

LAYHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 26 October 2016 in the Village Hall

Present:	Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC) John Curran (JDC) Ron Gunn (RG) David Pratt (DP) Michael Woods - Chairman (MW)
In attendance:	Gordon Jones, Suffolk CC (GJ) John Ward, Babergh DC (JW)
Apologies:	Steve Laing - Vice Chairman (SL) Sheila Roberts (SR) Doreen Sillett (DS)

16.10.1 APOLOGIES

See above.

16.10.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

16.10.3 ADJOURNMENT TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

16.10.3.1 District Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. Babergh had made the first payment under the new CIL scheme - Polstead had received £2561.80. In response to a question from MW, JW said CIL payments related to extensions over a certain size as well as to new builds; social housing and self-builds were exempt. Babergh, Mid Suffolk, Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury councils were setting up a shared legal service which would be based in Bury St Edmunds and Mildenhall. JDC said he hoped this would not result in a top heavy top tier with insufficient support. Babergh had requested an electoral review by the Boundary Commission, which would be completed early in 2018, in time for the 2019 elections. A new Chief Executive for Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils had been appointed: Arthur Charvonia would take up his post in the new year. In response to a comment from JDC about the charges for dumping hardcore at refuse sites, JW said this had not resulted in any increase in fly tipping, to his knowledge.

16.10.3.2 County Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The order for extending the 30mph speed limit on Upper Street and a 40mph speed limit on Benton End/Pipkin Hill had been issued; any objections would have to be submitted to SCC before the end of November. With regard to devolution, GJ said most businesses did not appear to be overly concerned about the requirement for an elected mayor.

16.10.4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by JDC, seconded by DP and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21 September 2016 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

16.10.5 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Most of the actions were either ongoing, or were on the agenda. There were updates on the following actions:

16.10.5.1 Marquis of Cornwallis garden

JC had received a reply from the owner, who said some old hornbeam, hawthorn and overgrown reeds had been removed from the river bank. An extensive planting programme was currently under way.

16.10.5.2 Gardeners Close

JC had received a response from Flagship confirming that additional works would be carried out to improve the shrub beds. The large strip of land running parallel to the entrance of the car park would be sprayed and maintained by the grounds maintenance company.

16.10.5.3 Bench on Brett Green

RG had completed the refurbishment; MW thanked him for this and also for various other work he had carried out, including cleaning the bus shelter.

16.10.5.4 Defibrillator for the Marquis of Cornwallis

The defibrillator had been ordered and was due to be delivered on 27 October. JC said recycling credits to date totalled £408.75, which would be offset against the cost of the defibrillator, as agreed.

16.10.5.5 Remembrance Day

JC had asked Neil Luxstone to quote for cleaning the War Memorial; Neil had offered to carry out the work free of charge, before 13 November. JC confirmed she had ordered the PC's wreath.

16.10.6 FINANCIAL MATTERS

16.10.6.1 RFO's report

It was proposed by JDC, seconded by RG and agreed unanimously that payments of £12,715.23 should be authorised.

16.10.6.2 Budget working group

It was agreed to wait until the November meeting to decide on the composition of the working group and agree a date for the group to meet.

16.10.7 WRITTEN REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

16.10.7.1 Dedham Vale project

The report was noted.

16.10.7.2 Defibrillator update

The report was noted (see also minute 16.10.5.4, above). MW asked JDC to look at ongoing costs relating to the defibrillators, eg new pads, batteries etc.

16.10.7.3 Inspection of public areas

The report was noted. It was agreed that JC would write to Peter Garrett requesting an update on outstanding matters; she would send a copy to JW.

16.10.7.4 Green Team

SR's update was noted.

16.10.8 PLANNING

16.10.8.1 B/16/01256 - The Barn, Upper Street

There were no objections to the application for the erection of a two-storey rear extension.

16.10.8.2 B/16/01371&2 - Popes Green Farm, Popes Green Lane

There were no objections to the applications for change of use and associated development.

16.10.8.3 Other planning applications

No other planning applications had been received since the last meeting. In response to a comment from RG, JW said he would investigate whether two cottages in Upper Street were being knocked into one, and would report back.

16.10.9 EMERGENCY PLAN

It was proposed by MW, seconded by RG and agreed unanimously that the Emergency Plan should be formally adopted. This would continue to be a 'work in progress' over the coming months.

16.10.10 PRIORITIES FOR 2016/17

It was agreed to defer this item to the November meeting, when it was hoped more councillors would be present and decisions could be made.

16.10.11 SECTION 106

The Playing Field Committee had received a request from a parishioner that a pair of netball posts should be installed on the playing field, at a cost of approximately £200; the PFC was happy with the proposal. It was proposed by JDC, seconded by DP and agreed unanimously that Section 106 funds should be used to fund two posts. MW said BDC would require evidence that there was a desire amongst parishioners for this expenditure; he would therefore circulate a questionnaire.

16.10.12 LAND IN FRONT OF NOS 7 & 8 UPPER STREET

It was agreed that JC would write again to Peter Garrett (see also minute 16.10.7.3).

16.10.13 ROAD SWEEPING

It was proposed by MW, seconded by RG and agreed unanimously that JC should write to SCC Highways to request advance warning of road sweeping on Brett Green, so that parishioners could be asked to move their cars off the road where possible in order that gutter cleaning was as effective as possible. However, GJ said he would contact James Finch about this in the first instance; he would copy his email to JC.

16.10.14 CLERK'S REPORT ON URGENT DECISIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

None.

16.10.15 CORRESPONDENCE

JC had received further emails from parishioners complaining about the dogs at Waterhouse Farm. However, she had since received assurance from the owners that they were dealing with the problem and had also spoken to the people concerned and would respond to their emails. It was agreed to continue to monitor the situation.

16.10.16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.30pm on Wednesday 30 November 2016, in the Village Hall.

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