

# **BEDINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

A meeting of the council was held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in the Village Hall.  
A draft summary of the minutes follows:

**Present:** Councillors R Housley, P List, M Booth, D Ferguson, S Fuller and a few parishioners.

## **1 Everyone was welcomed to the meeting**

Cllr Guthrie and Cllr Hicks had another meeting to attend so the agenda was altered to allow them to give their reports first.

## **11 Report from District Councillor.**

MSDC is proposing a 1.66% increase in its share of Council Tax adding £2.76 per year to the bill of a band D property. Unoccupied property council tax discount will reduce from 3 months to 28 days in order to bring empty properties back into use. The District Council continue to support the work of the CAB. Taylor Wimpey has submitted a planning application for 295 houses opposite Debenham Leisure Centre. Planning enforcement is revamping how they deal with matters along with updating software so some decisions may take a little longer until it is completed by the end of March. Planning application DC/19/04108 erection of poultry sheds south of Hall Road will go to MSDC planning committee as the planning officers deemed it to be controversial.

## **12 Report from County Councillor.**

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service have been rated ‘Good’ in a government inspection particularly praised for how well it collaborates with other emergency services and agencies. There are only four manned full time stations in Suffolk.

SCC has been working in partnership with Suffolk Parent Carer Network and has identified an additional 168 spaces for SEND children which will be provided from September 2020.

David Waters (Felixstowe) has been jailed for misleading vulnerable customers and a hearing to consider compensation for victims will take place early this year.

## **Public participation**

The footpaths are extremely difficult, wet, slippery and muddy. The entrances to Big Lane and Little Lane are particularly wet. Are farmers responsible for these? Steve Jacques (footpath warden) wishes to retire from his duties. The chairman thanked him very much for his work in assessing and reporting on the footpaths for several years.

At this point some of the parishioners left the meeting.

## **2 Apologies.** None

## **3 Declarations of interest.** None

## **4 Minutes.**

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted as a true record of the meeting. They were then signed and dated.

## **5 Matters arising.** None

## **6 Correspondence**

Request for money was received from Headway Suffolk [www.headwaysuffolk.org.uk](http://www.headwaysuffolk.org.uk), and Suffolk Age UK ([www.ageuksuffolk.org](http://www.ageuksuffolk.org)). Donations to charities were discussed and the councillors agreed to provide the public with links to the organisations so they could donate direct if they wished. Councillors are invited to a MSDC parish liaison meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> February. A full Community Governance Review will be conducted during 2020. Scales for the review, including consultation period will be available later.

## **7 Planning**

Planning permission has been granted by MSDC for buildings at Bedingfield House to be used for equestrian and a banded ménage to be built.

Amended plans for the poultry sheds south of Hall Road have been submitted which uses the same entrance as the existing sheds therefore no traffic relating to this application should use Hall Road. Councillors had no objection to this application as the amendment addresses the concerns of the Parish Council.

## **8. Internal Audit and Risk Assessment**

These were reviewed and considered to be appropriate.

## **9. Finance**

All councillors agreed to pay MDSC invoice error for bin emptying, CAS for web hosting, RBL Poppy Appeal for the Village wreath, and Community Heartbeat trust for replacement defibrillator pads.

The budget for 2020/21 was circulated with the agenda. Following a brief discussion the councillors agreed the precept should remain at £1620 for 2020/21.

Some invoices are received between meetings so after a brief discussion it was agreed by all councillors that any invoices under £100 should be paid when received. The clerk would show the signatories the invoice when asking for a cheque signature.

The clerk left the room.

The clerk's salary was discussed and all councillors agreed it should be raised.

The clerk returned and was thanked for her work.

## **10. CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) grant**

The CIL grant was explained to the councillors. The council has been awarded £3094.78 to spend on providing, improving, replacing, operating or maintaining infrastructure that supports the development of the Parish Council area over a period of 5 years. The Village Hall is in need of repair.

P List declared an interest in the Village Hall.

Other topics were mentioned including church clock. The Village Hall should apply to the clerk with estimate and request for some of the monies.

## **13 AOB**

A new footpath warden is required. The litter bin on the Village Hall should NOT contain dog waste. The Village Hall notice board is rotting, papers get wet even in plastic wallets and it is very difficult to put pins in. The road floods at Church Corner and outside Oak Farm, could highways visit?

## **14 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on Monday 9th March 2020 7:30pm

Everyone was thanked for attending.