

MINUTES of the MEETING of BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 1st July 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in Bell House, Stone Street Road, Boxford.

PRESENT: H Phillips, A Sargeant, J Fincham-Jacques, S Mattocks, D Hattrell (Clerk), B Hurren (District Cllr), J Finch (County Cllr) and 5 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: were received from V Strafford and P Wallis.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS: Nothing was declared.

MINUTES OF 3RD JUNE 2019: Accepted as correct.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: J Finch agreed to chase the work to the blocked drain at the bottom of the croft. It was agreed to report the car being driven along the RUPP to the Police, to also write to the car owner and copy to the County Right of Way Officer - **Action Clerk**. The schedule of planned river clearance work by the Environment Agency had been circulated between meetings. The Chairman agreed to clear some mud potentially blocking the flow in the vicinity as an interim step - **Action Chairman**.

PUBLIC FORUM: Neighbouring Residents and the Applicant for the application for a new dwelling at 30 Stone Street shared their views. The Applicant spoke of wanting her family to have a home suitable for their changing needs. She spoke of their desire to stay in the location but they have outgrown their existing property. She confirmed the feedback from the last application had been taken on board and explained the history of the properties at that location in that 2 properties had been knocked into one. Nearby residents were concerned about the Planning Consultation process, vehicle access including obscuring by a high hedge, highways safety and the proximity to Listed Buildings among other things. The Chairman explained the Parish Council has listened and were also glad the applicant and neighbours were talking. He urged everyone to put their views in writing to the Planning Authority. The Parish Council were to agree their response later in the meeting.

REVIEW OF ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC: There was nothing to add.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: County Cllr J Finch attended and reported on new electric vehicle charging points to be installed in Suffolk, subsidy is to be removed from 23 bus routes in Suffolk, applications are open for a museum trainee program and Suffolk's Health and Wellbeing Board are committing more to tackling poor mental health. J Finch is getting into his role of Chairman of Suffolk County Council attending various events and having walked a leg of the sponsored walk of the Stour Valley Path. He advised comments from Highways in relation to the application discussed during the public forum. Whilst Highways did not object, their approval was subject to 4 points being adhered to. He confirmed his ambition for a Suffolk Youth Choir and finally he has asked for costings on signs for Sand Hill similar to Stone Street. These would be easier and less costly to install. A contribution would be sought from the Parish Council.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: District Cllr B Hurren attended and reported that the Local Plan was due to be out to Consultation and he suggested the Parish Council has an Agenda item at the next full Meeting. The District has high housing targets over the coming years which are included in the Local Plan. The Parking Enforcement powers are in the process of moving from the Police to the District Council. School transport changes are meaning children are being offered transportation to the nearest School which may not be the traditional catchment school. This is leading to inconsistent arrangements over the village as a whole and also siblings not necessarily being offered the same school for travel arrangements. B Hurren is taking this up. The outcome of the Boxwood Hall plans was disappointing and was fully discussed at a meeting involving our Chairman. Our new Footpath Warden is wanting to create a circular walk and B Hurren is liaising with him in this regard. The much needed refurbishment to the Homefield flats is nearing completion.

Wash Lane has been swept, however, residents at the Meeting suggested further work is needed as the drains need clearing and trees are down. A resident has offered to paint the bus shelter during the School Holidays and B Hurren was liaising with him.

GRIT BINS AND REPLENISHMENT: This item was deferred.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES: It was agreed to advertise to attempt to fill the Vacancies.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING: We have a potential Chairman for the Neighbourhood Planning Group. H Phillips is happy to have a role on the Committee also. A secretary is in place. Other volunteers have come forward to assist. H Phillips will call a further meeting. Discussions with Babergh District Council continues.

FINANCE: The Bank balances as at 3rd June were **£39041.30** in the Community Account, **£13377.37** in the Deposit Account and **£50643.84** in the Reserve Account making a total of **£103062.51**. The following payments were approved: -

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Details
Funds Tr	D K Hattrell	911.83	Clerk's Salary
Funds Tr	Inland Revenue Only	55.18	Clerk's ddtns & ERS NIC
Funds Tr	SCC - Pension ACC	287.51	Clerk's Pension
Funds Tr	Helmsman Services	30.00	DSE Risk Assessmt
Funds Tr	Top Marques Direct	0.62	Photocopies
Funds Tr	M A Crighton	185.00	Cemetery Contract

CORRESPONDENCE: The correspondence was discussed in matters arising and the circulation envelope was started.

CEMETERY: The Clerk explained various enquiries have been answered during the month about interment of ashes. The main part of this Agenda item was deferred in view of the lateness and duration of meeting.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: H Phillips resigned from the Parish Council confirming various things led to his considered decision. He feels his energies will be better spent helping with the Neighbourhood Planning Group. He identified a number of areas including the Churchyard, Street Lights, financial planning, the Parish Councils responsibilities as employer where he would have to gain knowledge to fulfil his responsibilities and he was concerned about the lack of influence a Parish Council has towards planning and highways etc. He did not feel the role was for him as he was hoping to retire at some stage. A new Chairman will need to be elected as first item at the brief Meeting in August.

The meeting closed at **10.01 p.m.**

Planning Meeting Held by Boxford Parish Council at Bell House, Boxford on Monday 1st July 2019

The following decisions were advised from the Planning Authority: -

a) Consent had been granted to reduce and shape protected walnut tree at Causeway House, The Causeway, Boxford - **DC/19/02328**.

b) Work can proceed to trees in Conservation Area at Old School House, School Hill - **DC/19/02027**

c) Work can proceed to our planned tree work in the Church yard including sycamore, holly and elder bush - **DC/19/01620**.

The following applications were discussed: -

- 1) **DC/19/02690/91** – Planning and Listed Building for rear extension at The Old Forge, Church Street. There were **No Objections**.
- 2) **DC/19/02642** - Planning application for conversion of woodstore to ancillary annex accommodation at 33 Swan Street. There were **No Objections**.
- 3) **DC/19/02781** - Proposed new dwelling at 30 Stone Street. A number of concerns were raised and following a vote, it was agreed to Object to the Plans based on those concerns. The response agreed was as follows: -

Boxford Parish Council Objects to this application due to the following:

- *Proposed additional vehicle access where there are already highways safety concerns in the vicinity*
- *the potential loss of trees due to the build*
- *the proximity to Listed Buildings which would need to be reviewed by the Heritage Officer*

- 4) **Any other urgent Planning items** - An approach has been made on behalf of the owner of the Goodlands Farm site to try to determine what would be acceptable in development terms following the refusal of Goodlands phase 2. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council Objects in principle to development on that site due to traffic issues on Swan Street which is why Goodlands phase 2 was turned down. It was agreed to thank the enquirer for approaching the Parish Council and explain our views - **Action Clerk**.