

LAYHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7.30pm on
Wednesday 20 October 2021 in the Village Hall

Present: Charlotte Britton (CB)
Graham Coleman (GC)
Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC)
John Curran (JDC)
Sue Keeble (SK)
David Pratt (DP)
Sheila Roberts (SR)
Michael Woods - (MW)

In attendance: John Ward, Babergh DC (JW)

Apologies: Georgia Hall, Suffolk CC (GC)

The Chairman welcomed Sue Keeble to her first meeting, following her co-option.

21.10.1 APOLOGIES

See above.

21.10.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21.10.3 PUBLIC FORUM

No parishioners were present.

21.10.4 ADJOURNMENT TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

21.10.4.1 District Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. A new CCTV system was now fully operational in Hadleigh and Sudbury, with 8 cameras recording 24 hours a day in Hadleigh. JW said there was also one mobile camera; in response to a question, he said this could be used on the Playing Field from time to time if it was considered there were problems with vandalism etc. Babergh and Mid Suffolk's Housing Solution team had been highly commended in the 'Community Heroes' category of the Municipal Journal awards; GC commented that one member of the team lived in Upper Layham. JW confirmed that parking charges in Hadleigh would not be introduced in January 2022 as originally planned; however, the issue was under constant review. CB commented that the new Wellbeing Strategy currently being developed could help some people in the village; JW confirmed that there would be an opportunity for the PC to feed into it. He said the strategy would also look at ways to encourage more active lifestyles in the community.

21.10.5 FINANCIAL MATTERS

21.10.6.1 RFO's report

It was proposed by GC, seconded by DP and agreed unanimously that the finance report for 20 October 2021 should be approved and payments of £1,903.21 were authorised.

21.10.6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by JDC, seconded by MW and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 29 September 2021 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

21.10.7 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

21.10.7.1 Flooding in Layham Road

JC would continue to seek clarification regarding Suffolk Highways' planned remedial work near the Rugby Club.

21.10.8 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

21.10.8.1 Speeding

JDC gave a verbal update. Following the installation of the SID device on the pole by the bus stop facing towards Hadleigh the data recorded had shown a large number of vehicles speeding into Upper Layham from Hadleigh and also leaving the village towards Hadleigh. The SID had since been moved to the post outside Windy Ridge and further data had been circulated. During that period, temporary traffic lights had been erected outside the Marquis and it had been anticipated that traffic speeds would therefore be low; however, a number of vehicles had been recorded still speeding - some at over 60mph. Following the community email asking for volunteers to help move the device, three parishioners had been volunteered. It was hoped that more people would be willing to help, especially those living along the B1070; a flyer would be delivered to those households. As agreed at the last meeting, a dedicated laptop had been purchased for downloading data. A photo of the SID device with council members had been taken and, accompanied by some text, would appear in the Hadleigh Community News; JC had also sent it to the EADT. The working party was concerned about the position of the Hadleigh pole, as traffic turning in and out of Mill Lane was affecting the average speeds recorded; Highways would be asked to review the location.

Also on the subject of speeding JC reported that SCC's ANPR trial, which had been due to start at the end of the year, had been delayed until spring 2022.

21.10.8.2 Emergency Plan

JDC said it was important to ensure that all the ELVs were aware of what was involved and were happy to continue, as well as identifying any gaps. JDC would draft a note for each member to send to their ELVs.

21.10.9 PLANNING

21.10.9.1 DC/21/03730 - Raworth Park

It was noted that permission had been granted for change of use of land for a log cabin, for use by an agricultural worker for a temporary period of 3 years (*JW would chase clarification on whether 'temporary' referred to the log cabin, or the worker*).

21.10.9.2 DC/21/04559 - May Cottage, Stoke Road

It was noted that permission had been granted for a two-storey extension including porch and a two-bay cartlodge with storage.

21.10.10 WEBSITE

JC's paper was noted. It was proposed by CB, seconded by JDC and agreed unanimously to accept her recommendation that the PC should move to Suffolk Cloud, who would transfer the content of the existing website to a new template, and maintain the site. JC would look into how the site might be expanded in the future to include other organisations, eg the Village Hall.

21.10.11 DEFIBRILLATORS

GC said that, ideally, all parishioners should be within 5 minutes of a defibrillator; however, this was not the case in Lower Layham, where the only defibrillator was located outside the Queen's Head. It was agreed that GC and SR would carry out a survey to find another possible location in Lower Layham; JDC would advise. The results would be brought to a PC meeting in the new year.

21.10.12 CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

21.10.12.1 Popes Green Lane

An email had been received from a parishioner querying the time and effort spent by Suffolk Highways on clearing and strimming Popes Green Lane, when other roads in the village needed urgent work, eg blocked drains, potholes etc. JC would ask Highways whether this work had been carried out under the heading of general maintenance, or as a result of an emergency.

21.10.12.2 Quiet Lanes

An email had been received from SCC's lead officer on the project asking whether the inclusion of Shelley Road had been discussed following an objection from a parishioner; JC would refer him to the appropriate minute. He said he was content that it did qualify and would be recommending it for Quiet Lane status.

21.10.12.3 National Grid

National Grid would be carrying out archaeological and engineering surveys over the coming weeks as part of the development of their proposals for the Bramford to Twinstead reinforcement project. All surveys would be carried out by specialist contractors who would carry identification and a letter of authority. More information was available on the website: www.nationalgrid.com/bramford-twinstead.

21.10.12.4 Speeding

A parishioner had suggested it would be a good idea to have stickers for wheelie bins, as in several other villages in the area. JC said she had had some made for Raydon and the same artwork could be used. The parishioner had also asked if the Parish Council would reinstate its campaign to have the speed limit on Stoke Road extended. Both these items would be on the next agenda.

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

None.

21.10.14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.30pm on Wednesday 24 November 2021, in the Village Hall.

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