

LAYHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7.30pm on
Wednesday 27 March 2019 in the Village Hall

Present: Charlotte Britton (CB)
Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC)
John Curran (JDC)
Ron Gunn (RG)
Steve Laing - Vice Chairman (SL)
David Pratt (DP)
Sheila Roberts (SR)
Michael Woods - Chairman (MW)

In attendance: Gordon Jones, Suffolk CC (GJ)
John Ward, Babergh DC (JW)

Apologies: None

19.3.1 APOLOGIES

See above.

19.3.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RG declared an interest in agenda item 19.3.11 as the councillor with responsibility for allotments.

19.3.3 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no parishioners present.

19.3.4 ADJOURNMENT TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

19.3.4.1 District Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. JW confirmed that the redevelopment of the Corks Lane site would now go ahead, following approval of the planning application on 25 March; Babergh was working with Norse to develop both the Corks Lane and the Needham Market sites. The new Exacom database had been awarded the iESE Bronze Award in the Intelligent Council category. A serial fly tipper had been sentenced to 15 months imprisonment following a lengthy investigation by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils. In response to a question from SL regarding investment in Babergh's property company, JW confirmed that the income shown was profit; there was a separate 'pot' to target local regeneration opportunities.

19.3.4.2 County Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The March Cabinet meeting had been brought forward to allow the County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council to give a joint response on the Sizewell C and Scottish Power project. If this were to go ahead, 25%-30% of the country's power supply would be generated from East Anglia, with the issue of pylons coming to the forefront again. GJ said he hoped the route would be along the seabed, to the Thames. In response to a question from JDC about the length of time pothole repairs lasted, GJ said new equipment had now been introduced. In response to a question from SL regarding the 'Plug In Suffolk' initiative, GJ said he would respond with further information in due course.

19.3.5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by CB, seconded by JDC and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27 February 2019 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

19.3.6 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

19.3.6.1 Most Active County

JC was awaiting a response from the community engineer; GJ would chase and let JC have a name.

19.3.6.2 Sign for top of Water Lane

Another vehicle turning into Water Lane from the Mill end had caused damage to a tree, which CB had reported. The PC would continue to monitor the situation so that the new council could look at the need for a sign at the bottom of the lane as well as the top.

19.3.6.3 Parish Plan review

CB had circulated notes from the working group's meeting on 23 March. Feedback from the questionnaire would be on view at the event on 6 April; parishioners would have the opportunity to suggest new ideas on 7 themes. CB would forward items for printing to JC. She would also draw up a rota for the day and circulate this. JC would send a reminder community email.

19.3.6.4 Speed cameras

JC had asked Capel St Mary's Clerk for information about their speed camera, but had not yet received a response; GJ would follow up as he was due to attend a meeting in Capel.

19.3.7 FINANCIAL MATTERS

19.3.7.1 RFO's report

It was proposed by RG, seconded by DP and agreed unanimously that the finance report for 27 March 2019 should be approved and payments of £5,715.86 authorised; this included a payment of £3,885.72 to Playdale Playgrounds for new equipment on the playing field, which would be reimbursed by Babergh from Section 106 funds, once installed. RG noted the payment to Babergh for emptying litter and dog refuse bins, and suggested parishioners should be reminded that the PC had to pay for emptying dog bins - so please use them!

19.3.8 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

19.3.8.1 Spring Clean

SR's report was noted - MW thanked her for organising the event.

19.3.9 PLANNING

19.3.9.1 SCC/0018/19B/VOC - Layham Quarry, Rands Road

Councillors discussed the application for the variation of conditions 3, 25 and 48 of permission B/01/00045 to provide additional time periods for the completion of extraction and restoration (the application was in respect of extraction and processing, not landfill). Councillors had some sympathy with responses already submitted by residents of Layham and would ask SCC to take these into consideration. Councillors had concerns about the possible risk of flooding as, when extraction was taking place in the past, it was noticeable that the level of the stream running through gardens in Lower Layham was higher, with some gardens being flooded. Councillors were also concerned about the increased noise level in what was usually a quiet rural village. The Parish Council would be closely monitoring the situation.

19.3.10 BRETT GREEN DEFIBRILLATOR

It was agreed that the defibrillator, which was now almost ready to go 'live', should be publicised. A brief photoshoot would therefore take place at 11am on Thursday 18 April; GJ confirmed he would be able to attend. JC would invite representatives from the various organisations who had made donations, ie the Thrift Shop, Hadleigh Health Centre's charitable trust, the Masons and the Queen's Head. She would also invite James Cartlidge MP, Neil Riches and Robert Keeble, as well as asking an EADT photographer to attend and contacting Mark Murphy at Radio Suffolk. In the event that the EADT was unable to be there, CB said her husband would take a photograph.

19.3.11 ALLOTMENTS

Councillors approved amendments to the tenancy agreement; JC would prepare the new agreements as soon as possible after 1 April; RG volunteered to deliver these. It was proposed by RG, seconded by DP and agreed unanimously that a letter should be sent to the tenant of plot 5 informing her that she was in breach of her agreement and her tenancy was therefore terminated with one month's notice.

19.3.12 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The draft agenda was approved. MW requested that reports should be kept as brief as possible, no more than one side of A4. He thanked SL and RG for their hard work on the PC; they had decided not to stand for re-election.

19.3.13 CORRESPONDENCE

JC had received a planning application in respect of The Haven, Stoke Road, which had arrived too late to be included on the agenda. She would circulate details to councillors and it was agreed that MW, SR and DP would make a site visit and let JC have comments by 1 April; if necessary, a planning meeting would be convened in time to submit comments to Babergh by their deadline of 15 April.

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

None.

19.3.15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting - 7.30pm on Wednesday 24 April 2019, in the Village Hall.

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