

HERRINGSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday 27 January 2015 at

Herringswell Village Hall 7.00 pm

Present: Liz Marchington (Chairman), Selina Boyce (Vice Chairman), Garry Brown, Gloria Hicks,
Steve Griffiths, Kay Evans (Clerk)

In Attendance: Cllr Drummond, Cllr Chambers Members of the Public

1. **Welcome:** LM welcomed everyone.

2. **Apologies:** Cllr Dicker

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Approved and Signed

4. **Public Participation:**

Allowed throughout the meeting

5. **New Clerk:**

Kay Evans was welcomed and GH was thanked for her many years as acting clerk. LM presented her with a gift from the Parish Council,

6. **Police report:**

Buildings broken into at Cherry Hill, keys/tools stolen. Motor damage at Red Lodge . Heating oil theft at Moulton. Local Priorities are:- Theft from Churches and anti social behaviour (quad bikes/ mini motos at Red Lodge).

7. **District/ County Report:**

AD: Updated meeting on Traveller application proposed at Red Lodge.

Cllr Chambers presented her report and answered questions on St Christophers school, which has been placed in special measures. The school will be regularly monitored with HMI and SCC. The school will now need to seek a sponsor, as they will be required to adopt 'academy status' as a result of the failed OFSTED report.

£38.2 million savings to be made from CC budget. Child centred services to be reduced, but trying to retain front line staff to work with families in their homes. Funding was agreed for 3 new Primary schools in Suffolk. 2 of the schools are to be built within Forest Heath due to the large number of planning approvals. 1 to be built in Red Lodge in addition to St Christopher's, 1 at Lakenheath and 1 in Ipswich. It is expected that over the 10 year plan, SCC will provide 25 Primary schools and 10 Secondary schools.

8. **Matters Arising:**

a) Grass cutting. Quote was approved and it was agreed the PC would write to Alan Nunn to confirm the programme of grass cutting over the next year. KE informed the meeting there will be a Suffolk Wildlife Trust 'Open Evening' in St Ethelbert's churchyard on 9 June 2015. Time yet to be confirmed.

9. Planning Applications:

- a) Letter received from City and County re. development of the gymnasium building following their previous meeting with the PC City and County intend to submit their Application at the end of February 2015.
- b) Resident had raised concerns over application for Traveller site at Red Lodge. It was agreed to write to the case officer, requesting to be kept fully informed as additional comments from statutory consultees are submitted.

10. Transparency Code:

New Transparency Code 2015/16. No external audit required for councils with a precept of less than £25,000. It will be necessary to perform an audit which will then be displayed on the PC website. After July 2015, draft minutes must be published no later than 4 weeks after meetings and Agenda no later than 3 days before the meeting commencing.

11. Councillor Responsibilities:

Roles are to be taken on by Parish Councillors to balance the workload across the board. GB agreed to be responsible for grass cutting and village maintenance, GH to continue with website and LM planning.

12. Meetings:

Local plan working group meeting 28.1.15. Parish and Town Forum 18.2.15. Planning meeting to be held at West Suffolk offices 9.3.15.

13. Correspondence:

Paul Evans asked for approval to plant small bushes outside Church Cottage. No objections raised. Agreed PC should inform Guy Smith, Highways. Highways will repair road outside 'The Beehive', but are concerned about the high numbers of tractors and HGVs. Are reluctant to repair until this has been resolved. A traffic count of vehicles will take place at some future date.

14. Payments:

GH to continue to oversee the finances until the end of the financial year. £20.00 hire of the Village Hall.

15. Any Other Business:

RAF Mildenhall closure. This may impact/change the need for extra housing in the locality and will definitely impact the economics of the area. AD agreed to find details of how PC's would engage in any discussions to be held on the future of the airbase. LM raised concerns about the ability of our local schools absorbing the effects of properties currently occupied by USAF personnel as these houses became occupied by UK residents in the future.

16. Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 24th March 2015

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.30pm