

EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Edwardstone Parish Council at Edwardstone Parish Hall on Monday 16 November 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present: S Norman, C Britcher, M Childs, S Flack, P Clarke

In attendance: B Hurren (BDC); J Finch (SCC); A Robinson (Clerk); M Render (until after item 3); one member of the public (until after item 6)

1. Apologies for absence were received from P Baker (holiday) and approved.
2. Councillors' Declarations of Interest in any item on this Agenda - none
3. Presentation by Martin Render, Chairman of The Community Heartbeat Trust – he gave a detailed explanation of the options available for installing a defibrillator into the phone box, and the adoption of the box. It should last for at least 10 years and would cost between £1200 and £2000 depending on the specification chosen. Monthly checking of the system will be required and C Britcher volunteered to do this. Vandalism could be an issue, but the equipment can be covered either by the PC's own insurance or by the Trust's insurance. The electrodes would have to be replaced every 2 years or after each use, at a cost of £40, and the battery will need replacing about every 4 years at a cost of £200. It should be possible for BT to provide an emergency phone which would probably cost £340 plus token line rental of £1. The Council resolved to go ahead with the installation and M Render will contact the Clerk with further details and a request for information. The Clerk confirmed that over £2300 had been collected in memory of Jim Robinson and that this money would be used to cover the cost of the defibrillator.
4. Reports from:
 - 4.1. Suffolk County Council – J Finch had circulated his report prior to the meeting, covering the Suffolk Skills Show, improvements in Early Years school achievements, the school admissions policy consultation, a fund to help school projects to boost disadvantaged Suffolk students, and the search for Short Stay Stopping Sites for travellers. J Finch confirmed that although the funding is no longer available for a mobile phone mast for the area, work is being done to try to obtain funding elsewhere, with another site in mind. He confirmed that the broadband project was still ahead of schedule and most of Edwardstone should be covered by the last quarter of 2016. A voucher is available for a satellite support system which may assist local businesses in the meantime.
 - 4.2. Babergh District Council – B Hurren advised that the Community Infrastructure Levy is now in place. A bid has gone in for devolution from Suffolk and Norfolk. He discussed local housing needs and said that it had transpired that there were 9 people on the list for Edwardstone. The matter is to be put on the next agenda to consider whether a housing needs survey, possibly jointly with Groton, should be carried out. He confirmed that the Post Office in Boxford is now secure and the shop is to re-open in the next few days.
5. The Minutes of the Meeting of 21 September 2015 were approved and signed.
6. Councillor vacancy – one member of the public attended and expressed an interest in being co-

opted as a member of the Council. Others had expressed an interest in co-option and the Council resolved to speak to all interested parties before a decision is reached.

7. Highway and Footpath Matters

7.1. Footpath cutting – no current issues. The Chairman queried with B Hurren when the hedge at Mill Green would be cut. B Hurren will check. There is also an issue with the hedge at the bottom of Sherbourne Street becoming overgrown.

7.2. Potholes – work is due to be carried out on Groton Street in early December. There is flooding again near Edwardstone Hall and Temple Bar, which will be reported.

8. Reports and questions from Councillors and Members of the Public - none

9. Planning Matters:

9.1. Planning applications 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 – no objections.

9.2. B/15/01532 – 5 The Winthrops, Edwardstone CO10 5QG – Reduce crown back to previous pruning points and lift crown to 4 metres of 1 oak tree and reduce the height by 30% of 1 holly tree covered by TPO ref WS44/A1 – no objections.

9.3. Planning decisions received – B/15/00859 – Sherbourne House Farm, Sherbourne Street CO10 – Installation of a 20m high lattice tower – withdrawn. Noted.

10. Financial Matters:

10.1. The Statement of Finances & Order for Payments was approved as under.

Business Saver Account as at 30 October 2015	£2516.21
Business Current Account as at 30 October 2015	<u>£5524.86</u>
Total	<u>£8041.07</u>

Cheque no	Amount	Payee	Purpose
100763	£21.55	Anita Robinson	Expenses July-Nov 15
100764	£16.80	SALC	6 months payroll service to 30/9/15
100765	£25	Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath
d/d	£13.50	E-on	Electricity

10.2. The financial risk assessment was carried out for 2015-16 and the Register of Assets checked.

10.3. Richard Norman had kindly offered to act as internal auditor for 2015-16 and this was approved.

10.4. The draft budget for 2015-16 was considered. It was resolved that there would be no need to increase the precept at this time but there may be a need going forward to take into account running costs of the defibrillator.

10.5. Donations and s137 payments – the Council resolved to make the following payments now with further payments to be considered at the March meeting:

Cheque no	Amount	Payee
100766	£300	Edwardstone PCC
100767	£375	Edwardstone Millennium Green Trust
100768	£350	Edwardstone Village Hall

11. Chairman's and Clerk's reports and correspondence – noted.
12. Future Agenda items – Defibrillator, potholes, local housing needs
13. To set the dates of the meetings for 2016 – these were agreed as 18 January, 21 March, 16 May, 18 July, 19 September and 21 November 2016.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.18 pm.

Chairman

Date