

BEDINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council was held on Monday 22nd January 2018 in the village hall.
A draft summary of the minutes follows:

Present: Councillors R Housley, A Dew, D Ferguson, P List and a few parishioners.

1 Everyone was welcomed to the meeting.

Cllr Hicks arrived so the agenda was altered to allow him to give his reports first.

13 MSDC report

The leader at Babergh has resigned as he was against the merger with MSDC without giving Babergh residents a vote on the matter. Options are being considered to get best value for the use of the council office site at Needham Market.

128 properties should have fibre optic broadband to their properties by March 2018. Another 18 properties not until December 2020.

14 SCC report

Suffolk school travel consultation started in December, which invites people to help the council shape the future of school travel. One of the options is to only provide free transport to the child's nearest school and all free post 16 travel would be stopped.

Fully funded first-time central heating systems may be available to households in fuel poverty.

Further information can be obtained from Suffolk Warm Homes Healthy People on 03456 037686 quoting the Warm Homes Fund.

SCC needs to make another £50m savings. The Council tax this year will rise by 4.99%.

At this point Cllr Hicks left and the agenda order returned.

Public Participation.

People are advised to take great care when walking the footpaths as they are very wet and slippery. Every dog walker is requested to PLEASE pick up after your dog. Poop bags are very cheap. Please use them.

The water, which should flow under Hall Road but the drain is blocked, is to be diverted. A transverse drain is to be installed in the summer from the ditch to a drain at Church Croft Hall.

2 Apologies. S Fuller

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 Defibrillator Update

The Lottery Fund was not able to support the Managed Fund, therefore the Parish Council will own the defibrillators but Heartbeat Trust will provide support.

The defibrillators are ordered. The first one will be placed on the Village Hall.

Volunteers will be needed to operate the Village Emergency Telephone Scheme (VETS). Basic training will be given but this is merely a way of ensuring the equipment gets to the right place as quickly as possible after the initial 999 call. Maps will be provided so that volunteers know where to attend.

7 Dog Fouling

Dog bins are quite expensive and are emptied by MSDC for £60 per bin per year.

Several bins would be needed to be effective. A reminder would be printed in the newsletter and signs installed at the entrance to footpaths.

8 Correspondence.

Aspall Cyder has been bought by brewing giant Molson Coors and will continue to use the site.

A copy of the bin collection dates can be downloaded from www.midsuffolk.gov.uk.

Westcotec have identified a problem with some VAS. If this problem occurs they will repair free of charge and extend the warranty.

The library van will be at Bedingfield Church every 4 weeks, Thursday 12:20pm – 12:35pm starting 8th February.

Age UK would like some financial support. www.ageuksuffolk.org

Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association is seeking funds to cover costs.

Debenham P C has a public meeting on 23rd January to discuss the outline planning application for 295 dwellings north of Gracechurch Street.

9 Planning.

Permission has been granted by MSDC to renew concrete hard standings at Bedingfield Hall, and to change of use from agricultural building to residential unit and erect a new dwelling following demolition of derelict buildings at Old Kenton Station. A discharge of conditions for application 3976/14 (Archaeological) at Flemings Hall.

Councillors had no objections to the demolition of the existing piggery and erection of a dwelling at former Kenton Station Yard.

10 Internal Audit and Risk Assessment

No changes were necessary from last year and both were deemed by all councillors to be adequate.

11 Finance

The budget was presented to the councillors. After much discussion regarding the maintenance costs of the VAS and defibrillators all councillors agreed to raise the precept to £1620

All councillors agreed to pay for:

CAS for website hosting, Village Hall Hire and Clerk's salary.

Mr R Housley and Mr A Entecott were thanked for winding the clock for free.

12 Village Notice Board

P List presented costings to the councillors for a new notice board.

6 x A4 metal casing approx £260, 4 x A4 metal casing approx £220.

It was agreed the 4 x A4 would be big enough and suit the water pump site best. P List will investigate further and look at other village boards before purchase. Payment was agreed for the 4 x A4 board if most suitable.

15 AOB

The council currently only has two bank signatories, could another be added?

Thanks was expressed to workers at Manor Farm for removing the fallen tree from the BT cables on Church Corner after the recent storm without breaking them or disrupting the telephone service.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Monday 19th March 2018 7:30pm

Everyone was thanked for attending.