

A meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday, 10th November, 2014 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Mr Fleming, in the chair, Mrs Abu-Hejleh, Mr Cushing, Mr Evans, Mrs Stangoe, Mr Whitmore, Cllr. Jane Marson, SCDC, Mrs J Clements and the clerk.

Apologies: Councillor Andrew Reid, SCC

There were no Declarations of Interest.

Minutes: Those of 22.9.14, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, agreed and signed as a correct record.

Adjournment for Parish Forum.

Mrs Clements gave her report on the tree planting. Over 100 trees were planted on the rec by a very enthusiastic group of Eyke schoolchildren, parents, staff and governors on Saturday, 8th November. The day was hugely successful. The Parish Council agreed to make a donation of £50 towards a plaque marking the occasion, which Mrs Scurrell has in hand.

The school has a gardening club, which would like to plant small woodland daffodils between the trees. The cost for about 500 bulbs would be around £60, which the Parish Council agreed to support.

A wildflower area is also being considered.

It was also suggested that a modest play “adventure” area, such as the one at Dallinghoo, which cost in the region of £5000 could be considered. The school would be happy to take on the upkeep. This was felt to be worth considering, and sources of funding will be explored. Cllr. Marson will contact the clerk about this.

It was agreed that this matter should be explored now, rather than waiting for possible further housing development in Church Lane, which, if it happens at all, could be 15 years in the future.

Matters arising from the minutes:

1. Suffolk Coastal District Council has formally given the go-ahead for the Parish Council to co-opt a councillor as soon as possible. Councillors agreed to give thought to suitable people.
2. Bentwaters Planning Application. This will, finally, be discussed by the Development Management Committee on Thursday, 13th November at 1.30pm. Mr Cushing and Mrs Abu-Hejleh have studied the recently released Officers' Report, which has raised certain questions. Mr Woolnough, the planning officer, did not seem to understand fully the difference between numbers of vehicles and traffic movements per day. The mathematics is flawed in averaging out the vehicle movements over a 25 or 30 day period, potentially allowing for a greater number of movements per year. Cllr Marson will take up this point at the Committee meeting.

There is also concern about how the number of flights per year is to be controlled: this needs clarification, and Mr Cushing suggested a renewable licence, issued by the local authority. Cllr Marson explained that she intends to deal with this point by asking that the site's current rating as registered with the CAA - “Unused old military base” - is maintained. There should be no chance for it to be developed by re-registering it with the CAA.

It was agreed that the final draft of Mr Cushing's and Mrs Abu-Hejleh's letter framing a final response to the application and the Officers' Report, should be e-mailed to all relevant District Councillors, including some to be suggested by Cllr. Marson. Mrs Abu-Hejleh will speak at the meeting.

3. Rendlesham Neighbourhood Plan. The clerk to Rendlesham has informed Eyke Parish Council that the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment sites were used as a basis for the consultation on housing within the Neighbourhood Plan. Currently, there are no housing allocations in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Reports:

1. Cllr. Reid SCC. This report had been circulated prior to the meeting, and was taken as read.
2. Cllr Marson SCDC. The Council will be moving to new offices within 2 – 4 years. The current accommodation is too big, and not fit for purpose. The new offices will be purpose built, and negotiations are ongoing.

The Local Plan is going to Consultation.

The new ward allocation will see Eyke banded with Orford. There are concerns that the centres of population, Woodbridge, Felixstowe and Martlesham, will be at an advantage over the large, relatively sparsely populated rural areas, served by one district councillor.

In response to a query from Mr Cushing, Cllr Marson will check that the proposed development at Adastral Park will be tied in to the old Section 106 agreement, in order to provide funds for infrastructure.

3. Suffolk SNT. There has been one crime only, at Graylyns Caravan Park, since the meeting on 22.9.14.

A speed check was carried out between 2nd and 9th October. The total vehicle movements were 46266, with nearly 15000 travelling in excess of the speed limit.

The current SNT priorities are tackling unauthorised use of motorised vehicles in Rendlesham and Tunstall Forests, speed monitoring and enforcement in the Woodbridge and District SNT area, and to allay fears relating to illegal immigration and smuggling between Bawdsey and Orford.

The next Community Panel meeting will be on 14.1.15 at 7pm, and the mobile police station will be in Eyke on 28.11.14 from 8.45 to 9.45am.

In response to a letter from Sgt Scott Cullum, regarding the times and regularity of the panel and tasking meetings, councillors felt that no alteration is necessary.

Other Matters:

1. Suffolk Coastal District Council.

a) The council will now charge for written pre-planning advice.

b) Mr Cushing will attend the World of Planning event.

c) Statement of Community Involvement. This was adopted on 25.9.14 and is now available on the Council's website.

d) Community Infrastructure Levy. This is a new standard charge which local authorities can charge on most types of new development. Funds will be used to help fund infrastructure. Details for comment are on the Council's website, and comment can be left before 17.11.14.

e) Budget Review meeting: this will be attended by Mr Cushing and Mrs Stangoe.

2. Suffolk Association of Local Councils.

a) Elections 2015. These will take place on Thursday, 7th May. Outgoing councillors retire on 11th, and newly elected councillors take office. The Annual Meeting must take place between 11th and 25th May.

b) Transparency Code. For councils with a turnover of under £25,000, it is likely that a Transparency Code will be mandatory: this will exclude the option of opting out and staying within the external audit regime. The details should be finalised by the end of the year.

3. Police and Crime Commissioner. Speeding issues, which remain a significant cause of concern for local residents, should be reported in the first instance through the SNT, or through the Crime Commissioner's Office to allow concerns to be fed into the correct system.

4. Bromeswell Parish Council. Advice has been received that over 150 travellers' vehicle from various sites could be on the move, and while Forestry Commission land is the most likely destination, landowners should be aware, and take suitable precautions.

5. Information from the Recreation Ranger, Forestry Commission, Tangham. The clerk is receiving frequent updates via e-mail. Councillors are asked to let her know if they would like these passed on.

Planning applications:

1. DC/14/3126/FUL. Erection of side extension following demolition of derelict glass house. Erection of side extension following demolition of existing lean-to extension and rear extension and balcony at Elm Cottage, The Street, Eyke. The Parish Council supported this application.

2. DC/14/2010/FUL. Construction of a second dog boarding block. Change of use of the woodland drive way access, allowing it to be used as access to Elm Cottage at Happi Days Dog Care, Elm Cottage, The Street, Eyke. The Parish Council supported this application.

3. A planning application just received will be discussed on Monday, 17th at 6.30 pm. Mr Whitmore, Mr Cushing, Mrs Stangoe and Mr Evans will attend.

Finance:

1. Cheques agreed: Mr Simon Lucas (fuel for mower for cutting village green) £25.00; Realise Futures (new sign for rec) £46.42; MJH Garden and Tree Services (annual cut of car park hedge: £296.00 and 8 cuts of car park grass: £200) £495.00.

2. Account balances: Savings: £8145.04; Current account at 30.9.14: £10015.34. Payments out since: £290.13. Balance on 10.11.14: £9725.21.

3. The draft budget was circulated in preparation for the next meeting.

Any Other Business:

1. SCDC are recommending that the payphone in Eyke is kept. The usage is relatively high (27 calls a year) in a rural area.
2. The annual agreement for the upkeep of the village green has arrived from Sir Michael Bunbury, and will be signed and returned by the clerk.
3. Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. Comments are invited by 12th December, and details can be found online.
4. Mr Fleming took the new sign for the rec. and will ask his nephew to fix it to the post, as the wrong fixings were sent with the sign.
5. The clerk will check with Mr Fisher about the possibility of putting a light on a timer outside the village hall which would be a great help on winter nights.
6. The clerk will contact Highways about the surface water which collects outside the hall and is in danger of seeping in, due to subsidence of the road.
7. Thanks were given to Mr Whitmore and Mr Fleming for helping when the car park hedge was cut. Next year the top will need to be taken down a little in height.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.