

GREAT & LITTLE WHELNETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at Community Centre on 13th January 2016

Present

Peter Royce (Chairman) Cliff Dive (Vice-Chairman) Tim Webber

June Attwood Steve Smith

Catherine Hibbert (interim Parish Clerk)

Members of Public - 4 members attending

1. Apologies for absence

Howard Singh David Howes C Cllr Terry Clements

2. Public Question Time

The following issues were raised;-

- Concerns regarding the condition of the Railway Line footpath. It was noted that; (1) the PC has recently changed contractor and will keep the condition of the route under review as the annual maintenance programme led by the new contractor gets underway; (2) maintenance of the surface of the footpath remains the responsibility of Suffolk County Council; and (3) the need to convene a voluntary working party to do a spring clean-up would be kept under review.
- Recent activity on the Anglian Water site, including intrusive lights, noise and untreated waste on field. It was agreed that Anglian Water should be invited to explain current activity.

3. Chairman's report

The chairman gave his report noting that; (1) there had been a low public turnout to the last extraordinary PC meeting called to consider the Erskine Lodge planning application. A response has been lodged on behalf of the PC and various County Councillors have also raised concerns regarding the proposals; (2) technical problems mean that there is no VAS signage data for this month; (3) a new website provider needs to be sourced; (4) a new street light and lamp post has been installed at the bus stop opposite Grove Cottages, which has been welcomed by residents who appreciate the improved visibility afforded when getting off the bus during the winter nights - thanks to assistance from C Cllr Clements in this regard; (5) inconsiderate car parking around the school prior to the Christmas holidays continues to cause concern to residents; (6) Christine Peck has stood down from the role of Parish Clerk and a replacement is being sought.

The Council made a presentation to Mrs Peck to thank her for her invaluable assistance during her five year tenure as Parish Clerk.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting to be agreed (any matters arising to be discussed during the course of the meeting)

The minutes of the meetings dated 11th November 2015 and 17th December 2015 were unanimously approved and signed as a true and accurate record of those meetings. It was noted that investigations were ongoing to resolve issues regarding the previous Parish Council website.

5. Members' Declaration of Interests.

None.

6. Police Matters

In the absence of any PCSO it was reported that there had been no crimes of note reported since the last meeting. Information regarding action to be taken following a traffic collision was provided which will be made available to residents.

7. Updates

7.1 Planning update and new applications The meeting was advised that; (1) there have been no new applications; and (2) application DC/15/2426/HH for a single storey rear extension at The Street, Little Whelnetham has been approved.

7.2 Great Whelnetham School. A newsletter from the new headteacher, Kath Parkin, was received and it was noted that the school continues to encourage pupils and parents to park at the Community Centre and walk up to school from there.

7.3 Railway Line. See comments in public question time above. It was reported that the surface is deteriorating through cycle use and it was agreed that consideration should be given to ensuring that there are no cycling notices displayed at both ends of the footpath.

7.4 Transport. SCC support the introduction of two further VAS signs (Cost £150 plus VAT per sign) in the village and the proposed locations either side of the A134 were discussed and APPROVED. Clerk to respond to SCC.

7.5 Housing. It was noted that there is no further information regarding the Erskine Lodge application at present.

8. Correspondence.

The following correspondence was received:-

8.1 C Cllr T Clements monthly round-up newsletter;

8.2 Email correspondence from C Cllr Clements highlighting concerns raised by another County Councillor regarding Erskine Lodge;

8.3 Details of various free first aid and volunteer training opportunities across Suffolk.

9. Finance

Instant access account	£1,132.59
Current account	£5,751.54
Total	£6,884.13

Payments to agree – HMRC £105.48

Election Expenses £42.68

These were AGREED.

10. Any Other Business

It was noted that; (1) one of the '20 is plenty' signs near the school is currently obscured by hedges; (2) efforts to identify additional Parish Councillors to make up the full complement need to continue; (3) the interim clerks' wages would mirror the last postholder's arrangements for the time being; (4) CDs recording the voices of residents, compiled as part of a student project, are available for free at the Community Centre; (4) Clean for the Queen initiative to be investigated further.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25 pm

Next meeting – 9th March 2016

Signed Chairman

Date