

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE PARISH ROOM, MILL LANE, GREAT BLAKENHAM ON WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2012**

**PRESENT:** A. Beckett, R. Edrupt, Mrs S Fairburn, Miss L Martin, P. McLauchlan, R. Simpson and District Councillor J Field

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting Mrs Shona Bendix, Suffolk Association of Local Councils, presented to the Clerk and members of the Parish Council their certificate for achieving Quality Council status and commended them on their achievements, commitment and hard work on achieving the status.

### **1.12 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public.

### **2.12 REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Councillor J. Field's report was laid round at the meeting.

### **3.12 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER**

The Police were unable to attend. The Chairman informed the meeting that PC Andrew Martin was now part of the Safer Neighbourhood Team. The Chairman highlighted the number of recent burglaries in Plummers Dell and surrounding area and that the Police had asked Suffolk County Council to put the street lights back on at midnight in that area for a trial period and the problems of motorcyclists on a piece of land off Addison Way.

**4.12 Apologies:** Mrs P Robinson and District Councillor M Blakenham

**5.12 Declarations of interest appropriate to any item on the agenda** – None were declared.

**6.12 MINUTES** of the meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012 were approved and signed.

### **7.12 WORKPLAN**

Councillors were given an update on the outstanding matters.

### **8.12 FINANCE**

- a. Monthly Payments – It was agreed to sign cheques to the value of £5080.60
- b. Budget 2013/14 – Councillors received a copy of the budget for 2013/14 prior to the meeting. The Clerk advised that this year's budget process is confused by Government legislation but not yet fully specified. There may be a cap of 2% in precept rises, but this could be dropped this year for parishes. This would mean that if the Parish Council were to increase the Parish precept by more than 2% then a referendum would have to take place at a cost to the Parish Council. It was agreed by the Council that it was mindful to approve a 2% rise in the precept to £25,429.

It was agreed to make the following increases in charges:-

Cemetery Charges –

Burials increase to £170, Cremations increase to £120, Erection of headstone to £120, Additional engraving to £45 and children upto 12 years to remain at £50.

Allotment Charges to increase - 5 rods £18 and 10 rods to £36.

Clerks Salary to increase by 3% to £11.10 per hour. Chairman's Allowance to increase to £135 per annum.

### **9.12 MEETING DATES 2013**

The Chairman reported that unfortunately the Parish Room had already been booked for Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013. It was agreed to enquire if the Village Hall Meeting Room was available that evening.

### **10.12 PLANNING**

2700/12 and 2701/12 – Partial demolition of the Grade II Listed North Warehouse and refurbishment of the remaining warehouse for mixed commercial and residential uses. Demolition of all other buildings and erection of 176 residential dwellings of two to five storeys comprising full details of 73 dwellings and outline for a further 103 dwellings. Modifications to Paper Mill Lane including access to the site, external areas including car parking, on site access roads and footpaths and landscaping – Land at Former Fisons/Scotts Site, Paper Mill Lane, Bramford

Parish Council comments forwarded to MSDC – the Parish Council would like reassurance that the road layout along Paper Mill Lane will be improved and was concerned that the application did not include any affordable housing.

### **11.12 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

1. Speeding along Stowmarket Road – The Chairman reported that a resident along Stowmarket Road had raised concerns regarding the speeding of traffic along this road. The Parish Council were sympathetic to the issues raised and have on many occasions asked Suffolk County Council to consider ways of slowing the road down with various traffic calming measures but unfortunately no scheme suitable for the road had been considered. The Parish Council will contact Suffolk County Council to request that this area be looked at again.
2. Village Hall Management Committee – The Chairman reported that she had attended a recent meeting. The Committee were still awaiting the result of the grant application to Sita UK.

Chairman

Date