

A meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday, 10th July 2017 at 7.00pm in Eyke Village Hall.

Present: Cllr. Fleming, in the chair, Cllr. Howlett-Thomson, Cllr. Stangoe, Cllr. Whitmore and the clerk.

Apologies: Cllr. Abu-Hejleh, Cllr. Cushing, Cllr Thomas, County Councillor Andrew Reid.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

In the absence of any members of the public, there was no Adjournment for a Parish Forum.

Minutes: Those of 8th May 2017 (Annual Meeting) and 30th May 2017 (planning), having been previously circulated, were taken as read, agreed and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising:

1. Village Hall. Cllr Cushing has studied the situation, and felt that to apply for “Adverse Possession” could be a way forward. This is when a body or individual who does not have legal title to land (or real property) occupies the land without the permission of the legal owner. Cllr. Cushing felt that since the last trustee died in November 1966, and the village hall has been run by a dwindling committee since that time under the ultimate direction of the parish council, it would be fair to try and put matters on a more secure footing in this way. The parish council had already established that Land Registry holds no records in respect of this property.

The clerk has also spoken to Mr Fisher, who currently runs the hall, who supported this step.

Cllr Cushing and the clerk have drafted an application for First Registration, and along with a site map, and area map this was put to the Parish Council for approval, which was given.

2. Decommissioning of phone box and installation of defibrillator. BT has confirmed that it is willing to decommission the phone box near the shop, and it was agreed that the contract be signed and returned, with a cheque for £1.

Cllr Howlett-Thomson has been in touch with the East Anglian Ambulance Service, in order to register the facility with them, and with the British Heart Foundation, who could provide some funding.

Funding will also be available from the group organising fund raising on New Year’s Eve, in the pub, and there will also be support from Eyke Millennium Group.

The clerk will keep everyone informed of progress.

3. Playground: provision of rubbish bin and shelter. Cllr. Whitmore advised holding on both these matters. The amount of rubbish has greatly decreased and currently there is no need for a bin, and if a shelter was provided, this might encourage less desirable activities. This view was supported by the rest of the council.

4. Village fete. Setting up is on 20th July, at 6.00pm at the school. All will go ahead as usual, but in a different location.

Reports:

1. Cllr. Reid had sent through a written report, which had been circulated by the clerk and was taken as read.

2. Woodbridge and District ASB Tasking Meetings. Cllr Whitmore had attended the meeting on 22nd June. He had reported as possible vandalism that the back plate on the basketball post was broken, although this could be due to the type of material it is made of. The clerk has contacted Jacobs, who put up the post, about a replacement, but they have yet to examine it. She will contact them again, but also ask if it is possible to use a different material or reinforce it in some way to avoid the problem recurring.

He also reported the damage to the flint wall round the church, thought to be caused by children running on it. Cllr Howlett-Thomson supported this: she had seen children on it, and had warned them of the danger. An abandoned vehicle in Church Lane was reported. The clerk noted that these vehicles now need to be reported to Norse, at Ufford.

Councillors were reminded that monthly police reports covering the local area can now be found on the police website.

3. Cllr Stangoe had attended the Greeprint Forum meeting on 3rd July 2017, which was a discussion on helping communities hidden needs through housing in an environmentally sustainable way. The speakers were Debbie Wildridge of the Community Land Trust, and Jack O' Sullivan. They would hope to identify ways in which housing could be made available through identifying pockets of land, and securing funding for a variety of building projects.

Correspondence:

1. Sir Michael Bunbury has written to all interested parties whose lands adjoin those of Naunton Hall Farms to explain that wild flower seeds, part of a Natural England Scheme have been planted on these headlands. It is therefore important that the area is not used for dog walking, bonfires or any other recreational activity.

2. In order to reduce overheads and for ease of access and response, Suffolk Coastal District Council is encouraging parish councils to sign up for online access to planning applications. The clerk had questioned whether this would mean no paper plans would be sent out, which would deny those councillors without the internet access to planning consultation. She has received the assurance that paper plans would still be sent where required. The Parish Council will therefore sign up to this scheme.

3. Mrs Scurrell is retiring from Eyke School at the end of this term. It was agreed that the Parish Council sends a note of thanks and good wishes. The acting head from September for a year will be Lucie Fairweather, a senior teacher from St Mary's, Woodbridge.

3. The Tour of Britain will pass through Eyke on 8th September. There will be many details online, with a website going live in time for the summer holidays called *Taste of the Tour*. It is hoped that people will get involved in community events and activities, and make the most of the opportunities on offer.

Finance:

1. Cheques were agreed: Mrs Pooley, net salary, 1st quarter: £432.36; HMRC £108.00; Thurlow Nunn Standen, 'No dogs' sign for playground: £17.64 (cheque payable to Mrs Pooley, who had already paid for it); BT plc, for purchase of phone box: £1.00; Land Registry, for First Registration Application: £70.00. £1.08 received in cash by Cllr Whitmore for purchase of bolt for playground.

2. Account balances at 10.7.17: Community Account: £13192.36; Rate Reward Account: £8513.52.

3. It is hoped that now Cllrs Fleming and Whitmore have completed updated personal forms for the bank, the request for the additional signatory can be processed without further delay.

To receive items for information:

Cllr Whitmore reported that he has cut back some overhanging branches by the flashing speed sign, and cleared the path behind the metal barrier.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Next meeting: 11th September 2017.