

The Annual Meeting of Eyke Parish Council took place on Monday, 14th May 2018 at 7.00pm in Eyke Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Abu-Hejleh, Cllr Cushing, Cllr Fleming, Cllr Stangoe, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Whitmore and the clerk.

Apologies: Cllr Howlett-Thomson.

Election of Chairman: Cllr Fleming: proposed by Cllr Cushing, seconded by Cllr Whitmore and carried unanimously.

Election of Vice Chairman: Cllr Abu-Hejleh: proposed by Cllr Cushing, seconded by Cllr Stangoe and carried unanimously.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

Minutes: Those of 12th March 2018, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, agreed and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising:

1. Fete. This will take place on 22nd July, starting at 1.00pm. Setting up will be on 19th July at 6.00pm in The Old Rectory gardens, courtesy of Mr and Mrs Brigginsshaw. Cllr Fleming will go to Mr and Mrs Fisher's at 5.40pm to load the marquees. Help with this would be appreciated. There will be the usual stalls and games, but ideas for new ones would be welcome.
2. Village Hall. The clerk met with Mr Fisher to discuss the current situation, and he offered to try once more through Suffolk ACRE contacts to resolve the matter before going down the more expensive route of employing a solicitor. There will be an update at the Annual Parish Meeting.
3. Highways response regarding road capacity issues. A written response has now been received from Graham Mateer at SCC. The total of 7,500 vehicles per day is not seen as a concern, as there are no significant delays to journey times occurring regularly. In terms of new applications, if there are environmental or safety concerns even if the traffic flow is still considered acceptable, then mitigation to alleviate the effects might be required. Councillors felt this response falls short and that it is likely that Mr Mateer has not even seen the road and its problems for himself. It was agreed that the clerk will try and arrange a meeting between him and Cllrs Abu-Hejleh and Cushing to clarify the situation further.
4. Data Protection. The clerk attended a meeting at East Suffolk House on Tuesday, 8th May, which proved supportive and helpful. Although there is now no requirement for the Parish Council to appoint a Data Protection Officer, the council will have to follow the regulations, which apply from 25th May. It is not expected that all the requirements will be fulfilled by then, but the council should be working towards this. The clerk is working on the Privacy Notice and the Information Asset Register to be displayed on the website, and will register with the Information Commissioner as required.
5. Cllr Thomas has established that the Parish Council as a body can make a Freedom of Information request of the District Council if required.

Finance:

1. The Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statements for the year ending 31st March 2018 were put before the council and approved.
2. Mr Fisher, the internal auditor has checked the accounts and found all in order.
3. In reviewing the financial control for safeguarding public money, it was agreed that all remains as before and existing guidelines are followed.
4. Current balances (3rd May 2018)
 - Current Account: £16512.76
 - Business Savings: £118.11
 - Rate Reward: £8531.16

5. Cheques to be agreed:

- SALC subscription: £179.25
- Clerk's stationery, telephone and office expenses: £125.00
- Information Commissioner: £35.00
- Donation to Eyke PCC: £500 *Cllr Whitmore declared an interest for this item and took no part.*
- Donation to Eyke Village Hall: £350. It was agreed to maintain the donation at this level, while the status of the hall is in question.

It was also agreed in principle to pay for stakes, ties and Roundup, as requested by Mrs Clements, the village tree warden, at a cost of about £160.

To receive items for information:

1. Electoral review of ward boundaries. There will be a meeting at Riduna House on 22.6.18 from 5-7pm. Anyone wishing to go, please contact the clerk for details.
2. Cllr Whitmore attended the Woodbridge and District ASB meeting on 3rd May. Currently, all is quiet in Eyke, with no drug problems reported recently. The next meeting is on 5th July.
3. Cllr Whitmore reported a lot of ragwort on the football pitch on the rec., which needs a weedkiller that will not also kill the grass. Cllr Fleming will look into this. In relation to this, and the weedkilling which Mrs Clements will need to do, it was agreed that warning notices will need to be displayed, but Cllr Fleming advised that as this is a contact only weedkiller, the effects are short lived, so it is not a long term issue.

Dates of meetings for the next year:

The second Monday of every other month.

Next meeting: Monday, 9th July 2018. 7pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.