

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in the Guildhall, Thursday 6th December 2018 at 7.30 pm.

Present Mr C Reeve, Chairman. Mr P Gibson, Vice-Chairman.

Mrs J Baker, Mrs D Twitchett, Ms N Smith, Mr T Sheppard, Mr B Panton, Mr J O'Mahony, Mr A Searle.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

Police Matters – Sudbury SNT November Newsletter available at

www.suffolk.police.uk/your-area/Sudbury. The summary of crimes reported within the parish of Lavenham is listed on www.police.uk, search by postcode on Find your Neighbourhood.

The latest reported crimes for October 2018 are: Violence & sexual offences x 3; Public Order x 1; Burglary x 2; Vehicle Crime x 1; Criminal Damage & Arson x 2; Anti-Social Behaviour x 2.

County Councillor's Report, Mr R Lindsay *(the report had been circulated to the Councillors in Mr Lindsay's absence and follows these minutes)*

District Councillor's Report, Mr W Shropshire *(the report had been circulated to the Councillors in Mr Shropshire's absence and follows these minutes)*

The Minutes – Prop. by Mr Gibson, sec. by Mrs Baker the minutes of the meeting held on 1st November were approved. Carried.

Declarations of Interest – none

Apologies for absence received from Mrs Norman, Mrs Harrison, Mr Lindsay and Mr Shropshire.

Matters arising and update of outstanding issues

Lavenham Library has had a most positive year and there is an exciting possible opportunity next year with a small touring company that the Friends of Lavenham Library hope to engage.

There will be a Christmas Lego and Crafts session on Thursday 20th December, Bryan Panton is generously helping with this event.

Finance and Strategy**Invoices paid between meetings:**

Babergh District Council, purchase of former TIC stock £690.00; Lavenham Life, additional copies delivered free by Parish Council £277.00; NFU Mutual, 2 Lady Street business insurance £310.79.

Cheques for payment:

M Filtness, work to Chapel storage £50.00: idverde, public toilet works November £1,800.00: CGM Ltd, grounds maintenance for November £874.00: CGM Ltd., Street cleaning, Oct 60 hours £1,728.00: Suffolk Tree Services, fell cemetery cypress & stump grind £2,940.00: Payroll £1,404.86: Safe Options, 2 x car park cash safes £325.00: Kinex, telephone account Nov. £22.96: Lavenham Community Council, VH room hire 03/12 £22.00: Excello Law Ltd, legal works associated with acquisition of 2 Lady Street £2,193.60: British Gas, electricity Church St toilets £19.27: The Lavenham Press, print of 3,000 Poppy Trail maps £436.00:

A & D Fayers, 3 Christmas trees £310.00: Anglian Water Business, Church St toilets water charges £711.44: Anglian Water Business, Prentice St toilets water charges £152.87: Anglian Water Business, Cemetery water charges £14.81: H. N. Rutherford, display screens for Armistice photographs £126.00: CGM Ltd., Street cleaning, Nov 60 hours £1,728.00.

A letter to the Bank requested the transfer of £15,000 between accounts.

Mrs Norman had emptied the Christmas Lights collection boxes, the total collected was £105.12.

Proposed by Mrs Baker, seconded by Mr Sheppard, that the transactions are approved. Carried.

Precept 2019/20 – recommendations from the meeting of the finance group had been circulated and it was proposed by Ms Smith, seconded by Mr Gibson that, in principle, the precept for 2019/20 should be £75,000. This would result in a parish share of Band D of £83.15. Carried. Suffolk County Council has indicated that they would be seeking an increase of 3% plus 1% for childcare. Babergh District Council and the Police have both also indicated an increase. School/pre-school grant - it was proposed by Mrs Baker, seconded by Ms Smith, and agreed, that the grant originally offered to the Primary School could remain in hand and be made available, if requested, to support a similar initiative to extend childcare hours, either by the Pre-school or jointly by the Pre-school and Primary School, should they judge there would be sufficient numbers to make a scheme viable.

Planning

Planning Applications Received:

DC/18/04246 The Langtons, Bridge Street Road, Lavenham

Planning Application. Erection of a 3 bay cart lodge

Prop. Mrs Baker, sec. Mrs Twitchett, recommend approval. Carried.

DC/18/04978 Land At The Old Rectory, Church Street, Lavenham

Full Planning Application - Erection of 1 no. dwelling with associated car parking, landscaping and access.

Prop. Mrs Twitchett, sec. Ms Smith, recommend approval subject to Highways approval of access, and satisfactory negotiations in respect of replacement tree planting. Carried.

DC/18/05139 April Cottage, 40 Water Street, Lavenham

Householder Planning Application - Erection of front/side porch and single storey rear extension

As resident of an adjoining property Mr O'Mahony advised the meeting that he would not be taking part in discussions or a decision in respect of this application.

Prop. Mrs Baker, sec. Mr Searle, recommend approval. Carried.

DC/18/05196 Pippins, Bridge Street Road, Lavenham

Notification of works to trees under a Tree Preservation Order Order 240 G1- Proposal to fell T1 +T2 Maples & DC/18/05197 Notification of works to trees under a Tree Preservation Order 240 G1 - Proposal to fell T1 and T2 (Field Maples) to ground level and to re-pollard G1 (Multiple Maples)

Prop. Ms Smith, sec. Mr Sheppard, recommend approval. Carried.

It was hoped that vehicles involved in these works would not obstruct Bridge Street Road and force passing traffic onto the grass verges recently repaired following earlier vehicle damage.

Planning Decisions Received:

DC/18/04471 The Grove, 5 Lady Street, Lavenham – Planning Authority does not object to works to Trees in a Conservation Area - T1 (Yew) Raise crown by 2m and reduce by 1.5m, T2

(Ash) Fell, T3 and T4 (Yew) Reduce by 1.2m, G1 Remove group of self-set trees
 DC/18/04167 Pegtile Court, 3 Church Street, Lavenham – Planning Permission granted for conversion of home office and garage to living accommodation
 DC/18/04668 Pegtile Court, 3 Church Street, Lavenham – no objections to works to Trees in a Conservation Area - T1 (Yew) Fell
 DC/18/04435 19A Bolton Street, Lavenham – Planning Permission granted for creation of flat roof canopy over main entrance door
 DC/18/04593 9 Weavers Close, Lavenham – Planning Permission granted for application of cladding over existing render
 DC/18/04624 Linden, Bears Lane, Lavenham – Refusal of Consent to carry out works to Trees protected by Tree Preservation Order WS41- Fell 1No Chestnut Tree in back garden and re-plant new.
 DC/18/01987 Second Meadow Stables, Brent Eleigh Road, Lavenham – Refusal of Planning Permission for erection of detached dwelling in association with the use of Second Meadow Stables. As amplified by additional supporting statement received 18.10.18.
 DC/18/02673 4 Church Street, Lavenham – Refusal of Listed Building Consent for Erection of single storey rear extension following demolition of porch.
DISCHARGE OF CONDITION(S) TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
 Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/18/03068 - Condition 6 (Landscaping Scheme)
 Location: Bears Barn, Bears Lane, Lavenham, Sudbury CO10 9RX
 DC/18/05105 The Great House Hotel, Market Place, Lavenham - Discharge of Conditions for B/15/00860 Condition 6 (Agreement of Brickwork Bond Materials)

Operations

Sudbury Wardens – a report of activity during November had been forwarded and in future would be sent to both the Clerk and Mr Mahony.

Gas Works site – still in communication with National Grid but their legal department appears not to consider a Parish Council an appropriate authority to sell possibly contaminated land to. The Parish Council has been offered the opportunity to be present when a site survey is carried out and the written report will be shared following that survey.

Traffic and Road Management – residents possibly affected by the proposed anti pavement parking measures will be written to before any schemes are implemented. Amanda Mayes of Suffolk County Council will forward a draft licence and agreement for bollards where appropriate.

Lavenham Walk – some progress is being made with the solicitors.

Due to failure of the hand washing unit in the Ladies toilets in Prentice Street car park hand sanitiser gel will be provided as a temporary measure.

Mr Gibson asked who is responsible for cleaning and maintenance of the red phone box in Church Street. It is assumed BT as it is still operating as a public phone box. The Parish Council could consider purchasing this phone box and finding an alternative use for it, perhaps to display visitor information.

Housing and Social

CLT - many of the Peek Close units are now roofed, it is hoped that all will be watertight before the bad weather arrives.

LED lighting – individual Listed Building applications are being submitted. A survey of complete/incomplete works has been submitted to Suffolk County Council.

Good Neighbours Scheme – a meeting has taken place with Babergh members and officers to discuss possible schemes to improve the Tenter Piece common room area. An architect's report and electrical survey are awaited. There would appear to be two alternative possibilities, firstly Babergh might carry out renovations and updating, or the Parish Council could get a lease and

carry out renovations with grant assistance.

Another successful AGM had taken place on 16th November. The Christmas Party is being held in the Village Hall on Thursday 13th December.

Lavenham Dementia Alliance - the first Wednesday get-together had taken place in the Common Room, 5 people had attended with carers. These meetings would continue on the second Wednesday of the month. It is a good opportunity to get together for coffee and cake, photographic memories and conversation. It was particularly good for the carers to meet and share experiences and advice.

Waitrose had confirmed that the scheme was to receive a share of their Community Matters token collection but the amount has not been confirmed yet.

Correspondence had been received from:

Lavenham resident asking if it would be possible to have a pop up stall on the Market Place on one Saturday for her recently set up homeware and gift business. It was agreed that the Parish Council did not think this would be appropriate but would suggest that space might be available at the Farmers' Market if application was made to them.

A Fish & Chip mobile operator has indicated that he would like to visit the village and park temporarily at Meadow Close and Spring Street on a Wednesday evening. As the operator has a trading licence to operate in the district it was felt that this would be welcomed by the community.

Sudbury & District CAB asking the Parish Council to consider financial support in view of the cuts to funding being made by SCC. The majority of the Councillors felt strongly that the Parish Council should support the CAB, proposed by Mr Gibson, seconded by Ms Smith, that a donation of £100 should be made. Agreed with 1 abstention. The Parish Council would also make representation to Nicola Beach, SCC Chief Executive, regarding the reduction and eventual withdrawal of funding.

Suffolk County Council budget briefing (forwarded to all Councillors)

Lavenham Village Hall, invitation to all users and supporters to join them at their Coffee Morning on 20th December for free coffee, cakes, mince pies and the chance to chat to friends.

Reminder to respond to Draft BMSDC Homes Strategy consultation and Draft Homelessness Reduction Strategy consultation by midday Friday 7th December

Suffolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan, reminder that final date for responses to the consultation is 17th December 2018.

Luke Cresswell, Babergh District Councillor for Sudbury South, (email circulated) informing the Parish Council that free car parking in Sudbury could be axed if short-stay charges are approved as part of Babergh District Council's new 'Vision for Prosperity' plan. In discussions it was felt that the introduction of charges would have a disastrous effect on retail businesses and tourism and this view would be forwarded to Babergh.

BMSDC are undertaking their four-yearly review of Polling Districts, Polling Stations and Polling Places. (circulated) A schedule of the current arrangements is attached to the email, along with the Returning Officer's proposals. Comments are invited and should be returned by 31st December 2018, proposals will be taken to the Council at its meeting on 22nd January 2019. The Parish Council has no comments to make.

Judith Thompson of the Tinkler's Meadow Campaign Group, (circulated) proposing that urgent action is needed to establish a Local Green Spaces policy within the emerging Babergh Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan for all communities where there is no Neighbourhood Development Plan. (NDP).

2 Lady Street (Lavenham Hub) – acquisition and operation

Lavenham Parish Council is proceeding with the purchase of the premises but this has to be delayed until February due to the terms of the CIL bid for £30,000. In the meantime

Babergh has issued a Licence to Occupy and a Licence for Alteration Works. Mr Searle has drawn up a list of works and builders should be on site 7-14 January. The Trustees are working hard to get prepare for opening soon after the building works are done. A vote of thanks goes to all concerned. The Post Office van will remain until the premises are ready to open.

Enquiries are being made as to exemptions to Business Rates.

Armistice Centenary Commemorations

The Poppy Trail and commemoration events on Sunday 11th November were considered a great success and a fitting tribute to the 76 fallen of Lavenham. A letter of thanks for the Parish Council's support and funding, and in particular the part played by Mr Mahony, had been received from Mr Petty, Chairman of the Community Council. Seventy six additional copies of the Poppy Trail map, suitable for framing, have been printed and will on sale. Any profit will go to village good causes.

There are varying views on whether or not the Tommy figure should remain in place on the Market Place. After discussion it was felt that if left it is likely to get damaged and over time will probably deteriorate. Also it is considered that by leaving it in the Market Place the impact will be reduced over time. On the other hand it would be disappointing if it were to be put away in a store and only brought out at Remembrance time each year. The suggestion was made that the war memorial area of the Church might be an appropriate and desirable location for the figure to stand during the year, being moved back to the Market Place each November. This suggestion would be raised with the Churchwardens for their observations.

Framing of the Lavenham Coat of Arms

Following discussions on whether the Coat of Arms should remain in storage, rolled up in a box, or professionally mounted and displayed, it was proposed by Mr O'Mahony, seconded by Ms Smith, that the College of Arms quotation of £675 for mounting and framing should be accepted and instructions for the work to be issued. Carried.

Christmas Fair and Christmas lighting

Plans are progressing for the weekend event on 7th, 8th and 9th December. The First Meadow, and other additional sites, will again be used for parking and traffic management will operate as in previous years.

Matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council

It was noted that all new trees for the Cemetery are on order and planting will commence shortly.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd January 2019.