

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday, 10th September 2012 at 7pm in Eyke Village Hall.

Present: Mr Fleming, in the chair, Mrs Abu-Hejleh, Mrs Atkinson, Mr Cushing, Mrs Sutch, Mr Whitmore, Cllr. Reid and the clerk.

Apologies: Mr Mutton, Cllr. Jane Marson, PCSO Graeme Hawkes.

All councillors then signed the new form of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

Minutes: Those of 9.7.12 and the planning meetings of 16.7.12 and 20.8.12, having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising:

1. Councillors approved Mrs Atkinson's questionnaire about what parishioners want, with a couple of amendments to be made. Mrs Pooley will check again with Mr Fisher that he is happy to deliver it with the All Saints News.

2. Rendlesham Neighbourhood Plan update. Rendlesham Parish Council was due to meet with SCDC at the end of July, and were to update Eyke following this, but so far nothing has been heard.

3. Bentwaters Planning Application. Mrs Atkinson spoke and took questions on behalf of the parish council at the Development Control Committee Meeting on 7th September. It had been a challenging experience, but she had an impression of fairness, although it was clear that some councillors did not know the full facts. There was support from some for Eyke's traffic predicament, and praise for the way Eyke and Rendlesham parishes had conducted themselves, "still being sensible in spite of everything".

Mr Ridley said there was no obligation for traffic calming to be provided, but could be installed on qualitative grounds. There was a possible offer of £10,000 to Eyke and Rendlesham, but some councillors felt this would not be enough.

There were still unanswered questions. SCDC had only just published the suggested restrictions on the website, and it was not clear who would monitor these, for example the numbers of vehicles accessing and leaving the site over specific periods. The community, the developer and the council were all suggested, and the issue of whether this would be monitoring or enforcement was unresolved.

It is likely that no decision will be made until close to Christmas.

Mrs Abu-Hejleh had also attended the meeting, and felt that Mrs Atkinson had carried out an excellent job on behalf of the council.

Mr Cushing felt that the parish council needs to put pressure on and this was supported by Cllr. Reid, who also stated that the funds would be found to install the required calming measures.

It was agreed that Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Abu-Hejleh and Mr Cushing would get together over the next two or three weeks to study the traffic data and recommendations, the results of which would be conveyed to the rest of the council for their response. Following this, and with the help of Cllr. Marson, the Development Control Committee would be invited to make a site visit to assess the situation for themselves, before a final decision is made.

4. Speed gun initiative. Mrs Kelway, head teacher at Eyke, has today put a request in the school newsletter for volunteers to be involved in this.

5. Village website. It was agreed that the *onesuffolk* website is the best way forward. Alan Comber will charge £8 per hour, and expects to charge less than £100 per annum. The website will be flexible and can cover everything of relevance to the village. The Parish Council will also have its own email address:

eyke.pc@hotmail.co.uk.

6. Refurbishing the village sign and erecting a commemorative plaque. A quote for £440 has been received from Fiona Davies, a signwriter and restorer, to sand down, treat any rust, prepare and paint the sign, and to install a brass plaque. This would include the sandblasting and oiling of the post. Councillors agreed that Mrs Atkinson would speak to Heath Morgan, who lives in Eyke and is a handyman, to see what price he could offer.

7. Village Hall Management. Discussions are ongoing with SALC about the implications of this, both in managing finances, and in the actual conveying of the responsibility to the Parish Council, as the original ownership of the hall is unclear. The land originally belonged to the Marquis of Bristol, and the hall built on the site, now in its third incarnation, has always been known as Eyke and Rendlesham Village Hall. Mr Fisher is in

contact with Sir Michael Bunbury, at Rendlesham, to see if he can assist in any way. It would appear that documentation to do with the original gift exists, but its whereabouts are unknown at present.

Mr Fisher will keep digging into this, and meanwhile thanked the parish council for its donation of £350.

As a side issue, the clerk has established that any works paid for by the parish council, and not reclaimed from any other source, in connection with the hall, where vat is paid, can have the vat reclaimed by the council, as long as all invoices are made out to the council.

8. Potholes on the rec. It was agreed that Mr Cushing and Mrs Atkinson will liaise with Mr Fleming in October to fill the potholes on the rec with planings supplied by Mr Fleming at a cost of about £60.

Reports:

Cllr. Reid SCC.

Schools which were reorganised as part of the Schools Organisation Review have seen strong gains at SATS key stage 2.

The County Council has met with delegates from various countries in a drive to promote jobs and growth in Suffolk.

Discussions regarding Sizewell C are ongoing, with EDF committed to starting their Stage One Public Consultation before the end of the year.

The East Anglian rail franchise will be renewed in two years time, and the County Council is determined to make this an open process with emphasis on the importance of links to Ipswich, Cambridge, Lowestoft, Norwich and Bury St Edmunds, as well as the access on a national level to London.

Recycling should be easier with the availability from recycling centres of 'Sort and Save' bags, which fit easily onto worktops and are aimed at the smaller and one off recyclables.

Cllr. Marson SCDC.

(Written report) Views are being sought on proposals that will see a cut in the amount of council tax benefit available to people of working age, and the owners of empty or second homes pay more. Comments are requested by 25th October, online or on forms available at the Council Offices.

Revenue grants will now be awarded twice a year, in line with capital grants. The current deadline for applications is 30.11.12, with the second round in Jan/Feb 2013.

Woodbridge SNT.

(Written report) There were no reported crimes in Eyke between 1.8.12 and 7.9.12. The SNT current priorities are: to increase cycle safety awareness to all road users in Melton, to tackle anti social behaviour and vehicle nuisance in Rendlesham, particularly around Costcutters, and in Wickham Market, around Market Hill and the Football Club play areas.

The next priority setting meeting is on 14th November, 7pm Sutton Heath Welfare Centre.

Mr Whitmore had attended the tasking meeting on 29.8.12.

Correspondence:

1. Core Strategy and Development Management Policies: Public Examination, 23.10.12. Mrs Pooley had been surprised to find her name on the list to speak, and, having established this was an error, has had it removed.

2. E.S.T.A. The latest newsletter was available, and a questionnaire about public transport links to airports. Mr Cushing asked that the question be raised with them concerning the irregularity of the bus service in the village, whereby there are long periods with no buses, then two are scheduled within a few minutes of each other. He will email the timetable to the clerk.

3. SALC area meeting: 17.9.12. No one was available to attend.

Planning:

Permission granted:

- C12/1212 3 Church Lane, Eyke. Erection of extensions and associated works.
- C12/1565 3 Ufford Road, Eyke. Single storey timber outbuilding.
- C12/1201 Part land adjacent to Eyke Primary School. Change of use to car park.
- C12/ 1210 Elm Cottage, The Street, Eyke. Change of use: existing workshop to dog kennels
- C12/1316 Blackbird Cottage, Low Road, Eyke. Erection of single storey extension.
- C12/1311 Gralyns Caravan Park, The Street, Eyke. Erection of 6 log cabins.

In the absence of members of the public, there was no parish forum.

Finance:

1. Parish Council review of assets and insurance cover. It was agreed that the asset register needed to be updated with: the height restricting barriers on the rec and car park, the three doggy bins, the sign on the rec, the gates and fence on the rec, the noticeboard in the churchyard. Two barriers at £2000 each should be added to the insurance policy. The other items would be noted at replacement cost.
2. The clerk was confirmed as RFO.
3. Cheques agreed and signed: Little Leaders Childcare: £100 (replacement for cheque 100518, which was made out to an account which is no longer active [Eyke Playgroup]); Mrs Pooley: £288.224: salary July/August; HMRC: £108: 2nd quarter; Suffolk ACRE Services: £225.60: Insurance.
4. Adoption of financial regulations. These had been circulated and the clerk felt that in most respects the Parish Council followed them. It was agreed that a little more time was needed to study them, and the matter would be placed on the next agenda.
5. Monies in in this period were: £385.16 vat repayment and £96.79 cash balance from the hog roast.
6. It was agreed that the limit above which estimates would be put out to tender would be £400.00, to reflect rising prices. Common sense dictates that some estimates below this could still be seen as over the top, depending on the job, but equally some would be good value, and there is a reluctance to ask companies to go to the expense of quoting, when the job value does not merit it.
7. Payment methods. LAIS 1340 explains that the requirement for all payments to be made by cheque and signed by two councillors is likely to be phased out, possibly within months, which will regularise methods already being used by some councils. It will be necessary to introduce new checks to ensure sound financial management is maintained. Internal controls must be maintained and practical controls, such as ensuring there is no overdraft facility, and that certain information is available at and between meetings implemented. It was agreed that the clerk will provide an account balance at each meeting, and that as well as minuting the outgoing payments, the incoming ones will be included.
8. The external auditor has been confirmed as BDO LLP for five years from 2012/13

Any Other Business:

1. Mr Cushing agreed to attend the Community Led Planning Workshop on 3.10.12
2. The agreement with Sir Michael Bunbury for the ongoing tenure of the village green was signed. The clerk will write to the occupants of Limes Farmhouse to ask them if they can cut back the hedge between them and the green.
3. Mr Cushing had attended the Water Management Seminar, which seemed to be a marketing occasion. Water losses from damaged pipes is 210M litres a day, which is too expensive to repair, despite profits of £709M. Desalination is an expensive option. However, there appears to be no problem in providing water for 2000 new homes at Martlesham.
4. Mrs Atkinson asked whether the items on the agenda could be moved around, so that reports from the County and District Council could be at the start, and the parish forum also. It was agreed to leave matters as they are: the position of the Forum was agreed some time ago; anyone attending was likely to be there because of an agenda item, and they could hear the Council's deliberations first, and the County and District Councillors already know that they can ask to give a report early, if they need to leave. Mrs Atkinson also asked if the draft minutes could be circulated earlier, rather than with the rest of the papers a week before the meeting. The clerk said this would be possible.
5. Mrs Sutch tendered her resignation. The parish council as a whole offered her thanks for all she had done, and would be sorry to lose her. She will put this in writing to the clerk, after which the process of finding a replacement can begin.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

