

HERRINGSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 24 March 2014 at

Herringswell Village Hall 7.00 pm

Present: Liz Marchington (Chairman), Selina Boyce (Vice Chairman)

Garry Brown, Gloria Hicks

In attendance: Cllrs Chambers, Dicker and Drummond, Kay Evans

1. **Welcome:** LM welcomed everyone.
2. **Apologies:** Mildenhall Police SNT
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Approved and Signed
4. **Public Participation.** Allowed throughout the meeting. Kay Evans wished to apologise to the Parish Council that she has decided to step down as Clerk.
5. **Police Report.** One crime has been reported in Hall Farm, Herringswell with theft from outbuildings.
6. **District/County Report.**
 1. LC had already circulated her report.
 2. LM asked if Councillors had any updates on the closure of Mildenhall Air Base. AD informed the meeting that he had heard an additional 200 troops were arriving prior to its closure.
7. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) LM thanked AD for his action in ensuring the litter was cleared from the verges. Dominic Owner was the contact at FHDC.
 - b) Grass cutting: We have written to confirm with Alan Nunn to cut the grass for this year but in the meantime had received a request to quote. It was unanimously agreed it was necessary to pursue this option as Alan does an excellent job.
 - c) A letter was sent to Guy Smith re Paul Evans' request to plant rose bushes on the verge outside Church Cottage. No reply has been received so assume it is OK.
 - d) Travellers site. RD reported that both applicants are jointly getting a consultant to report on the contamination. Further investigation needs to be done and then submitted to the Environment Agency and the Parish Council. As Herringswell PC has already submitted comments we should have been informed of the additional consultation and kept updated.
8. **Planning Applications:**
 - a) None received.
9. **Clerk:** As discussed above, any suggestions as to whom we could approach to ask to be our Clerk would be appreciated. LM thanked KE for the work she had done up to date and was sorry to be losing her.
10. **Glass recycling area:** A resident had complained that the area was muddy. LM has cleared the mud off the paving flags and is hopeful this is now OK.
11. **Meetings:**
 - a) LM and GH attended the LPWG on 28 February when FHDC were considering the development plan documents returned from the Inspector. There was no possibility of any changes to the Inspector's report and all his comments had to be accepted and would go on for full adoption by Council.

- b) LM and GH attended the second of a series of meetings on the closure of the USAF base on 9 March. No information on expectation or closure timetable was available and much of the debate from attendees focused around concerns with the impact on the housing market.
- c) There is a PLUG meeting on 25 March which LM hopes to attend.
- d) At the last Parish and Town Forum meeting there was continued discussions on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between FHDC and Parish Councils. The need for a MOU has arisen in discussion with Cllr Millar from concerns within the parishes as to the development of the district and the infrastructure deficit that currently exists. Many Parish Councils feel their views and those of the local residents are not being heard. The MOU prepared by FHDC was too lengthy and Moulton Parish council has prepared an alternative, more concise version, which has been shared with members of the RPA (Rural Parishes Alliance), which LM has circulated to everyone via email. LM recommended that this shorter version should be supported.

12. Correspondence:

- a) BT have written a letter re phone box adoption. This has been discussed in the past and, as our red phone box is listed, it is the responsibility of BT to maintain and paint. At this stage therefore we do not want to adopt it adding expense to the Parish unless the situation changes.
- b) We are no longer being sent emails with the list of Planning Applications only decision notices. AD and RD to investigate why this has changed.
- c) LM thanked AD for his invitation to an event which he advised has raised £3,000 for injured jockeys.

13. Payments: Village Hall for PC meeting £20.00, SALC Fee of £18.00 for Clerks training course, £30.00 membership to CAS. As the Insurance Premium is due on 1 April and we have not received the renewal notification yet, GH requested she pay this on receipt as we cannot wait until our next meeting. The amount should be the same as last year as we have a long term deal, however, if it differs GH will email all Councillors prior to making the payment. When KE advises of the hours she has worked to date, payment will be made to her.

14. Any other Business:

- a) KE reported that the Beer Festival was very successful and raised £1400 for the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and the Air Ambulance to be divided equally.
- b) One of the roses outside Church Farm barns has died. GB to get a replacement.
- c) GB asked for an update on The Street outside The Beehive. We have not received a report on the traffic count nor on when Highways intend to carry out the work. GH will email them for an update.
- d) GH handed out election papers for completion and return to FHDC asap.

15. Date of next meeting and AGM: Tuesday 12 May.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm