

MENDHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING – 17TH NOVEMBER 2014
MINUTES

1. The chairman, Peter Lee, welcomed councillors Denis Pye, Kathy Ferrar, Cecil Hadingham, Geoff Lane, Tony Dawson, Jimmy Kent and Richard Mattocks. Apologies were received from Sandra King and PCSO Steve Long. One member of the public attended as did MSD councillor, Marilyn Curran. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance,
2. Declarations of interest – none
3. Have Your Say [*Public Forum 7.32pm*] – Marilyn Curran , after congratulating the council on coming second in the Suffolk Village of the Year competition, brought councillors up to date with information on funding for Suffolk Young Active, Broome re-cycling site hours [**contact 01379 873371**], plans for more council houses and asked for support over the control of “Chinese lanterns” used for events considering the potential danger from them. The chair thanked Marilyn Curran for attending. Steve Keeling asked the parish council to support the village hall’s planning application for new sheds by carrying out the application for them. [*meeting closed at 7.50pm*]
4. Standing Orders – the clerk drew councillors’ attention to the new legislation allowing filming and recording in council meetings and the need to change STOs which currently disallow it. Councillors voted to suspend Order 31, pending advised wording which will be forthcoming from SALC.
5. Minutes of the previous meeting [29-09-14] were approved and signed as a true record.
6. Matters arising and clerk’s report - footpath leaflets will be tested by walking the routes; Colin Herbert has a definitive list of WWII names for the War Memorial – clerk to contact and arrange for Perfitts to come to a site meeting
7. Publication of draft minutes – the clerk raised the question of problems with putting draft minutes on the website and councillors agreed that in future only agendas and approved minutes should be put there; STOs require destruction of draft minutes after approval at meetings and it was difficult to ensure that this was carried out. Draft minutes, when available, will be sent to councillors asap.
8. Finances – balances as follows – c/acct: 9,676.66; sav/acct: 3,966.59. Cheques approved as follows – no.057 to SCC for £10.00 [hire of school]; no.058 to Royal British legion for £35.00 [wreath]; no.059 to C. Cardwell for £292.10 [net salary Oct/Nov]; no.060 to HMRC for £109.60 [tax to 5th Jan 15]; no 061 to Town and

Country Printers for £89.00 [PC newsletter]. Councillors agreed that the prize monies for the Village of the Year competitions should be used specifically for the village and parishioners would be asked for their opinions.

9. Budget and precept for year Apr. 2015 to Mar. 2016 – forthcoming expenditure and plans were extensively discussed [figures in accompanying sheet] and it was provisionally agreed to keep the precept the same as last year at £5700 - a final decision will be made in January.
10. Traffic problems were discussed and it was agreed that signs did not seem to have much effect in slowing traffic. Clerk asked to contact PCSO Long with concerns.
11. Planning – councillors discussed the village hall request and were happy to carry out the formal application, provided the village hall committee produced accurate plans and forms.
12. Affordable Housing – MSDC call for larger sites [over 2 hectares] discussed and various possible plots in the villages were considered but these were mostly very small..
13. Correspondence – received and discussed
14. Meetings for 2015 – dates agreed
15. Any other business – councillors were happy to support MSDC call for a ban on “Chinese lanterns”
16. Next meeting – 19th January 2015