

**MINUTES of the Ashby, Herringfleet & Somerleyton Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday
7th January at 7.15 pm in Somerleyton Village Hall.**

Present:

Mr Shreeve (Chairman)	Mrs D Lloyd
Ms S Palmer	Mrs S Harper
Mr S Phillips	Mrs L Homer
Mrs G Gibbs	Ms J Anderson (Parish Clerk)

In Attendance: Sgt. Andy Green, PCSO Julia Quantrill

Public Forum: The chairman Mr John Shreeve opened the Public Forum at 7.15pm introducing Sargent Andy Green and PCSO Julia Quantrill to the meeting.

Andy Green informed the meeting that Bernie Guymer had retired and he has replaced him. He will endeavour to attend the meetings when PC D Stranks cannot make them. Sgt. Andy Green read out the crime report for November and December. In this time there were no recorded crimes reported. There was a report before Christmas of a poaching incident in Somerleyton, the police are requesting prompt reporting of any suspicious activity or vehicles being observed. To contact the police telephone 01986 835100, this will connect directly through to Martlesham where calls will then be directed to the appropriate officers.

There was a query from a member of the public concerning bikes and quad bikes along Waddling Way, driving dangerously and towards walkers on the lanes. Sgt. Andy Green said they should have either a road licence or insurance, and said he would look into this.

There being no further business the Parish Council meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

1. **Apologies for Absence – were received from Ms MJ Leyne, Lady Somerleyton, Mrs S Leonard, Mr M Wright, District Councillor P Ashdown, County Councillor M Barnard, County Councillor C Law, PC D Stranks, PCSO Sue Kershaw.**
2. **Declarations of Interest – None**
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting – The minutes of the meeting of 4th November 2009 had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Simon Phillips and seconded by Sue Harper and unanimously agreed they are a true record of that meeting and the Chairman duly signed them off.**
4. **Matters Arising – A request for a new memorial seat has been received from a member of the public to be placed by the broads. Further discussion was made with regard to seats and the upkeep in 6.1.**
5. **Ongoing Matters -**
 - 5.1 **Community Speed Watch – The speed guns can only be used in the 30 mph limit, there is no ability to use the gun on the 60 mph stretches of road. The 2 volunteers have stepped down, so further volunteers are now being sought.**
 - 5.2 **Local Government Review – The Suffolk Boundaries were discussed, with the 2 options suggested being 1) Ipswich, and the surrounding area, or 2) Suffolk as a whole. It was suggested the Parish Council could write supporting one of the 2 options or suggest another option or stay as we are. A reply needs to be made by 19th January. John Shreeve suggested to opt for the whole of Suffolk, it was agreed by the members to send a letter of this decision.**

- 5.3 River Walk – John Shreeve is awaiting a decision and information from the Broads Authority, so far the information received is that paths such as permissive paths are cut 4 times a year, the senior ranger is responsible for this.
- 5.4 Marsh Lane Flooding – District Councillor Paul Ashdown is following this up.
- 5.5 B1074 Cats Eyes and Safety Improvements – Some of the cats eyes have been put in place, but not completed, Sue has agreed to check where they have not been completed, then enquiries will be made to Mike Barnard as to what is happening. There is going to be a meeting on site with regard to the safety improvements, but the date is as yet unknown.
- 5.6 Smock Mill – Mike Barnard has obtained some information on Mill Rights, and has information on what group is prepared to get involved with the upkeep of the mill. He will keep the Parish Council informed as to progress on this matter.
- 5.7 PC Response to Consultation on Voting Frequency – There had been a few responses received all in favour of 4 yearly voting.

6. New Matters

- 6.1 PC and its Liability for Donated Public Seats / Loss of Wicker Well Seat– This discussion came about following the request of a lady who would like a memorial seat placed somewhere in the Somerleyton broads area near the marina. The cost of the upkeep of seats within the Parish was discussed, and what funds could be used. The lady requesting this latest memorial seat has said the family will be happy to make a contribution for its maintenance and upkeep. The 3 bench seats that the Parish Council own had insurance cover, but one of these was now lost (Wicker Well). A suggestion was made to have a seat at Smock Mill. It was decided to carry out a survey of seats in the Parish, and decide on a policy for the upkeep, Simon agreed to carry this out and report back at the next meeting the number of seats and their status.
- 6.2 Deputy Chairman – John Shreeve invited members to come forward and volunteer to become Deputy Chairman to take over and run meetings in his absence.

7. Planning – There were no recent applications or decisions.

8. Correspondence – Jenny drew attention to various correspondence received over the last month. Suffolk Accident Rescue Service, Wherry Yacht Charter Charitable Trust, Somerleyton Charities informing the Parish Council that the current trustees have completed 4 years in office and have been nominated for a further 4 years. It was proposed to ask the community if anyone was interested in becoming a trustee for Somerleyton Charities. An advertisement will be placed in the Hexagon for the 2 vacancies, anyone wishing to apply should contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance.

9. Cheques to be Approved – There were 2 cheques for approval, Parish Clerk subscription and Suffolk Preservation Society, both were approved.

10. Village Communications – Newsletter – a discussion round setting up a group to produce and deliver a newsletter in the parish and its content took place. Simon, Sue and Denise have agreed to take on this task.

11. Events to be Planned in 2010 -

- 11.1 Film Event Saturday 20th March youths at 3.30, adults at 7.30 films to be decided.
- 11.2 Litter Pick Up Sunday 28th March at 11.00 am.
- 11.3 Quiz and Chip Night provisionally Saturday 1st May, Mike Wright will organise.
- 11.4 Barn Dance Saturday 5th June, venue to be decided.
- 11.5 Village Fete July, date to be confirmed.

12. Any Other Business

- 12.1 Bonfire Night – Simon gave out the financial details, a profit of £177.00 was made on the night.**
- 12.2 Slipway to the staithe – concern was raised that there is a slipway to the left of the staithe which may be used as a slipway. It was agreed to write to the Broads Authority concerning this.**
- 12.3 Christmas Lights – the cost of electricity needs to be calculated for the cost of running the Christmas lights and reimbursing the school, Simon will carry this out.**
- 12.4 Hovercraft – The base stone is in position, contractors will be back in April to continue with the work.**
- 12.5 The estate has started the repairs on the wall in the village.**
- 12.6 Internal Audit – needs to be carried out after the AGM, the current auditor may no longer be able to carry the audit out and a new internal auditor may need to be found.**
- 12.7 Salt Bins – Following the current bad weather gritting and salt bins were discussed and the lack of both in the village. It was agreed to contact WDC and enquire as to their policies on gritting and salt bins in rural villages.**
- 12.8 Essex & Suffolk Water Company – Improving water services, letters have been received by the villagers informing of their intention to commence work on Monday 25th January for approximately 10 weeks in The Street, Somerleyton.**
- 12.9 Laminator – A request to purchase a laminator was made to help preserve notices placed in the Parish notice board. It was agreed to purchase an A3 size to accommodate larger posters with a budget not to exceed £100.00.**

- 13. Date and Time of Next Meeting – Thursday 4th March 7.15pm,
Refreshments – Sarah**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20pm