

Edwardstone Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 January 2019 at Edwardstone Village Hall

Present: Councillors M Childs(Chair), P Baker, S Norman, D Williams, P Clarke

1. Apologies for Absence - Councillors C Britcher and S Flack – approved. D Williams left (8.40pm)

2. Councillors' Declarations of Interest on any Item on the Agenda – None

3. Reports from Suffolk County Council and Babergh District Council

3.1 Councillor James Finch reported the following:

Sudbury relief road project which had been previously costed no longer going ahead. SCC now looking at ways to improve traffic flow around existing junctions.

CAB Funding – SCC grant to reduce by half in 2019/20 and end completely in 2020/21. SCC to assist CAB with fund raising avenues. Not a decision that was taken lightly but savings had to be made and funds were needed for other services such as Children's and Adult care. Concerns were expressed about this and it was suggested that SCC use its reserves to make up the shortfall. It was agreed to write to Councillor Rout, SCC Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Protection to express EPC concerns over the removal of funding.

Pleased to report an increase in sports and physical activity in the county.

Children's Services – Almost 900 children in care across the county and SCC was looking to increase fostering. Drop-in session to be held on 11 March at Mary's House 7.30pm – 9.30pm.

Action – R Jones

3.2 Councillor Bryn Hurren reported the following:

Council Tax increase of 3% which equated to £60 - £70 for a Band D property. Difficult as the Police service was asking for an extra 12%. BDC had various investments such as Solar Panels to bring in funds.

Recycling – Should be 60-70% of total waste but BDC cannot get higher than 42%. Looking at ways to promote recycling. Visits to BDC recycling facilities were being arranged for March and EPC was invited to send 2 Councillors. A bottle bank was now available at Homefield. Also expressed concerns over an increase in Fly-tipping.

Sudbury CAB – BDC was looking at ways to increase its donation, possibly through more Grant Aid funding.

4. Reports and Questions from Councillors and Members of the Public - None

5. Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 November 2018

Approved and signed. Proposed S Norman and seconded by P Clarke.

6. Neighbourhood Plan

It was agreed that somebody was needed to move it forward. Good idea to work in conjunction with Groton PC but to make separate bids for funding. Joint meeting with Groton to be arranged and publicised. Councillor Hurren to invite BDC representative.

7. Highway and Footpath Matters

7.1 Footpath Cutting Issues – None

7.2 Grit Bins – No comments

7.3 Other Highways and Footpath Matters

Councillor Baker had reported several problems, but funding was limited. Footpath 5 – BDC did not have funds to replace the dangerous wire so it was suggested that they at least remove it to prevent possible injury to members of the public or animals.

8. Planning Matters

8.1 Planning Applications Received – None

8.2 Planning Decisions Received

Tudor Cottage, Mill Green – Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent granted.

8.3 Other Urgent Planning Matters

Councillor Baker had been in correspondence with BT regarding the proposed erection of 12 Telegraph Poles between Round Maple and Quicks Farm to enable the connection of existing supply and provide a future fibre connection. He has asked if the fibre could be run underground alongside existing cable.

9. Financial Matters

9.1 Statement of Finances and Orders for Payment and Accounts to Date

The Statement of Finances and Orders for Payment were approved.

The Accounts were checked and approved as shown:

Business Savings Account as at 31 December 2018	£2,523.24
Business Current Account as at 31 December 2018	<u>£5,693.24</u>
Total	<u>£8,216.48</u>

Payments received:

Bank Interest £1.26

Cheque no	Amount £	Payee	Purpose
1000867	£10.00	R J Jones	Clerk's Expenses Dec 18 – Jan 19
1000868	£562.40	R J Jones	Clerk's Salary Oct – Dec 18
d/d	£19.49	e-on	Electricity 1/10/18 – 31/12/18

Proposed S Norman Seconded by P Baker.

9.2 Sudbury CAB – deferred to next meeting

9.3 Budget 2018/19 – Agreed

9.4 Budget and Precept 2019/20 – Agreed. Precept to be increased by 1.99%

9.5 Financial Risk Assessment – Approved

9.6 Appointment of Internal Auditors 2018/19 – It was agreed to appoint Richard Norman

9.7 Any other Financial Matters - None

10. Chairman's and Clerk's Reports and Correspondence - None

11. Future Agenda Items

Neighbourhood Plan, Footpath Signs, Donation to Sudbury CAB.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 18 March 2019

The Clerk pointed out that the AGM would need to be brought forward to Monday 13 May 2019 as it needed to be within 2 weeks of the election on 2 May.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm