

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday, 14th July at 7.00pm in Eyke Village Hall.

Present: Mr Fleming, in the chair, Mrs Abu-Hejleh, Mr Cushing, Mr Mutten, Mr Whitmore, Mrs Stangoe and Mr Evans, (both about to be co-opted onto the Parish Council), the clerk and one member of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Andrew Reid, SCC and PC Andrew Warne.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

Co-option of two new Parish Councillors:

SCDC has confirmed that there has been no request for an election, and thus Mrs Jan Stangoe and Mr Michael Evans were co-opted onto the Parish Council, signing their Acceptances of Office. The clerk will register them online, and they will complete their Register of Member's Interests in due course.

Minutes: Those of 12.5.14, and those relating to the Bentwaters Planning Application of 14.5.14 and 2.6.14, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, agreed and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising:

1. Traffic Calming. Councillors were disappointed that again the traffic calming works were deferred, and hoped that the new starting date of 14th September could be brought forward to the school holidays, suggested by Mr Chenery as a possibility. Surprise was expressed that an amended drawing for the kerb build out is now on the table, incorporating a slight taper on the approach. The A4 size drawing was not clear, and SCC provided A3 size in time for the meeting. Mr Mutten felt this new plan was completely unacceptable, with the bollard now 1.4m closer to the junction. The tapering was generally felt to be a good idea, allowing vehicles to nose out gradually into the flow of traffic. There was much discussion about whether the bollard would actually stop parking unacceptably close to the junction, and whether drivers would still park on the raised kerb and build out. Mrs Stangoe suggested that a second bollard, placed close to where the tapered build out meets the footpath, would largely solve the problem. Mr Fleming stated that it is common knowledge that he owns the property behind the proposed build out. The Parish Council has spent much time discussing the proposal over many months, and it is now imperative to make a decision to avoid further delays. By a majority of 6-1, with Mr Mutten being against, it was agreed to accept the plan, and ask for the addition of a second bollard, as long as this would not prejudice the starting date of the works.
2. Bentwaters Park Planning Application. There is no news yet on when this will go to Committee. There is still much discussion in the press. The clerk will contact Ben Woolnough to see if there is any update yet.
3. Suffolk Preservation Society. The Parish Council has now received its membership pack, including car stickers, and news of free entry to certain properties. The clerk will e-mail the proof of membership to councillors wishing to take up this offer.

Reports:

1. Cllr Andrew Reid, SCC. In his absence, Cllr Reid's report, having been previously circulated was taken as read.
2. Cllr Jane Marson, SCDC In her absence, Cllr Marson's report, having been previously circulated, was taken as read
3. Woodbridge and District SNT. PC Warne's report detailed one crime, a dwelling burglary in Church Lane, since the last meeting, which is being dealt with by CID. The mobile police station will visit between 8.45 and 9.45am on Fridays, 25th July, 5th September and 17th October.

Other Matters:

1. Changes to the electoral registration process. The transition to Individual Electoral Registration has begun, whereby instead of using a household form to register to vote, everyone will take responsibility for their own registration, which may be done online, for the first time. All currently registered electors will be checked and automatically transferred, receiving a letter to confirm this.

- The Electoral Commission will run a national campaign about IER from July.
2. Tree Planting. Mrs Clements, Eyke Tree Warden, has visited Eyke Primary School to talk to Mrs Scurrell, the head teacher, about the possibility of involving the children in the National Tree Council scheme to encourage young people to collect and plant tree seeds and saplings, to help combat the loss of trees, estimated at well over a billion, expected over the next few years through Ash Die Back disease.
Mrs Clements will give an illustrated talk to the children next term. The school will also apply to the Tree Council to take part in their 'Plant a Tree' campaign, to receive a pack of 30 saplings to plant and tend.
Mrs Clements suggested that a corner of the rec could be planted as a copse, which would involve the schoolchildren, and help to keep the village connection through their lifetimes.
Councillors were generally supportive of the idea, but Mr Fleming questioned the very dry nature of the soil. Mr Whitmore suggested that the pit could be used. It was agreed that if the rec is used, a corner plot would be best, and that once Mrs Clements has spoken again to Mrs Scurrell, and the Tree Council there should be an on-site meeting at the rec.
 3. Revision to Code of Conduct. The Parish Council agreed unanimously to adopt the revised Suffolk Code of Conduct, with reference to paragraph 7.2, which adds the requirement for a decision about a dispensation to be in writing, but enables the application to be made right up to the start of the meeting.
 4. Rendlesham Neighbourhood Plan. Mrs Abu-Hejleh reported that she had met with the Chairman and Clerk of Rendlesham Parish Council to clarify how the plan had been amended. There had been a confusion originally about the need to include a projection for the building of 430 houses over the next 15 years, which would impact on services. SCDC do not yet have a 5 year local plan, which was not known when the Rendlesham plan was created, so this element has been removed. SCC and SCDC now have an 18 month period to consider the implications.
Mr Cushing said that a traffic assessment would be needed if extra housing is to be factored in at any time and the parish council agreed to contact Rendlesham Parish Council and SCDC to this effect. The clerk will also remind SCDC that Eyke Parish Council should be informed of planning applications on both the domestic and business side of Rendlesham.
 5. Missing signs on the rec. Both signs on the rec have now disappeared. It was agreed that the clerk would check the wording of the original and get prices for replacements.

Planning: DC/14/0306/LBC The Old Mill House, Eyke. Internal works. Listed Building Consent granted.

Finance:

1. Account balances at 30.6.14. Current account: £7446.04; Base Rate Reward account: £8134.89. Mr Fleming explained for the benefit of the new councillors the need to have funds in reserve for large projects, such as refurbishing the village hall.
2. Cheques agreed: Clerk's quarterly net pay: £432.36; HMRC 1st Quarter: £108.00

Any Other Business:

1. The clerk will continue enquiries with Land Registry regarding the village hall, having received approval to pay for searches, if required.
2. The clerk will contact SCC Highways to report the missing Eyke sign at the south end of the village, once Mr Whitmore has double checked it is not there.
3. There will be a meeting with the Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore and the Chief Constable of Suffolk on 21.7.14 from 6.30 to 8.30 pm at the Market Hall, Saxmundham.
4. Local Plan Documents. Advance notice has been received that the Parish Council will shortly receive a package of information relating to planning policies, details of sites submitted to the council for consideration for allocation for development etc and that SCDC Planning Policy and Delivery Team will liaise with the Parish Council to discuss concerns and ideas, and initial thoughts. 'Surgery' type sessions are planned for early September.
5. Mr Mutton suggested that relatively small items, such as replacing the signs on the rec could be dealt with by the clerk, without recourse to meetings, in order to speed up processes. This was agreed to be a sensible idea, if it related to expenses under the £400 limit for getting three quotations.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

