

EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Edwardstone Parish Council held at Edwardstone Parish Hall on Monday 26 September 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present: P Baker (Chair), S Norman, P Clarke, M Gibson, T Wood, R Jones (Clerk)

Guests: B Hurren (Babergh District Council)

1. **Apologies for absence** – D Williams
2. **Councillors' Declarations of Interests in any item on this Agenda** – None
3. **Minutes of the Meeting of 18 July 2022** – Approved and signed
4. **Reports from:**

3.1 Suffolk County Council

Councillor James Finch was unable to attend but tabled a report which was noted, A discussion took place on how the Government intended to help people in rural areas who were not on the Gas Grid and used fuel such as Oil. It was agreed that information should be put on the Council's website and that MP James Cartledge should be written to for information on the Government's position.

Action: M Gibson – Produce information for the website and forward to Clerk for publication.

P Baker – Compose letter/e-Mail to James Cartledge MP

3.2 Babergh District Council

Councillor Bryn Hurren reported the following:

Planning Application Sand Hill, Boxford – The latest application for 64 homes was considered and refused on 27th July by a margin on 10 – 1. No appeal had so far been submitted.

Work had started on the site of the former BDC building in Hadleigh. No social housing would be built on the site as there had been a social housing development recently completed nearby.

Council committees had returned to business following the period of mourning the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

In the latest round of Community Infrastructure Levy awards Gainsborough House had received £10,000, Go-Start Community Bus £2,000 and £5,500 had gone to improve CCTV in Sudbury. In total £420,00 had been given to local projects.

The Council was giving £150 Council Tax rebate to bands A-D to assist people with the cost-of-living crisis and had a £170,00 Household Support Fund available to help families in the most need. This was in addition to the Government cost of living payments and energy bill support payments. The CAB had also set up a 'Surviving Winter' scheme for people in receipt of age-related pension but not in financial need, to send any unwanted £100 Winter fuel payments to them to assist those who need help.

5. Questions from Members of the Public

Concerns were expressed that a local resident had built an airstrip on their land and that aircraft would potentially be flying dangerously close to neighbouring properties. Councillor Hurren to raise this with BDC Planning officers.

6. Financial Matters

6.1 Statement of Finances and Orders for Payment – approved

6.2 Use of Community Infrastructure Payment – P Baker presented a report which detailed discussions he had held with representatives of the Millennium Green Trust and correspondence with BDC Community Grants Team. The MGT

Richard Jones Clerk to the Council 23 Glanville Road Hadleigh IP7 5SQ

edwardstoneclerk@outlook.com

01473 828246

was looking to replace existing playground equipment but the cost to do so was much higher than the Council's CIL payment of £3,557.58. In view of this it was agreed that the MGT apply to BDC separately for funding with the Council's support and possibly, a donation to make up any shortfall. P Baker to assist Richard Norman with the application to BDC.

The Council had received one quote of £680.00 to repair the Bus Shelter and it was agreed to pursue another quote before making a decision.

Action – T Wood to contact a local tradesman, Scott Bonner to request a quote.

It was also agreed to replace the Notice Board in Sherbourne Street and to pursue quotes for this work.

Action – R Jones to contact local tradesmen to request quotes for this.

7. Planning Matters:

7.1. Planning applications received - None

7.2. Planning decisions received and noted – DC/22/03955 1 Walnut Tree Cottages, Mill Green. Erection of two storey side/rear extension and single storey side extension (following removal of existing outbuilding and conservatory). – Planning Permission approved.

7.3 Other urgent planning matters - None

8. **Neighbourhood Plan Update** – M Gibson reported the following: 72 people had attended the exhibitions and there had been lots of positive feedback. The next step was for a draft plan to be produced followed by a consultation on this and a referendum to approve the final plan.

9. Chairman's & Clerk's Reports and Correspondence

9.1 Edwardstone Almshouses – Nomination of Parish Council Trustees
As discussed previously, the Council had a responsibility to nominate two trustees to this committee and had now received written confirmation of this. It was agreed to nominate Helen Roger-Brown and Marlene Clarke to act as trustees on behalf of the Council. It was also agreed to invite Nick Raymond to attend the next meeting to give a brief summary of the work of the group.

Action – M Gibson to invite Nick Raymond to the next meeting on 21st November.

10. Climate Change

Following the wildfires that had taken place locally on 28th July, P Baker presented a report on investigations he had made regarding any sort of emergency or contingency plan that was in place to help local people in the event of future wildfires. Although there was some general advice available, he felt that a specific plan or advice leaflet for the Parish would be helpful. He was proposing a meeting be arranged with local interested parties to move this forward. It was suggested that contact be made with Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service as they may already have this information available.

Action – P Baker to make further enquiries before deciding on the next course of action.

Hedgerows and Wildflowers Project – SCC had agreed to both proposals put forward by the Council. Mini Orchard to be planted at the rear of the flats in Mill Green and a new selection of Wildflowers to be planted around the Millennium Green.

11. Highway & Footpath Matters

11.1 Footpath Cutting – No issues

11.2 Footpath Leaflet – T Wood reported that SCC officer has all the relevant information and the next step was for the pre-publication leaflet to be produced for approval.

11.3 Other Highways & Footpath Matters – Sharp bend chevrons at Sherbourne Street appear to be pointing in the wrong direction.

Action – R Jones to investigate via Councillor James Finch

Fence abutting the Highway in Mill Green opposite Rose Cottage in need of replacement.

Action – R Jones to report to SCC

12. Defibrillator Update

P Clarke reported that he had not received a response from his contact Joe at Community Heartbeat Trust regarding the signal booster and would now contact 'Debbie'.

Action – P Clarke to pursue.

13. Bus Shelter – Meeting to be arranged between T Wood, P Baker and B Hurren to assess work needed and possible costs.

14. Future Agenda Items – Speed Limits. Mill Green Street Light

15. Date of next meeting – Monday 21st November 2022 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.25pm.