

LAYHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7.30pm on
Wednesday 22 August 2018 in the Village Hall

Present: Charlotte Britton (CB)
Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC)
John Curran (JDC)
Ron Gunn (RG)
Steve Laing - Vice Chairman (SL)
David Pratt (DP)
Sheila Roberts (SR)
Michael Woods - Chairman (MW)

In attendance: Gordon Jones, Suffolk CC (GJ)
John Ward, Babergh DC (JW)

Apologies: None

18.8.1 CO-OPTION

MW welcomed CB to her first meeting as a co-opted Parish Councillor.

18.8.2 APOLOGIES

See above.

18.8.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

18.8.4 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no parishioners present.

18.8.5 ADJOURNMENT TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

18.8.5.1 District Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. In response to a question from SL, JW said the new homes bonus went into Babergh's general fund and was not ring fenced. In response to a further question from SL about CIFCO, JW said there were three independent directors, plus one each from Babergh and Mid Suffolk who were not remunerated. He confirmed that, should they cease to be councillors, they would also cease to be directors. With regard to the rental income, JW confirmed that the figure quoted represented turnover. MW said he welcomed the Void Improvement Project; JW said the aim was to reduce void times to between 7-10 days.

18.8.5.2 County Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. GJ had attended his first meeting as a Stakeholder Governor of the new East Suffolk & North Essex NHS Foundation (ESNEFT); he said he would be happy to raise any concerns or comments about either Ipswich or Colchester hospitals. In response to a question from SL concerning charges levied by Highways when contractors did not meet deadlines, remove signage etc, he said he would find out where the money went; SL said he felt the money should go to those people most inconvenienced - eg the public, and parish councils. GJ said the whole issue was currently under review, including whether the charges should be increased. In response to a question from MW, GJ said he would find out what the deadline was for the review being carried out by Mary Evans, Cabinet Member for Highways. SL referred to the Solar Suffolk Together project, supported by SCC and borough and district councils, and said he was surprised that Babergh did not appear to have any plans for solar panels on the new swimming pool in Hadleigh; it

was noted that the deadline for registering interest had now passed. With regard to the consultation on the updated proposals for sand and gravel sites, GJ said he was not aware that there was any funding available.

18.8.6 SUFFOLK ROADS SAFE PARTNERSHIP'S SPEEDING STRATEGY

It was noted that a report on the outcome of the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) trial had been due to go to the Suffolk Roadsafe Board on 11 July. However, GJ said the trial had been extended to 27 July following the theft of some of the equipment; he would have more information for the September PC meeting. It was agreed that this, and Community Speedwatch, would be on the agenda for that meeting.

18.8.7 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by RG, seconded by SL and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25 July 2018 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

18.8.8 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Most of the actions were either ongoing or were on the agenda. There were updates on the following:

18.8.8.1 CPR training

Following the recent successful deployment of the defibrillator in Lower Layham, SL said there had been renewed interest in training. MW would contact Charlie Panting for some possible dates for another training session in either the church or the Queen's Head.

18.8.8.2 Working more closely with SCC and BDC

It was agreed that MW, CB, JDC, SL and RG would meet separately for a 'brainstorming' session before the next meeting.

18.8.8.3 Litter bins on the playing field

JC had been in touch with Babergh, who had said they were unable to empty litter bins on the playing field as it was a requirement that bins should be able to be driven up to, which would not be possible in the winter. It would not be possible to supply a black wheelie bin for the playing field/recycling centre as these were classed as 'domestic'; any rubbish collected at the recycling centre should be disposed of in the wheelie bins at the Village Hall. RG would liaise with the volunteers who currently emptied the playing field bins.

18.8.9 FINANCIAL MATTERS

18.8.9.1 RFO's report

It was proposed by SL, seconded by RG and agreed unanimously that the finance report for 22 August 2018 should be approved and payments of £1,011.81 should be authorised; this sum included payment for the gates between the playing field and the conservation area, which were due for delivery later in the month. A VAT refund of £633.20 had been received from HMRC.

18.8.9.2 Section 106 funding

MW said the Playing Field Committee felt there should be more play equipment for smaller children and had identified a 'Tottlebank' slide. The cost of this, including the base etc, would use up most of the remaining S106 funding. It was proposed by DP, seconded by SR and agreed unanimously that MW should complete an application form. Babergh required evidence to be submitted with the form confirming that parishioners would support and welcome the purchase of such equipment. MW had produced a questionnaire which members of the PFC would deliver to appropriate households. A community email could also be sent asking people to confirm their support.

18.8.10 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

No reports submitted.

18.8.11 DEFIBRILLATOR FOR BRETT GREEN

JDC and SL had met with Alan Fosker of the Masons, who had confirmed that the Master of the Lodge had agreed to make a donation towards fitting the defibrillator, but had not specified an amount. SL confirmed a donation of £1000 from the Queen's Head Sports & Social Club. JDC circulated a breakdown of costs and funding to date which, excluding the donation from the Masons, left a shortfall of £2327.34. GJ said he was prepared to give £1000 from his budget and requested details of the electricity supply costs etc, which JDC would send to him. It was proposed by JDC, seconded by SL and agreed unanimously that a galvanised feeder pillar should be purchased; JC would place the order.

18.8.12 PLANNING

18.8.12.1 DC/18/03504 - Layham Hall, Upper Street

There were no objections to the application for replacement of the ridge to an indoor training building (*however, it was noted that the bulk of the property was technically in Raydon, rather than Layham*).

18.8.12.2 DC/18/02556 - Barn 4, Pope's Green Farm, Pope's Green Lane

It was noted that prior approval for change of use was not required.

18.8.13 PRIVACY POLICY

It was proposed by MW, seconded by SR and agreed unanimously to adopt the draft Privacy Policy circulated by JC, for display on the website.

18.8.14 LITTER PICK

It was agreed to hold another litter pick on Saturday 20 October; activity for that day would be confirmed at the next meeting. SR had been contacted by one of the Hadleigh litter pick volunteers who said they would be happy to help out in Layham if required; MW suggested asking them to extend their activity along Benton Street as far as the Layham sign, and also from Hadleigh to the Lower Layham boundary.

18.8.15 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

18.8.16 CLERK'S REPORT ON URGENT DECISIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

None.

18.8.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.30pm on Wednesday 26 September 2018, in the Village Hall.

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