

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7.00pm in Eyke Village Hall.

**Present:** Mrs Abu-Hejleh, in the chair, Mr Cushing, Mr Smith, Mr Whitmore, the clerk and Cllr. Andrew Reid for part of the meeting, to give his report.

**Apologies:** Mr Fleming, Mr Mutten, Cllr Jane Marson.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**Minutes:** Those of 9.9.13 and 23.9.13(planning) having been previously circulated, were taken as read, agreed and signed as a correct record.

### **Matters Arising:**

1. Traffic calming. David Chenery has had a handover meeting with the designers. The drafts will come back to the Parish Council for signing off before work starts. It was agreed that as soon as the drafts arrive, an extraordinary meeting will be convened to hurry matters along.
2. Quiet Lanes. SCC's decision to consult formally on its intention to designate certain roads as 'Quiet Lanes' in Eyke and surrounding villages will shortly be published, and the Parish Council will receive a letter about this.
3. Bus stop. The occupants of Tudor Cottage have expressed concern that a bus stop by the phone box will cause a nuisance to them, and following further consultation with the Transport Department, it has been agreed to leave the matter as it is. The bus companies have told their drivers that they are to stop at the shop.
4. Grit bins. SCC have agreed that it is not essential to inform them of designated people to spread grit in winter. In the light of this, Mrs Abu-Hejleh will talk the matter over with Mrs Atkinson, who was very keen on having such a bin. There was concern that it would be hard to find the best location on Creasey's Hill, and to be able to site a bin securely.
5. Pre-School. Mrs Ali has informed the Parish Council that the issue of the lease is still ongoing, and there are still concerns about the possible extent of the rent rise.
6. Electoral Review. Melton Parish Council have suggested a two member ward, made up of Melton, Ufford, Bromeswell, Sutton and one of Eyke, Bredfield or Hasketon. The suggestion came after Eyke had made its response, which councillors felt was a pity, as there was much merit in it. At the time, Eyke's main concern was not to be banded with Rendlesham, which was why it opted for the status quo.
7. Hedge on green. Following correspondence between the Parish Council and Mr Rabson, the issue of the overgrown hedge was speedily resolved by the occupants of Limes Farmhouse, for which the Parish Council is very grateful. Sir Michael Bunbury is currently awaiting details from The Land Registry regarding the village green, and will forward a copy of this when available, to help resolve the matter of boundaries.

### **Reports:**

**Councillor Andrew Reid, SCC.** Suffolk is gradually climbing the GCSE League Tables, and is closer to the national average, though there is some distance to go.

The views of residents across Suffolk will be sought in a far-reaching budget consultation, driven by the need to find savings of £156 million over the next four years. Although committed to protecting front-line services, there will be difficult decisions to make, and the views of the community will form a valuable part of the deliberations.

Although SCC supports strongly the need to improve the A14, it is against tolling the road, which it sees as an unfair tax on this part of the country.

There is currently a consultation taking place on home care and community meals, so that in the future SCC can ensure the way that these services are provided reflects the needs of the people who rely on them.

The first of ten planned state of the art care homes reached a milestone in October with the topping-out ceremony at Asterbury Place, Ipswich. This has been funded by a £60 million investment from Care UK.

The government has provided a £60,000 grant to SCC in recognition of its innovative work in local service provision, which has seen SCC and Suffolk Police work together to break down barriers and reduce

duplication. The grant will be used to develop more joint fire and police stations across the county, and to support wider collaboration between the services.

**Councillor Jane Marson, SCDC.** Councillor Marson was not present, but had emailed to encourage the parish council to be represented at the budget meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November, and to consider the grant schemes for funding community projects.

**Woodbridge and District SNT** (*written report*) There have been three reported crimes since the last meeting: a theft from the shop; disorderly conduct, both of which have been dealt with, and theft of BT cable and gates from the BT exchange, into which enquiries are ongoing.

SNT current priorities are: reducing speeding through Ufford on the B1438; tackling anti-social behaviour and vehicle nuisance in Rendlesham and Wickham Market.

The next priority meeting will be at Rendlesham Community Centre on 20.11.13 at 7pm. Mr Whitmore will attend.

The mobile police unit will be at the village hall between 14.30 and 15.45 on 15.11.13 and 6.12.13.

**SALC Meeting. 16.9.13.** This was attended by Mrs Abu Hejleh, who will provide a full account in due course. Speakers were Fiona Corbett on affordable housing, and Steve Shaw on sustainable communities. Also represented were the Greenprint Forum, and Suffolk Coasts and Heaths. Any items for the next agenda are welcome.

**Community Speed Watch Meeting, Rendlesham 26.9.13.** Mr Cushing attended. The need to provide volunteers was flagged up, as well as the limited powers of the organisation. Mr Cushing was away for the follow up site meetings, but will chase up information on this.

Councillors thought that there was some question as to where in Rendlesham speed guns could be used, and it was felt that although Eyke should be supportive of the initiative, it is not wholly relevant to this village with the advent of the new traffic calming measures.

#### **Other Matters:**

1. Dog bin provision in The Street. Following a complaint to SCDC, who can place a bin in a suitable location for £233, councillors discussed the need for and location of such a bin. The area in question is from Cattermole's Lane to Church Farm. It was agreed that for the present Mr Cushing, as he lives nearby, and Mr Smith who walks it regularly, would keep an eye on the situation and report at the next meeting. There is also a query over where the bin could be placed.
2. RoSPA Recreation Ground report. Mr Whitmore will replace the missing section of fence near the pedestrian gate. He was surprised that the section missing about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way along the fence was not commented on in the report. The overall risk rating is low. It was agreed to cancel the annual inspection, as there is now no play equipment, and no immediate prospect of installing any.
3. Community Rail Partnership. As no one could attend the inaugural meeting of the CRP Line Group East in October, the clerk is to find out what transpired to see if the council would be interested in joining the group, which seeks to promote rail use by all parts of the community.
4. SCDC Grants System. The clerk will contact the funding officer to express an interest in the next round of funding, and get more information, on behalf of the village hall.
5. Noticeboard refurbishment. The parish council will send a letter of thanks to Mr Dickey, who has kindly undertaken this work recently.
6. SCDC Preventing Vandalism. The Scrutiny Committee is reviewing how the council could do more to help prevent vandalism, and is asking for views on this. The parish council agreed that with the exception of the rec. Eyke does not have a problem at present.
7. Fallen tree near the rec. Mr Whitmore reported that following the recent storm on 28<sup>th</sup> October, an oak tree blew over on the footpath to the left just before the second barrier. By 7<sup>th</sup> November much of it had been cut up and removed, with the smaller brushwood thrown on the rec and on forestry land. It was agreed by the parish council that this should be noted, as no one had authority to do this. However, it was felt that it had saved the parish council a job. Mr Whitmore has also contacted Nigel Turner, the Forestry Ranger, about a silver birch on forestry land, but near the rec, which has partially blown over. This will be dealt with in due course. Clearance of the main rides is the priority.

8. Town and Parish Liaison: Budget Review Meeting. Mr Cushing will attend this meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November, as he attended the last. Councillor Herring has written to encourage attendance so that parish councils can understand how to best prepare for the reducing level of funding over the next few years.

**Finance:**

Account balances: Current: £7441.36; Business Saver: £117.88; Base Reward: £8104.  
Cheques to be agreed: MJH Tree Services: £260.00; Playsafety: £78.00; Simon Lucas (mower fuel): £25.00  
Draft budget 2014-5. Councillors were given draft copies for consideration before the January budget setting meeting.

**Any Other Business:**

1. It was agreed that the application just received from SCC, and which will be determined by them, to retain the swimming pool frame and cover at Eyke school (CO5/0381) could be supported without the need for an additional meeting.
2. Mrs Pooley still has the 'No Camping' sign to be fixed on the barrier at the rec. and will speak to Mr Fleming again about this.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm