

Blythburgh with Bulcamp and Hinton Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
Monday 12th January 2009 at 7:30 pm

Present: Cllr D Tytler (Chair), Cllr Lewis, Cllr A Mackley, Cllr C Waller, Cllr R Williams, J Boggis (Clerk).

Open Forum

First Responder Team. A Parishioner was very grateful for the services of the First responder team from Southwold and asked what the Parish Council thought about setting up a team in Blythburgh. The Parishioner had been to Walberwick to listen to what was involved and asked about having a similar session at Blythburgh. This is a local service so the Southwold and Walberswick teams would not cover Blythburgh. As with many teams this would rely on volunteers to run and act as first responders after being trained.

Proposal – Clerk to contact the Emergency team and arrange a meeting

Agreed

Police Report presented by PCSO Jamie Newson. The figures for reported crime from 1st April 2008 to the 1st January 2009 stand at 16 reported crimes for that period, 5 of which have been detected and 11 remain at present undetected. There were also 11 crimes of mainly theft from person connected with the latitude festival which have not been counted in the figures for the village.

The mobile police station will continue to visit Blythburgh village and stops in the lay by just down from the A12 on Dunwich Road. Exact times for visits can be found on the Suffolk Constabulary website.

Last week saw the launch of community speedwatch in Blythburgh, this with the support of officers at Saxmundham Safer Neighbourhood Team will identify prolific speeders and make Blythburgh a safer place by slowing traffic.

Villager of the Year. A suggestion was made by a Parishioner that there should be a Villager of the Year award which would be awarded at the Annual Parish Meeting. All those attending thought this was a good idea.

Parish Plan. The progress has stalled as the Steering Committee await training from Suffolk ACRE. This training has been moved from November to January. Once the training is complete the steering committee will present their findings to the Parishioners and look for their views on what are the priorities for the Parish. This information will be used to build the Parish Plan.

Parish Council Meeting – Commenced at 8:00pm

08/88. Agree the Agenda

Add - Donations to Blyth Estuary Group
- Discuss Villager of the Year Award.

Agreed

08/89. To receive Members' declarations of interest on any matters on the agenda

No declarations of interest declared

08/90. To note apologies for absence

Cllr Benson – Unable to attend as on a delayed train from London.

Cllr Clapham – Unable to attend.

08/91. Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th November 2008
Proposal – To accept the minutes of the 10th November meeting as presented
Agreed

08/92. To receive the Clerk's Report

Clerk presented report on activities since last meeting. Report attached to minutes.

Proposal - To accept Clerks report as presented

Agreed

The cost (~£500) of a new notice board for the Village hall caused some discussion. Cllr Lewis agreed to look into the availability of a notice board from her company.

The search for ownership of the one of the 'green areas' in the village uncovered that there was no registered owner. It was agreed not to carry out any more paid searches.

A Burrows was prepared to allow the younger members of the village to use the field where his sheep graze for ball games. This would be at no obligation to him and would need agreeing with the land owner. Parish Council agreed to wait to see the outcome of the Village Plan.

The Parish Council agreed that the focus of the bus shelters would be on the new shelter for the south side of the A12. The Clerk has contacted Cllr Leighton about a grant from the Locality budget. Should this be available the Parish Council believe it could contribute £1400 towards the cost of the new bus shelter.

Proposal - Clerk to contact SCC with update on funds available and change of focus.

Agreed

08/93. To receive the report from the planning sub-committee

Two consultation documents received relating to the Local Plans for WDC and SCDC.

Responses no needed until late February so will be discussed at the next meeting.

- To receive any planning decisions

GRANTED Application No.C08/1563

Location; Blyth View, Bulcamp, Blythburgh

Proposal; Alterations to estate road to reduce impact on burial ground.

REJECTED Application No.C/07/1863 - **APPEAL**

Location Land opposite Priory Lodge, Priory Road, Blythburgh

Proposal Erection of two two-storey dwellings

- To consider any planning applications received by 12th January 2009 and determine the Parish Councils response to them.

NONE received.

08/94. To receive the report from the financial sub-committee

- Current Financial Situation (reconciled)

Current Account bank Statement £2478.21

Business Reserve Account Statement £8146.74

Estimated Spending for remainder of 2008/2009 = £3476.97

Estimated reserve at end of 2008/09 year = £7147.98

- Discuss and agree any payments required of the Council
Proposal - Payment for Cleaning Bus Shelters 11/8/08 to 12/12/08 - £144.00

Agreed

- Proposal - Payment for Speedwatch Road Signs - £152.00

Agreed

- Proposal - Payment for search on Land ownership - £57.50

Agreed

- Proposal - Payment for Clerks remuneration and Expenses - £309.79

Agreed

- Donation requests

The Parish Council discussed the request for donations and agreed the following

- Proposal – Donate £50 to Victim Support

Agreed

- Proposal – Donate to Blythburgh Christmas Tea expenses estimated at £25

Agreed

- Proposal – Donate to £250 to the Blyth Estuary Group

Agreed

08/95. To receive the Parish Plan steering committee report.

This was discussed in the Open Forum, see above.

08/96. To receive an update on the Community Speed Watch Campaign.

The Speed Watch campaign aim is to reduce the speed of the traffic through Blythburgh to improve safety and hence improve the quality of life for the residents of the Village.

Cllr Lewis wished to thank; The Latitude Festival Organisers for the generous donation of the Speed Gun; Blythburgh Parish Council; Sizewell A power Station for the reflective Jackets; The Suffolk Police Safer Neighbour hood team; Rachael Thaker, the Police support person; and finally the Volunteers who have got involved in the speedwatch campaign. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Cllr Lewis (01502 478624).

Cllr Williams then thanked Cllr Lewis for her drive and determination to get the campaign running.

- Proposal – Clerk to look into insurance related to the speed gun

Agreed.

08/97. To receive an update on the Playsite.

No update

08/98. Village Hall

Clerk has not progressed getting the soak away problems resolved.

Clerk looked into getting a new notice board for the entrance to the Village Hall and reported back that this would cost approximately £500. See Clerks report above.

Cllr Lewis discussed with Village hall committee cleaning and re hanging the curtains But this was rejected.

It was noted that the staging had been sold.

08/99. Condition of the Village 'green' areas

The Parish Council agreed to monitor the condition of the Village 'green' areas.

08/100. Correspondence

08/100.1 Bus shelters – Update from SCC

See Clerks Report above.

08/101. To discuss any other matter the Chair will allow

08/101.1 Villager of the year.

The Parish Council agreed this was a good idea

Proposal – Clerk and Chairman to look into detail of award and nominations.

Agreed

08/101.2 Condition of hedge at end of Village Hall Drive

Proposal – Clerk to arrange to have this tidied up to improve vision

Agreed

Meeting Closed @ 9:00pm

Cllr Rae Leighton then gave his report

SCC is in limbo as it awaits the outcome of the Boundary Commission review

Q – When will Boundary Commission review be implemented

A – With some of the processes that have to be completed Cllr did not see it happening before 2012

Budget – He saw the year ahead as being a difficult year

Schools Organisational review – This is ongoing with the Consultation on the Leiston, Beccles and Bungay pyramids complete. There will be a presentation to Council in March with an approval at the end of March. Lowestoft has a plan in place which is moving at a pace.

Finally he commended Cllr Lewis on the speed watch campaign.

Date of next meeting; Monday 9th March 2009 commencing with an Open Forum at 7:30pm followed by the Council Meeting starting at the earliest of 8:00pm

Clerks Report to Parish Council Meeting

Parish Council Meeting - Monday 1st January 2009 at 7:30 pm

- BT Adopt a Kiosk. I contacted BT to notify them that the Parish Council did not want to adopt the kiosk. I received a voice message on 5th December from a Paul McDonald stating that the request had been noted.
- Planning Applications. Contacted SCDC Stating that Blythburgh Parish Council had no objection to the applications at Haw Wood Camp and there was no change to the original response on 1 Stone Cottage.
- Made payments as agreed at the last meeting with the exception of the money to the Blythburgh Latitude Trust, as they still do not have a bank account. Received thank you letters from Macmillan in Suffolk and the Leiston, Saxmundham and district Citizens Advice Bureau for the donations made.
- Precept for 2009/10. Sent to SCDC the forms requesting no change in the level of precept for 2009-2010 financial year.
- Village Hall. I have not progressed the resolution of the soak away problem.
- Village 'green' areas. I used LRC to look for just one piece of land, that near the bus stop, and this is not registered. I only did this one bit due to the cost of £57.50. If the Parish Council wishes me to investigate more areas I am happy to do so but because of the cost I only carried out one search.
- Playsite. I contacted someone about repairing the gate to the play site and an estimate is being prepared which I have yet to receive. If the Parish Council is in agreement I will get this work done if it falls within my budget limit.
- Discussion with A Burrows over play area. Mr Burrows has no problem with the use of the field he rents for ball games on the proviso that it is agreed by the land owner, that he would not be liable for any incidents that may occur and that when the sheep (especially the ram) are in the field it is not used.
- Andrew Blois presentation. I sent an e-mail to Andrew Blois thanking him for an interesting and informative presentation.
- The bus shelters on the A12. SCC have visited the sites and agreed that it is possible. They do not have the budget to fund it all and want to know how much the Parish Council can contribute. The estimated cost per shelter is £5000. I responded that the shelter on the south side of the A12 was the priority.
- The brick bus shelters on the A12. No cost for pressure washing the inside has been obtained.
- Clerk spoke to Mr Ireland about the condition of the path leading from the old station road to behind the Church and work to restore it is in hand when the weather improves.