

Minutes of the Meeting of Rattlesden Parish Council
held on 31 March 2009
at 8.00p.m. in the Village Hall

Present: Councillors Davey, Edrich, Edwards, Evans, Goodchild, Keeling and Suter

In attendance: District and County Councillor Penny Otton and three members of the public

137. Meeting opened

137.1 The Chairman opened the meeting by congratulating Councillor Edwards on being elected chairman of the Village Hall Committee.

138. Minutes

138.1 The minutes of the previous meeting, having been distributed beforehand, were declared a true and correct record, subject to one correction. In paragraph 134.2, the word 'Councillor' should be replaced by 'Mr'. A copy was signed by the Chairman.

139. Matters arising

139.1 The Chairman reported on the following matters arising from the previous meeting:

- The Chairman had informed Mr Lee that the parish council would not be accepting his quote for cemetery maintenance. The Clerk would contact Woolpit Landscapes to renew their contract after the councillors had reviewed the cemetery.
- The Parochial Church Council had been asked to reconsider leasing the old playing field next to Rising Sun Hill for allotments, and it would be discussing this at its April meeting. Councillor Otton was investigating whether there was any possibility of using the land behind St Nicholas Close for the same purpose, or whether any County Council land could be made available.
- Mr Strickland had given the Clerk some information about wind turbines and Councillor Otton had put her in touch with a local expert.
- The District Council had still not removed the garden waste behind the bottle bank, despite three requests from the Clerk.
- The Highways Department had promised that, in the summer, it would reinstate the white lines for the Birds Green and Half Moon Street junctions. It had also promised to carry out an assessment visit to review the blocked drainage ditches on Woolpit Hill, by Cemetery Green and on Lower Road (near the Bells footpath).

- The Clerk had asked Councillor Otton if white lines could be painted on Lower Road, near to Rising Sun Hill. Councillor Otton confirmed that this job was now on the list of small improvements to be covered by a special council budget.
- Councillor Otton had informed the Clerk that police consent was required to close Lower Road in case of flooding. The Clerk was investigating this.
- The Chairman had given Mrs Sparke her cheque, together with a bouquet of flowers. Mrs Sparke had written a letter, thanking the parish council.

The meeting was then adjourned

140. Report from District and County Councillor Penny Otton

140.1 Councillor Otton reported that she had requested that £500 of the Locality Budget should be allocated to Rattlesden Youth Community Council to help with a kitchen for the new pavilion.

140.2 She confirmed that plasterboard could no longer be taken to the Stowmarket recycling centre, but could be disposed of in Bury St Edmunds or Ipswich.

141. Public discussion

141.1 Mr Carne complained about cars speeding on the Stowmarket Road. He said that the problem was at its worst between 6.30 and 8.00 am and in the evening from 9.30 pm onwards. The Clerk confirmed that she had informed the police of Mrs Carne's complaint. Councillor Otton said that she would ask PC Haygreen to undertake a speed check on the road. The Clerk was asked to repeat the parish council's request to the Highways Department to extend the 30 mph speed limit on this road. It was agreed that the parish council would discuss this problem at its April meeting.

The meeting then resumed.

142. Planning

142.1 Planning applications: The Councillors considered the following planning application:

Reference	Applicant	Details	Decision
0584/09	Mr Ken Osman	Tree works in Rattlesden Churchyard (deadline for comments had passed and Carol Williamson had no objections)	No comment

142.2 Planning permissions: The Councillors noted the following planning permission:

Reference	Applicant	Details
4202/08	Mr and Mrs Steward	Two storey extension to Hollandia, Top Road

143. Finance

143.1 Accounts for payment: The following accounts were approved for payment:

Payee	Description	Amount
Mid Suffolk District Council	Invoice for 2007 grass cutting (original invoice sent in November 2007 did not arrive)	£149.22
Mid Suffolk District Council	Cemetery rates for 01/04/09 to 31/03/10	£ 24.05
Suffolk ACRE	Annual subscription	£ 25.00
Mrs Jean Coleman	Litter-picker's salary for March 2009	£ 91.68
Bridget Goodchild	Clerk's salary for March 2009	£222.00
Bridget Goodchild	Reimbursement for printer ink	£ 26.08
David Goodchild	Reimbursement for Mrs Sparke's bouquet	£ 20.00

144. Cemetery

144.1 Headstone: Ms Jenkins explained her request to have a headstone for her stillborn baby, despite the fact that the design did not comply with the parish council cemetery regulations. Councillor Keeling proposed that the request should be approved. Councillor Edwards seconded the motion, which was carried with one abstention.

144.2 The Clerk was asked to point out to the stonemason that it should take account of the regulations in future.

144.3 Cemetery review: It was agreed that the councillors would meet to review the cemetery at 6 pm on Tuesday 21 April.

145. Boilerjuice

145.1 The Councillors noted the information provided about Boilerjuice. They asked the Clerk to put a note in *Rattlesden Revelations*, asking if anybody would like to run a scheme to order heating oil.

146. Date of annual meeting

146.1 The Clerk advised the Councillors that she had booked the Village Hall on Thursday 21 May for the annual meeting of the parish. This would begin at 8.00 pm. The parish council's annual meeting would begin half an hour earlier, at 7.30 pm.

147. Village Hall lease

147.1 Councillor Edwards declared a financial interest in this item and signed the register of interests.

147.2 The Councillors asked the Clerk to contact the Parochial Church Council, pointing out that the situation concerning the boundary (and the costs that might result) had arisen as a result of advice given by Mr Hall.

148. Correspondence

148.1 A list of correspondence was noted. (The list is set out at the end of these Minutes.)

149. Any other business

149.1 **Church Path:** Councillor Davey reported that the hedges on Church Path needed cutting. It was agreed that the Councillors would look at the hedges before the next meeting and would also check on the hedges between the Church and the Five Bells.

149.2 Councillor Otton asked the Clerk to give her a list of Highways work for the village so that she could show John Boutcher (Highways Department) what was required.

There being no further business, the meeting was brought to a close at 8.55 pm.

Rattlesden Parish Council meeting on 31 March 2009

Correspondence received

Item	Date
1. <i>Clerks and Councils Direct</i>	March 2009
2. Information about further consultation by the Boundary Committee on local government in Suffolk	27.02.09
3. Details of revised bus services (copies placed in bus shelters)	
4. Invitation to workshops for the 'Your Place' project	04.03.09
5. Suffolk ACRE newsletter	March 2009
6. Newsletter from the Standards Board	February 2009
7. Letter from Mid Suffolk District Council about the Boundary Committee proposals	19.03.09
8. Request for financial support from the Spinal Injuries Association	
9. Information from SALC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Briefing on the delays to the implementation of S76 of the Local Government Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (allowing appointed councillors to join local councils (in addition to elected and co-opted councillors) ■ Invitation to a course on the new Power of Well-Being provision (giving certain councils greater freedom to make grants and fund projects) ■ Details of the Boundary Committee's proposals for Suffolk ■ Details of the salary award for clerks from 1 April 2008 ■ Details of training courses for parish councillors ■ Details of NHS consultation on improving out of hours care (see www.suffolk.nhs.uk/consultation) Deadline for comments is 22 May 2009. 	
10. Notification that special arrangements will now ap	23.03.09
11.	
12.	
13. ply to the disposal of plasterboard	