

EARL SOHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Earl Soham Village Hall

Minutes for ESPC 07/03/18 at 19.30

Attending: Chairman David Grose, councillors Mark Rutherford, John Starke, Anna Goymer, Lucy Murrell, Neil Warden, Celia Peacher and Clerk Guy Harvey
Public 4 members names held by clerk

DG opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone

- 1) Apologies: from Peter Russell and Andrew Patterson
- 2) Declaration of interest: from Neil Warden
- 3) a) Approval of minutes: minutes approved from 4th and 11th
b) Matters arising from 4th and 11th: none
- 4) Public comment: comment was made about the flooding on Bedfield road and that it has been very bad of late JS mentioned that he had sent an email to Robin Vickary about this and the chevrons. Another member of the public mentioned that the flooding further on past Yew Tree Business Centre on the A1120 was because the pipe going from the landowner's ditch across the road needed to be cleared out and was the responsibility of Highways this would be reported to the. Earl Soham Business Centre needed to be taken off the agenda now as there would be no progress over the next 6 months or so. The Council was also being advised that Mint Fitness had been served notice to leave and this would be taking place by on or about the 16th June 2018. Another member of the public thanked the Parish Council for their objection for planning permission DC/17/5058/FUL on the grounds of extended opening times. They also expressed their disappointment that despite local public, Parish Council and District councillor's objection this application wasn't referred to committee.
- 5) Reports from Robin Vickary, Chris Hudson and school: RV reported that he no money to help with anything to do with Highways due to a massive overspend on another project and this would overlap into next year with other projects pending so any funding he might be able to help with would be unlikely. On a positive note he has promised to grant us £1000 towards a defibrillator and to send our application in from April 2018. AG commented that there should be some transparency on Highways spending. LM spending from Highways on A1120 has not been great since being downgraded to a tourist route. NW asked if any of the recent spate of accidents been reported to the Police. More discussion about CP being knocked over by a car mounting the pavement near Bedfield road. DG Its clear that if we want to get anything done quickly then we would have to action this ourselves we have put some money aside in the budget to help with road safety so perhaps we need to get a quote to reinstate the white picket fence the chevrons were attached to, JS we have the chevrons AG we need to find out about being liable if we reinstate the chevrons or whether highways will adopt it back.
- 6) Planning and Notifications: DC/18/0284/LBC no objections. DG with reference to the recent application DC/17/5058/FUL felt that ESPC, district councillor Chris Hudson and many local residents had been let down by Suffolk Coastal Planning offices referral system which only gave us 5 days to respond and that doesn't give us enough time to reasonably arrange a meeting as we are bound by the standing orders. DG asked if as a Council we wanted to make a formal complaint to the District Council for its lack of transparency and the current system fails as when it goes to referral its behind closed doors and is not at all democratic it is also believed that Suffolk Coastal are the only council in the country who are using this hidden referral system, much discussion followed, it was agreed that if DG wanted to pass our objections on he could DG to seek more advice from Chris Hudson.

- 7) Others matters to debate: GH explained the changes and that the following items needed to be reviewed namely Risk Assessment, Review of Financial Controls and Financial Regulations, Internal Audit, Standing Orders with the additions of Code of Conduct and Transparency Code all changes were explained and took separate votes and unanimously approved and signed by the chair
- 8) Update of expenditure on budgeted items: GH Defibrillator; looking to get quotes and costings, traffic calming; quote for reinstate fence at Bedfield road and clean and paint pinch gates, village green; erosion of green on road near The Rookery, Village Hall; was there any reason why we didn't give the village hall our donation earlier than January as we received the money by the end of April, cemetery; £480 had been spent on a thorough clear up and we are now waiting for drone to come and take pictures MR it will be weather permitting but would be done in the next couple of weeks, computer and filing cabinet would be purchased in the next couple of days
- 9) Bedfield Road Flooding: DG reported that he had written to highways and had not had a response yet CP someone had turned up to clear blockage but said the drain that goes under the driveways between Bedfield road and A1120 seriously blocked and would need a bigger repair also that the amount of water flooding out had increased since the recent cold spell as the pipe for the tap in the cemetery had split and was leaking as well Anglia Water had been contacted to repair this.
- 10) Earl Soham Business Centre: DG as no update would be made over the next 6 months or so then this would be taken off the agenda until further notice
- 11) Neighbourhood Plan update: see attached
- 12) Jubilee wood dog bin: GH explained that the committee of the Jubilee Wood are happy to erect the dog bin so this would reduce the cost considerably to just £87 plus £12 for the first year emptying plus VAT seeing as we were prepared to offer them £100 donation would it be ok if we ordered the bin for them obviously it will be their responsibility, all agreed to this
- 13) Financial Report: see attached
- 14) Cheques Signed: see attached
- 15) Correspondence since last meeting:
- 16) Anything to add to next meeting:
- 17) Next Meeting: Annual Parish Meeting 7.00pm 18th April 2018

The Chairman thanked everyone for their support and coming to the meeting

Meeting Closed at 9.10pm

Minutes approved and signed