

EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Edwardstone Parish Council at Edwardstone Parish Hall on Monday
18 January 2016 at 7.30pm.

Present: S Norman, M Childs, P Clarke, P Baker

In attendance: A Robinson (Clerk); Daphne Clark

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from C Britcher and S Flack (unwell – approved) and J Finch. Apologies were received after the meeting from B Hurren who was away.
2. **Councillors' Declarations of Interest** in any item on this Agenda - none
3. Reports from:
 - 3.1. Suffolk County Council – J Finch was not in attendance.
 - 3.2. Babergh District Council – B Hurren was not in attendance.
4. **The Minutes** of the Meeting of 16 November 2015 were approved and signed.
5. **Councillor vacancy** – Councillors were still hoping to speak to interested parishioners. The vacancy would continue to be advertised.
6. **Highway and Footpath Matters**
 - 6.1. **Footpath cutting** – P Baker reported that the footpath sign at the Priory Green/Round Maple footpath has rotted through. The Clerk will report this to SCC. The Clerk will also chase SCC for a response to the request for further information about footpath cutting budgets and the identity of the contractors who cut paths in the village.
 - 6.2. **Potholes** – The Clerk has reported the pothole which has opened up again in Slabbs Lane. She will report the pothole outside Paul Clarke's house and one at Temple Bar at the bottom of the hill, and the culvert flooding there. It was noted that heavy vehicles are damaging the verges and the roads are very muddy.
7. **Reports and questions from Councillors and Members of the Public** – Daphne Clark reported that there was a problem in the Disabled Toilet in the Village Hall where a large crack has appeared. BDC surveyors have inspected and she is awaiting a structural engineer's report before she can obtain quotes for repair. If extensive repairs are required she may need to approach the PC to apply for a loan through the Public Loan Board. P Baker raised the issue of poor broadband signal in some areas of the village and queried whether all areas would be reached by the end of 2016. He proposed a survey to ascertain the extent of the problem. In view of J Finch's detailed knowledge of the subject, the Clerk will contact him once he is out of hospital and ask for an update and his views on the approach such a survey should take. P Baker also asked for further information on the phone mast funding issue. Boxford Community Council is looking into whether any further funding is available.
8. **Planning Matters**
 - 8.1. Planning application received – B/15/01623, 01630, 01631, 01632 – Land south and west of Daking Avenue and west of Swan Street, Boxford – variations – no objections
 - 8.2. Planning application received – B/15/01643 – 1 Mill Green, Edwardstone CO10 5PZ – erection of a single storey rear extension – no objections
 - 8.3. Planning inspectorate - APP/D3505/W/14/2218072 – re-determination of appeal regarding

change of use of agricultural land to use as a solar farm at Rogers Farm, Siam Hall Lane, Newton CO10 5LA – disappointment at the late notification of this by BDC was expressed.

- 8.4. Planning decisions received - B/15/01401 Borehouse Manor Farm, Groton Street CO10 5EE – change of use from agricultural barn to dwelling house to include change of use of agricultural land to residential and erection of 2 bay cartlodge and store – approved – noted.
- 8.5. Local housing needs – no action needed at present. To be returned to the agenda if required.
- 8.6. Any other urgent Planning Matters – none.

9. Financial Matters

- 9.1. The Statement of Finances & Order for Payments was approved as under and the cheques were signed:

Business Saver Account as at 31 December 2015	£2516.52
Business Current Account as at 31 December 2015	<u>£5041.44</u>
Total	<u>£7577.96</u>

Cheque no	Amount	Payee	Purpose
100769	£75	J Rodger-Brown	Strimming war memorial and footpath
100770	£433.39	Anita Robinson	Clerk's salary Oct-Dec 2015
100771	£25.32	Anita Robinson	Clerk's expenses to 5/1/16
d/d	£13.50	E-on	Electricity

- 9.2. Precept for 2015-16 – at the November meeting the PC had resolved to keep the precept at £5625. The forms had now been received from BDC and the Council resolved to sign the forms seeking that sum. The forms were duly signed.
- 9.3. Purchase of a laptop for use by the Clerk following receipt of the Transparency Fund grant – as funding has now been received the PC resolved that the Clerk could purchase a suitable laptop for the Parish Council. Currently she uses an 8 ½ year old laptop shared with Groton.
- 9.4. Any other financial matters – 2 members of the PC signed the Bank Mandate Change form to remove J Robinson from the list of signatories.

10. Quotations for defibrillator in the phone box – the PC considered the quotations received from the Community Heartbeat Trust and resolved to obtain the defibrillator with a lockable cabinet, and the village emergency telephone. This is dependent on the adoption of the phone box which will take about another month. The Clerk will contact CHT.

11. Chairman's and Clerk's reports and correspondence – the Clerk will obtain a password for the new SALC website for use by the Chairman. The door to the notice board in Sherbourne Street keeps blowing open and has to be jammed shut with paper. P Clarke offered to fit a hook and eye or similar fixing as soon as possible. B Hurren has the keys and the Clerk has asked him to let her have them and to check the stability of the notice board.

12. Future Agenda items – Defibrillator, potholes, footpaths, broadband, phone mast

13. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 21 March 2016

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10 pm.

Chairman

Date