

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in the Guildhall, Thursday 1st December 2016 at 7.30 pm.

Present Mr C Reeve, Chairman.

Mrs J Baker, Mrs D Twitchett, Ms E Paris, Mr P Gibson, Mr T Sheppard, Mr A Searle, Mr B Panton, Mr J O'Mahony

Public Forum – no members of the public present

Police Matters – A total of 87 crimes were recorded in the Sudbury SNT area during September 2016, categorised as: Burglary 6; Robbery 0; Violence with injury 31; Serious sexual offences 4; Drug Trafficking 0; Anti Social Behaviour 46.

Mr Reeve, Mr O'Mahony and Mr Sheppard had attended the forum meeting with the County Council, PC and local area inspector. Enforcement of parking regulations had been a concern and it would appear that it will be at least two years before authority is devolved to the District Council. Police will attend upon reports of persistent offenders, especially vehicles causing an obstruction. Correspondence has been sent regarding parking in Water Street.

County Councillor's Report – Mrs J Antill – emailed report circulated to Councillors (*report follows these minutes*)

District Councillor's Report – Mr W Shropshire – emailed report circulated to Councillors (*report follows these minutes*)

Mrs Twitchett had attended the Strategy Committee meeting where the sheltered housing proposals had been voted through unanimously. No figures had been available to show what the proposals were based on. A 50% return for the consultation was reported. Properties removed from the sheltered scheme will be going into the general housing stock.

The Minutes – The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3rd November were approved. Proposed by Mr Gibson, seconded by Mr Sheppard. Carried.

Declarations of Interest – Ms Paris declared an interest in the consideration of a grant to Forest School training and signed the Interests Book.

Apologies for absence received from Mr Whitworth, Mrs Banks, Mrs Antill (Suffolk County Councillor), Mr Shropshire, (Babergh District Councillor).

Matters arising and update of outstanding issues

News from the Library, Mrs Baker reported that Tot Rock is very popular with 10-15 pre school children attending, Thursdays at 2.15 pm. Top Time is due to start in February, every two weeks on a Thursday, 2.30 to 4 pm. On Sunday 18th December they will be piloting a Children's Craft Club which it is hoped will become a regular event. These are all intended to widen the function of the Library. The Friends of the Library will be liaising with the school to upgrade the school's library books.

A report in respect of Traffic Management is being prepared by Mr Sheppard and Mr O'Mahony, this should be available before the next meeting, for discussion in January.

The Church gates are ordered and confirmation received this week that work has commenced. No completion date as yet.

Pond ownership (corner Bury Road/Preston Road) - SCC has stated that this is not under their ownership. Babergh likewise, although their contact with the Land Registry could be used to see if ownership could be established.

Play equipment on the Halt development is still fenced off, it is believed BDC need to issue a completion note to the developer.

Water Street - SCC Highways have yet to advise final experimental scheme for Water Street and consolidation order for double yellow lines. It is understood that the Gas Works site is being prepared for disposal. Mr Searle will make enquiries as to ownership, it is not known if the site is still owned by National Grid.

LED installation is progressing slowly, outages along Church Street appear to be the responsibility of UK Power Networks.

Finance and Strategy

Precept 2017/18 - following discussion of the expected outturn for the present financial year and proposed budget for 2017/18, it was proposed by Mr O'Mahony, seconded by Mr Searle, that the precept be set at £69,000. Carried. Parish Precept per Band D for 2017/18 would equal £80.31, a 28p(0.34%) reduction on 2016/17.

Consideration of small grant to 2017 Easter Art Trail – it was proposed by Mr Sheppard, seconded by Mr Searle, that the Parish Council makes a grant of £150 to the 2017 Easter Art Trail which will be a collaboration between the Church, the School and the Library. Carried.
Consideration of small grant to Forest School training – Ms Paris had earlier declared an interest in this item and left the room for the duration of the discussions and vote.

Parish Councillor Emma Paris is currently studying towards a Level 3 Forest School Practitioner qualification, the course is being led by the Green Light Trust based in Lawshall. Once qualified Ms Paris aspires to offer Forest School sessions across the local community, starting with Lavenham Pre- and Primary Schools. In view of the potential value to the community of Lavenham it was proposed by Mrs Twitchett, seconded by Mr O'Mahony, that the Parish Council makes a grant of £250 to cover the cost of the reading list for the course. 6 voted for, 1 abstained. Carried.

Invoices received, cheques for payment

Two invoices paid between meetings: Speed Ramps UK Ltd, 100 x No Parking/Waiting cones £360.00: Scotts of Thrapston, surveys, drawings etc. for Village Hall annexe £4,236.00. Anglian Water, water charges (Church St. toilets £512.33, Prentice St. toilets £237.47, Cemetery £11.97) £761.77: Kinex, phone a/c November £24.17: CGM Group, grounds maintenance Nov. £874.00: A & D Fayers, 3 x Christmas trees £250.00: Idverde Limited (formerly Landscape Group) £7,265.23 (includes £4,080 grass reinforcement First Meadow): Suffolk Tree Services, tree works in Cemetery £540.00: Payroll £727.00: HMRC, PAYE q/e 05/0/2017 £483.40: Doeon, 10 Pcs two way radios £110.80: Spingold, printing LEP leaflets £173.80: Emma Paris, financial support for Forest School training £250.00. Paid by Direct Debit to BT for Broadband service to old phone box for November £61.92.

A letter to the Bank requested the transfer of £13,000.00 between accounts.

Planning

Planning Applications:

B/16/01381 Application Type: FHA Horseyards, Bridge Street Road, Lavenham
Construction of 2.3m high flint wall in the garden

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

B/16/01380 Application Type: FHA 63 High Street, Lavenham
Installation of a detached timber garden room

Prop. Mrs Twitchett, sec. Ms Paris, recommend approval. Carried.

B/16/01567 Application Type: TPO 26 The Glebe, Lavenham

Re-pollard 1 no. Field Maple tree back to previous points, covered by Tree Preservation Order No. BT166

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

B/16/01534 Application Type: TCA Perseverance House, 47 High Street, Lavenham

Fell 1 no. Yew (T1), reduce 2 no. Yew trees (T2 and T3) by up to 2m.

Prop. Mr Sheppard, sec. Mr Searle, recommend approval. Carried.

B/16/01473 Applications Type: TCA Molet House, Barn Street, Lavenham

Reduce 1 no. Walnut tree by 35% and remove lower limb of 1 no. Pear tree

Prop. Ms Paris, sec. Mrs Twitchett, recommend approval. Carried.

B/16/01556 Application Type: AGDW The Old Piggery, Slough Farm, Bridge Street Road, Lavenham

Notification for Prior Approval of proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Use Class C3), and for associated operational development

Prop. Mr O'Mahony, sec. Mrs Baker, whilst considering that the main criteria have been met the Parish Council reiterates concerns highlighted when considering the previous application and makes reference to 9.1 of the NPPG, in particular: 'Therefore it is only where the existing building is structurally strong enough to take the loading which comes with the external works to provide for residential use that the building would be considered to have the permitted development right.' Carried.

B/16/01463 Application Type: FUL Stone Farm, Brent Eleigh Road, Lavenham

Erection of single storey and first floor extensions to facilitate conversion of existing dwelling to 2 no. holiday lets

Prop. Mrs Baker, sec. Ms Paris, recommend approval but have slight concerns regarding the provision of only one entrance. It is recommended that the view of the Fire Service should be sought on the main single access to serve two holiday lets. Carried.

B/16/01527 Application Type: FHA 5 Barn Street, Lavenham

Erection of two-storey side extension (following demolition of garage) and erection of a summerhouse

Prop. Mrs Twitchett, sec. Mr Sheppard, recommend approval. Carried.

B/16/01628 Application Type: TCA Sparling & Faiers, 11 Market Place, Lavenham

Fell 2 no. Conifer trees

Prop. Mrs Twitchett, sec. Mr Sheppard, recommend approval. Carried.

Planning Decisions Received:

B/16/01358/TCA 44 Prentice Street, Lavenham – permission to reduce 1 no Silver Birch by 30% and thin out.

B/16/01378/TCA The Red House, 29 Bolton Street, Lavenham – permission to fell 1 no. oak tree, remove branches from 1 no. silver birch tree, coppice 1 no. hazel tree, remove 1 no. lower branch from 1 no. oak tree and cut back privet hedge.

B/16/01425/TCA 1 Mayes Farm, The Common, Lavenham – permission for removal of 1 no. Cherry tree

Operations

Emergency Plan – Mr Panton was thanked for the clear presentation he had given to the meeting on Wednesday 23rd November, which had been well received. He has had a few more forms returned but has not yet had time to go through these.

Housing and Social

SCC site/CLT – Hastoe had held an open meeting on 14th November which had been very successful with a good turnout and feedback. The planning application has now been submitted and validated. The plans had been received by the Clerk but there had been insufficient time to advertise them for consideration at this meeting. An extension of time in which to respond would be requested so that the plans could be considered at the January meeting. As CLT trustees Mr Reeve, Mrs Twitchett and Mr Panton will have to declare an interest and stand down.

Good Neighbour Scheme – the Christmas Tea Party is taking place on Thursday 8th December and about 40 tickets have been collected. There will be entertainment and carol singing.

Mrs Twitchett and Sally Watson of SCC are meeting with Monks Eleigh volunteers on Friday to see if they can help get their scheme off the ground.

Correspondence had been received from:

SCC, Suffolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan, Issues and Option consultations, circulated. End of consultation 6th February 2017.

Mrs Pitt, Shilling Street, regarding the mobile Post Office and the future of the service in the village. Mr Shropshire reports this month on early moves to try to ensure a Post Office service remains in the village and the Parish Council will support wherever possible.

BDC, Technical Support Officer, Building Control, regarding future street naming and numbering

SALC, notice of Babergh Area Meeting on Monday 28 November

NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plan information (circulated)

SALC, LAIS1394 Neighbourhood Planning Bill (circulated)

Other Matters brought to the attention of the Parish Council

Mr Searle had been talking to Peter Ince about the practicalities of securing the use of a mechanical road sweeper in order to deal with the heavy leaf fall throughout the village. Hiring was thought to be the most economical option given the number of times it was likely to be used through the year.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 5th January 2017

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Lavenham Parish Council website: lavenham.onesuffolk.net