1750 which was seconded by M Wooderson and carried - **Action Clerk to organise the payment at the January Meeting**.

The budget and Precept for the next financial year was discussed. Following discussion S Impett proposed an increase of 1% making a new Precept of £37280. This was seconded by the Chairman and unanimously carried.

The following payments were approved: -

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Details
Funds Tr	D K Hattrell	884.96	Clerk's Salary
Funds Tr	Inland Revenue Only	52.19	Clerk's ddtns & ERS NIC
Funds Tr	Mortimer Contracts	144.00	Sweeping
Between Meetings:-			
Funds Tr	M A Crighton	185.00	Cemetery - last cut of the season

CEMETERY: A resident had written in strong terms requesting the boundary wall to the Churchyard be restored by using reserves if necessary. Officials from the Church had raised the need to review some maintenance items including the wall, ivy and the path. It was agreed to acknowledge the remarks and ensure this matter goes on the Agenda for the New Year - **Action Clerk**. Members are keen to ensure the wall is maintained to preserve the appearance and condition of the wall and prevent it from becoming a safety concern. A program of annual maintenance will be sought for further consideration. The Clerk would like some guidance in relation to the content of such a program. Members stressed the importance of working together with representatives from the Church to ensure effective solutions are devised which represent good value to residents.

VILLAGE CAR PARK: Potential land is being identified and researched.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: It was agreed to chase the grit replenishment - **Action Clerk**. It was agreed for the Chairman to research the car that has been left in the Homefield Flats Carpark - **Action Chairman**. Members all agreed to record their thanks to Mathew Wooderson for all his efforts which helped bring about the decision not to approve the further Goodlands planning proposal.

The meeting closed at **9.36 p.m.**

Planning Meeting Held by Boxford Parish Council at Bell House, Boxford on Monday 4th December 2017

The following decisions were recorded from the Planning Authority:-

- 1) DC/17/00091** - Application to erect up to 24 dwellings with access on land to the south of Daking Avenue (Goodlands) - **Permission has been Refused.**
- 2) DC/17/03626** - Application for replacement gates and alterations to brick gate piers at Boxford House, Stone Street - **Planning Permission has been Granted.**

The following applications were discussed: -

- A) **DC/17/05475** - Erection of single storey rear extension at 22 Swan Street - **No Objections**
- B) **DC/17/05208** - Application for Listed Building Consent for internal works to bedroom. Replacement screening wall following removal of a contemporary fitted wardrobe at Old School House, School Hill - **No Objections**
- C) **DC/17/05954** - Conservation Area application to reduce ash tree. Application from Anglian Water at Stone Street - **No Objections**
- D) **DC/17/05839** - Application for Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent for a single storey rear extension at 45 Swan Street - **No Objections**
- E) The Parish Council had been approached by Hopkins Homes who would like to develop in the village behind The Causeway. The Chairman and other Councillors met them and representatives from Hopkins Homes intend to attend a full Parish Council Meeting in the New Year.