

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE PARISH ROOM, MILL LANE, GREAT BLAKENHAM ON WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL 2013

PRESENT: Mrs P Robinson, R. Simpson and Mrs S Fairburn, District Councillors J Field and M Blakenham

1.4 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

A resident was concerned about vehicle access from the lane from the allotment site onto Stowmarket Road. Visibility when turning right onto Stowmarket Road was being blocked by vehicles parked on the road. Parish Councillors were sympathetic with the problems but advised that these cars were permitted to park in the layby.

A resident asked if SCC could be approached to see if some white lines could be installed at the junction of Chalk Hill Lane and Hood Drive so that drivers were aware that this was a junction.

It was reported that cars were being parked on the zigzag lines on the approach to the new crossing on Gipping Road. The Chairman advised that Phil Brill the PCSO will be approached to inspect this area regularly.

A resident was concerned that the white lines across the railway lines had faded and asked if the Parish Council could approach Network Rail to ask for these lines to be reinstated.

2.4 REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor M Blakenham reported on the Incinerator and the current situation with regard to the red lighting on the chimney, recent meetings with local residents regarding his planning application for greenhouses on the B1113 in particular highway matters and lighting. He also reported that the cable from the windfarm to Bramford sub station would not run across the site.

3.4 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

No police were present.

4.3 Apologies: R. Edrupt and P. McLauchlan

5.4 Declarations of interest appropriate to any item on the agenda

There were no declarations.

6.4 MINUTES of the meeting of 13th March 2013 were approved and signed.

7.4 WORKPLAN

Councillors were given an update on the outstanding matters.

8.4 FINANCE

- a. Monthly Payments – It was agreed to sign cheques to the value of £3,925.82.
- b. Financial Ombudsman – The Chairman reported that a letter had been received outlining the Ombudsman's decision. The letter informed the Parish Council that no further

action would be taken as there was insufficient evidence to say that Barclays made a mistake in setting up online banking access for Mr Hallet in 2007. The Parish Council were now being requested to either accept the Ombudsman decision or wish to continue with the complaint. It was agreed to seek further advice before making a decision.

9.4 STREET LIGHTING

The Chairman reported that Robert Simpson, Claire Lee and herself had met with Andy Allberry from Suffolk County Council Highways to discuss the street lighting in the village. The County were in the process of installing Telensa Intelligent Lighting on all their lighting columns and were encouraging Parish Council's to do the same. There were very good cost savings in moving to this system. The system allowed for street lights to be switched off at midnight until 5.30 am. Mr Allberry also reported that the lamps currently installed on all lighting columns will no longer be available and SCC stock was dwindling fast and once the stock was exhausted they will no longer be able to keep these units in lighting, therefore all lamps will need to be replaced. He had prepared a programme of works for lantern replacement including major works to G39 conflict columns.

Having considered the programme it was agreed that all the Council's 23 street lights be changed to the Telensa Intelligent Lighting at £45 per column. It was also agreed to remove existing G39 conflict units and replace with new LED energy saving lanterns and control boxes on lamp columns along Stowmarket Road at a cost of £10,000. Further works will take place in the next financial year.

10.4 SUMMER FUN DAY

Chairman reported that arrangements were progressing well. At the next meeting of the Parish Council a decision will need to be made regarding which local charity the Parish Council will support.

11.4 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a. Village Hall Management Committee – The Chairman was very pleased to report that the Village Hall Committee had been awarded £57,401 from the Sita Trust. The grant will be used to decorate the hall, both inside and out, replace the old curtains and replace two cookers in the kitchen. Outside the children's play area will be replaced, repainted and a piece of equipment placed outside the present area for older children. A hedge is to be planted along the fence and the purchase of 6 new cycle speedway.
- b. SALC South Suffolk Meeting – The Chairman gave Councillors a brief outline of the items discussed.
- c. Sita Liaison Meeting – The Chairman gave Councillors a brief outline of the items discussed.

Chairman

Date