

Bradfield Combust with Stanningfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 20th January 2014
in the Village Hall, Church Road, Stanningfield

Members present: Councillor D Staff in the Chair, Councillors M Bluett, M Duchesne, T Langan, C Mears, A Tucker and C Walters. Also present were Borough Cllr. Mrs Mildmay-White (in part), County Cllr. Terry Clements (in part), Mrs V Waples (Clerk) and one member of the public.

1.	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome & Apologies for Absence:</u></p> <p>i. Apologies of absence had been received from Cllrs. R Mckenna (Annual Leave) and D Green (ill health) and the Bury Rural SNT.</p> <p>ii. Council consented to accept these apologies.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Declaration of Members Interests:</u></p> <p>i. There were no declarations of interest for the agenda under discussion.</p> <p>ii. There were no requests for dispensations. It was noted that Cllr. Tucker, not having submitted a request for dispensation to discuss the Precept would take no part in the discussion nor vote that would ensue under Agenda Item 6vii.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th December 2013:</u></p> <p>The previously circulated minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record of the meeting.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Public Forum:</u></p> <p>i. County Councillor, Mr. Terry Clements had submitted a written report in which he brought the Council's attention to the following (a full transcript is available from the Clerk):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffolk's Better Broadband programme - after four months over 10,000 properties could now connect to faster broadband. SCC still had the commitment that every Suffolk property would have broadband speeds of at least 2 megabits per second by 2015. • Deadline for primary school place applications - the deadline for parents and carers to apply for a full-time place at a preferred primary school for the next academic year was confirmed as 15th January 2014. It was confirmed that the previous year 92% of applicants had secured their 1st choice. • Free school meals - schools in Suffolk were set to receive over £10million in extra funding from the government as a result of parents claiming entitlement to free school meals for their children. • New care home for Suffolk - the ninth of Suffolk's new state-of-the-art care homes and wellbeing centres had been given the go-ahead and would be built in Eye. • Apprenticeships in the creative sector - SCC had secured a grant of almost £200k to support creative-sector apprenticeships and internships in such areas as production, printing, digital and social media, events management and arts administration. • Rail services for Suffolk - SCC had organised a conference which had brought together key figures to discuss the rail needs of people and businesses across Suffolk and develop a clear, joined-up approach to achieving them. • Fitness of people in Suffolk - Suffolk had received a grant of £300k from the government designed to help people across the 	

	<p>county improve fitness levels.</p> <p>ii. Borough Councillor, Mrs. Mildmay-White was invited to submit her report during which she drew the Council's attention to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smithy Close - she confirmed that she had viewed the area and as such could not see any particular problems. It appeared that the situation had calmed down and although there were some holes or rucks in the grass she could not see that there was anything that warranted asking the Borough to come out and inspect. It was agreed that the holes and rucks would be mentioned to the Borough once the grass cutting season begins. • Potholes - Mrs Mildmay-White was made aware of potholes in the following areas: Church Road; entrance to Old Lane; Chapel Road - just beyond Smithy Close; Smithy Close; junction of Old Lane and Bury Road; turning circle of Bradfield Combust. • War Memorial - she made the meeting aware that the heritage lottery was awarding grants for WW1 projects and it was unlikely that the Borough could provide any grants as they had given the Magna Carta celebrations as priority. She suggested that the Council try the Rural Initiatives Fund to ascertain whether there was any money available. • Budget for 2014-15 - the Borough was anticipating setting a nil increase budget though this would be subject to final ratification at the next full Council Meeting. There was a move to drive through savings and it was anticipated that West Suffolk House would share office space with more organisations with savings of £150k over the next 2 years. • Vision 2031 Document - the hearings in front of the Inspector would take place on 28th January and were expected to last for 3 days. The Inspector would delve into the comments that had been made and would need to make a decision on whether the document was sound, legally compliant or whether some changes were required. • Rougham Relief Road - the plans had been passed although Highways still had to agree the changes and the funding for Rookery Crossroads. • Rural Broadband - she was aware that there had been talks that some villages were missing out on the upgrade and that this would be investigated further. • Waste Transfer Site at Rougham - although the County had given planning permission for a transfer site the Borough had turned it down and had been given a time extension to find another site. • Development Management Shared Services - there was a need to balance the protection of public money with the democratic rights of the individual. Under the National Planning Policy Framework there was a presumption in favour of sustainable development and that there was now a need to justify why an application might/would be refused and why decisions might/would be taken that was contrary to this policy. <p>iii. A written report had been received from the Bury SNT in which it was confirmed that there had been 0 crimes of interest in the Parish since the last meeting. The force had been busy since December helping the coastal region and supporting the public and ensuring the safety with bad weather / high tides along the east</p>	
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	<p>coast. It was confirmed that the current priorities for the SNT were as previously detailed: dealing with speeding issues; preventing and deterring hare-coursing and to detect, preventing and deterring offences of burglary. The SNT was still receiving complaints and concerns relating to parking around schools and confirmed that a leaflet that had been produced which was being handed out to all schools and parents.</p> <p>iv. Comments/questions from the floor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smithy Close - it would appear that currently there were no major concerns with regards to vehicles driving along the footpath and parking on the grassed area. The Clerk confirmed that she had flagged this problem up to the Park Operations Manager and Borough Cllr. Mrs Mildmay-White had confirmed that this was under review. 	
5.	<p><u>To discuss the Parking Issues within Smithy Close</u> As this had been covered previously in the agenda Council had no further comments to make.</p>	
6.	<p><u>To receive the Clerk's report:</u></p> <p>i. The financial report was presented to the Council. Current funds stood at £6,317.99 Income in the sum of £670.41 had been received since the last meeting: Bank Interest £0.41; Allotment Rent £15.00 and Stanningfield Comm. Association £655.00. The following payments had been raised since the last meeting: BT £28.45 ddr (LGA 1972 s111) (Jan).</p> <p>ii. The following items were approved and presented for payment: Anglian Water £15.95 cheque 654 (Smallholdings & Allotment Act 1908 s23); V Waples £27.00 cheque 655 (LGA 1972 s111); V. Waples £169.24 cheque 656 (LGA 1972 s112) and HMRC £148.40 cheque 657 (Inc & Corp Taxes Act 1988).</p> <p>iii. To consider projects to be supported from the balance of monies within the NIP account: it was noted that this would now be discussed further in the New Year. Cllrs. Mears and Staff confirmed that they were in the process of submitting a NIP application for funding to provide a bbq/leisure area at the Village Hall. It was also confirmed that they would be meeting with a representative from Community Action Suffolk who would advise on what sort of improvements could be funded to the Village Hall in terms of heating, insulation, external cladding etc.</p> <p>iv. To consider further the request to agree in principle to the erection of a memorial to recognise those who had died during WW1 and WW2 in Bradfield Combust and to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of WW1: it was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council would not only agree to funding a memorial to be sited in Bradfield Combust to recognise those who had died during WW1 and WW2, but would also fund any works required to the memorial in Stanningfield, aif. It was noted that the new memorial in BC would cost in excess of £1,500 but that costs still needed to be firmed up. It was further proposed and agreed that, in agreement with the publicans of the two public houses within Stanningfield and Bradfield Combust, two copies of a print of the Suffolks at Neuve Chapelle would be displayed which would give members of the public the opportunity to buy an entry ticket into a raffle to win one of these prints. Should residents not wish to visit the public houses then the prints could be viewed on the village website and contact could be made via a Councillor to purchase such a ticket.</p>	AT/CM

	<p>The draw would take place during the weekend of 2nd and 3rd August. An article would be placed in the next Village Matters due out at the beginning of February. Further discussions followed on how the project would be funded on top of the monies raised from the raffle and County Cllr. Clements offered a donation of £1,000 from his locality budget for match funding. It was further agreed that once both projects had been completed any surplus funds would be donated to the British Legion, aif. Cllr. Tucker agreed to liaise with Bury Free Press over articles that he had produced on the subject and ask for a possible donation.</p> <p>v. To receive and consider the quotation for repairs to play equipment on the Village Green - it was agreed to accept the quotation from Action Play and Leisure Ltd in the sum of £960.00 ex VAT to repair those items identified in the Annual Inspection as requiring remedial repairs, aif.</p> <p>vi. To consider and review the Council's Standing Orders with reference to the New Model Standing Order 2013 as produced by NALC - it was agreed that these would be reviewed and considered at the meeting scheduled for March 2014.</p> <p>vii. To consider further the setting of the Precept for 2014/15 - it was proposed and reconfirmed that the Precept for 2014/15 would be set at £10,309 which, after taking into account the LCTS Compensation Grant and the Parish Grant from St Edmundsbury would result in an annual increase of £5.44 on a Band D equivalent Dwelling, aif. The application form for grant and precept was duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk and would be submitted to St Edmundsbury prior to the end of January 2014.</p> <p>viii. Bury Road - it was confirmed that the Clerk was still chasing Highways for a date to come and repair the broken drain pipe in the ditch opposite Field View which had led to flooding problems at this point in the village.</p> <p>ix. Signs for Hoggards Green and The Green - it was noted that the Borough had now confirmed that there would be no cost to the Parish Council for new signs to be erected at Hoggards Green or The Green provided it waited until the new financial year. The cost to install them prior to this would be £50 for each sign and £50.00 to install each sign. It was agreed that the Council would be patient and accept the offer to install them from within the Borough Council's budget.</p>	AT
7.	<p><u>To receive reports from the Councillors:</u></p> <p>i. Cllr. Langan made the meeting aware of a request that had been received from a parishioner asking for a limited bus service to pass through Bradfield Combust - ideally mid morning with a return mid afternoon Monday to Saturday. It was agreed that this would be flagged up to County Cllr. Clements for onward submission.</p> <p>ii. Cllr. Mears passed the Emergency Kit that held the walkie-talkies to the Chairman who would now hold it in place of Mr. Crawford who had resigned from the Parish Council. It was noted that the walkie-talkies were battery dependent.</p> <p>iii. Cllr. Staff made the Clerk aware of ongoing problems with the condition of Bridleway No 6 leading from Saxes Lane. The Clerk agreed to contact the home owners to discuss the best way forward.</p> <p>iv. Cllr. Langan asked the Clerk to enquire when the milestone on the A134 would be replaced.</p>	Clerk/TC Chairman Clerk Clerk
8.	<u>Planning Issues:</u>	

	<p>i. Listed Building Application: DC/13/0116/LB - 1) replacement windows to front elevation and rear sunroom ii) replacement roof to rear sunroom @ Moorside, Old Lane, Stanningfield. It was agreed by all present that the Parish Council had no objections to the application before it.</p> <p>ii. West Suffolk - Development Management Shared Service - single way of working - Council received a report from the Clerk on the recent workshop attended in which the new decision making protocol was outlined along with the processes to be followed when commenting on a planning application both online and in person at the Development Control Committee. Council was made aware that, under the new protocols, if the PC/TC view was contrary to the Officer's view or a Member had requested a call-in, if the application was non-major then a delegation panel would decide whether it should be considered by the Development Control Committee or as a Delegated Decision. There was no automatic right for such an application to be flagged direct to the Control Committee. The Member in such instances would be allowed to put the case before the delegation panel but ultimately the decision as to who would determine the application would rest with them.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Correspondence:</u> i. General correspondence was brought to the Council's attention.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Closing Comments from the public:</u> There were no further comments from the members of the public present. The meeting closed at 9.05pm</p>	

Date of next meeting 17th March 2014 in the Village Hall, Stanningfield.