

DRAFT Minutes of AHS Parish Council meeting held on 3rd November 2016

Minutes of the Ashby, Herringfleet & Somerleyton Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 3rd November 2016 from 7:15 p.m. in Somerleyton Village Hall

Present: Mrs G Gibbs (Chair), Mr S Phillips (Vice Chair), Ms J Alderton, Mr N Favell, Mr J Foster, Mrs M Gibbs, Mr N Livingstone, Mr P Johnson, Mr T Pace, Mr C Reynolds, Mr R Wild & Mr M Wright. Plus Mrs J Wild for the Lowestoft Journal

PUBLIC FORUM

The Public Forum commenced at 7.15pm. In attendance were several local residents, including Lord Somerleyton who attended to give a update of the Estate's plans regarding the closure of the Post Office, its move to the Village Garage Site, and the development of the latter to include retail of local produce, convenience foods to meet local demand, and take-away food and drinks. Lord Somerleyton reported that the Post Office and Village Shop had been operating on a borderline profitable basis for a number years, and that the transfer of the Post Office was due to be completed in time for the restoration of a Post Office service to the village on 15th January. Residents whose properties are adjacent to the Garage site voiced concerns about environmental health issues which could impact on their quality of life. There was also a discussion about the planning implications of what may prove to be a change of use for the site. Lord Somerleyton believed that it could be possible to retain some retail function at the old Post Office, which would be primarily a Bicycle Repair Shop.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at 7:58 p.m.

The Chair welcomed Sue Read, the newly appointed Parish Clerk and Jamie Foster, the newly elected Parish Councillor.

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. No apologies had been received from Parish Councillors, but Councillors Len Jacklin, Paul Ashdown and Bert Poole had informed the Clerk that they were unable to attend.
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in items on the agenda. N Livingstone and S Phillips declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 12.2
- 3 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION.
None received
- 4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS.
It was proposed by M Wright that the draft minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2016 are an accurate record, seconded by C Reynolds and unanimously agreed.
- 5 CLERK'S REPORT ON ONGOING MATTERS.
 - 5.1 Litter/ dog bin, The Green. S Phillips reported this item is moving forward.
 - 5.2 Benches, The Green. These should be repaired within the next few weeks; it is hoped before Christmas at the latest. .
 - 5.3 Herringfleet Hills. The PC noted an up-date from Lord Somerleyton on the Car Park at Herringfleet Hills, and more widely the plans for re-wilding the Open Access Land there. R Wild will contact Adrian Clark of the Broads Authority for further information.
 - 5.4 Station Road, Somerleyton. The meeting noted that the creation of passing places is next on the list of the responsible officer at Suffolk Council.
 - 5.5 Traffic Restrictions, The Street. The double yellow lines have now been painted.
 - 5.8 Village Shop and Post Office.
The meeting reflected on the discussion during the Public Forum on this contentious matter. Although some of the issues are outside the direct remit of the Parish Council, considering the planning concerns which have been expressed is a significant function of the PC. It was proposed by S. Phillips, seconded by M Wright and unanimously agreed that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council may need to be convened to discuss and respond to any application for planning permission which may be lodged with the Planning Authority.
 - 5.9 It was agreed that, instead of the planned tree, flowering bulbs should be planted around the Hovercraft

Monument using the donation of £20 referred to at item 12 of the previous meeting. There will be a need to liaise with the grass mower, to ensure the bulbs are not damaged. The Green and Environmental group will oversee this.

- 5.10 Parish Council website. The new site is now up and running. Parish Councillors have been requested to view it and make comments and also to suggest further information or improvements.

6 REQUESTS FROM PARISHIONERS.

- 6.1 A letter has been received from a parishioner, requesting information on who is responsible for the up-keep of the triangle of land on the corner of Station Road and The Street in Somerleyton. The Parish Clerk has responded with the information requested, but the meeting felt that there is a driving hazard here, because, when approaching the T junction from Station Road the driver's view is hampered by tall weeds in the ditch. There are also concerns that the clogging of the ditch by weeds might affect its capacity for draining water from the road. The Parish Clerk is instructed to write to Suffolk County Council re this matter.
- 6.2 The safety of the new driveway on to Slugs Lane was questioned. The questioner was referred to the Highways department of Suffolk County Council which has responsibility for this of the Broads Authority.
- 6.3 It was suggested that Adrian Clark of the Broads Authority be invited to a Parish Council Meeting to talk about the future of Herringfleet Hills and the B1074.

7 PARISH PLAN WORKING GROUPS.

- 7.1 Green & Environmental Group. A convenor is being sought for this working group to allow Jenni Livingstone to focus on the Neighbourhood Planning Group. A local resident has been approached.
- 7.2 Information & Advice. M Wright reported that there are still issues with the locks and hinges of the noticeboards supplied by SOLD in 2015. He continues to discuss this with SOLD. S Phillips plans to meet with Lord Somerleyton regarding the Telephone Box at the Post Office. M Wright thanked his wife, Sue Wright, for her improvements to the recent newsletter, Jenny Poole for assembling it and the volunteers who distributed it.

8 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING.

Jenni Livingstone asked the clerk to remind the PC about the Joint Public Consultation events to be held on Sunday 13th November from 10.00am to 4.00pm at both Somerleyton and Lound Village Halls. The two Groups had a very productive joint meeting on 7th November.

9 PLANNING.

- 9.1 Recent application:
DC/16/3894/LBC Green Farm House, Green Lane, Somerleyton. Listed Building Consent (retrospective) : Removal of paint finish from exterior of building, the potential for future application of limewash or other breathable paint finish to the exterior of the building.
Planning committee response – no objections.
- 9.2 Recent Decisions:
Nil

10 VILLAGE EVENTS - Review

- 10.1 Brick Kiln Tidy: Sunday 25th September . A number of people attended for this successful event. The Chair thanked all who helped out on the day. Clerk to write to Mike Foster to thank him for cutting the grass.

11 VILLAGE EVENTS - Forthcoming

- 11.1 Christmas Lights. These have been inspected; no new bulbs needed. Clerk to write to thank Chris and Sanya Morris for storing them safely. Paul Johnson will help in displaying these a few days before the Carol Singing event on 1st December. N Livingstone reported that the social gathering after the carols will be in his garden.
- 11.2 No firm proposals have been made yet; though it was thought that something related to the 'English Garden' may prove popular. Firm proposals on this or any theme to be sent to the Clerk or M Wright.

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- 11.3 Quiz and Chips. M Wright said that tickets are now on sale for this to be held on 19th November in Somerleyton Village Hall. Further details are in the recent Newsletter.
- 12 FINANCE.
- 12.1 It was proposed by G Gibbs, seconded by R Wild and unanimously agreed that the Quarterly Financial Report be accepted.
- 12.2 The request for funding from the Social Fund for a picnic table and waste bin at the playing field by Somerleyton Community Association (SCA) had been previously distributed to Parish Councillors. It was proposed by Gerda Gibbs, seconded by R Wild and unanimously agreed to support the application and to purchase the items listed at a cost of £529.68 for donation to SCA. G Gibbs and R Wild further proposed and seconded a proposal to donate the speakers in the village hall to SCA; this was unanimously agreed.
- 13 PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED
It was proposed by P Johnson, seconded by R Wild and unanimously agreed that the following payments should be made:
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| BDO LLP for annual audit: | 120.00 |
| S. Phillips for website costs: | 59.83 |
| M. Wright for printing the Summer Newsletter: | 50.00 |
| RPD Printers for printing the Autumn Newsletter: | 50.00 |
- 14 CORRESPONDENCE.
The meeting thanked S Phillips for the smooth and quick transfer to the new website. For information: the new web address is www.ashvillages.org.uk, the new email address for Simon regarding any website related matters is hello@ashvillages.org.uk and a reminder that the Parish Clerk's new email address is parish.clerk@ashvillages.org.uk.
- 15 DATES AND TIMES OF NEXT MEETINGS.
The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 12th January 2017 at 7.15pm at Somerleyton Village Hall. Refreshments: C Reynolds.
The next Northern Parishes Meeting will be held on Thursday 16th February 2017, at Lound Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:05pm.