

MENDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 15TH JANUARY 2018

MINUTES [approved by councillors on 19-03-18].

1. The vice-chairman, Tony Dawson, welcomed councillors Jimmy Kent, Mark Shortt, Kathy Ferrar, Steve Keeling, Stewart Orr and Thelma Brown. Apologies were received from Denis Pye and Richard Mattocks. Apologies also from Guy McGregor [SC councillor]. Also attending MSD councillor Lavinia Hadingham. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance.
2. Declarations of interest and any dispensations allowed – none
3. Public Forum – no members of public present
4. Reports from County, District and parish councillors – with councillors' agreement, this was moved to item 13.
5. Minutes of previous meetings [20-11-17; 09-12-17] were approved and signed as a true record.
6. Matters arising not on agenda – clerk reported no info. on VAS sharing with Weybread yet
7. Finances - Balance [Lloyds Bank] at 29-12-17 - £12,709.14; Cheques approved as follows - 184 to Glasdon for 103.82 [dog waste bin] - 185 to C. Cardwell for 307.70 [net sal Dec/Jan] - 186 to Heelis and Lodge for 66.00 [audit y/e Mar 17] - Total cheques - £477.52; Internal auditor – Trevor Brown CPFA[Woodbridge] appointed as auditor for year 17/18.
8. GDPR [General Data Protection Regulations] – there was a general discussion by councillors on the management and financial implications of this forthcoming legislation. Councillors agreed to register an interest, to consider the available options for appointing a DPO, to develop their knowledge in this area and the clerk will alert councillors to further developments and guidance.
9. Budget for year Apr. 2018 to March 2019 – final figures were discussed, taking into account the implications of new audit regulations and GDPR. Councillors agreed to maintain the precept figure at £6000;[no increase on last year] as it was felt reserves could cover any extra expenditure.
10. Flooding in villages – various localities were identified, solutions discussed; various contacts have been made with Anglian Water and Suffolk Highways without results; clerk asked to contact Jason Skelton on 01473 260411.

11. Roads in Mendham –

- Parking - Cllr. Orr gave a report on liaison with parishioners and general discussion on problems. Plans were put forward for the car park, including moving the sleepers to give more spaces; Cllr. Kent kindly offered to do this. Various strategies were suggested for co-operation with the school re the twice a day parking, It was noted that SALC was running an online school parking survey for all Suffolk villages.
- Potholes – the clerk read out a letter from Cllr. McGregor with reference to road repair polices; Mundys Lane is due to be repaired shortly. Other potholes in the villages were identified, but Suffolk Highways have depth criteria for repairs

12. War Memorial – proposed English Heritage listing – councillors had no comment to make.

13. Babergh and Mid- Suffolk merger, proposed – Cllr. Hadingham gave a brief update on amalgamation plans and details of the new HQ in Ipswich.

14. Correspondence – received and discussed. Any other business – Cllr. Keeling is to attend a Community Housing course at Tacolneston. Cllr. Ferrar spoke of the Community Council’s plans to celebrate the end of WWI.

15. Next meeting – 19th March 2018

The meeting ended at 9.05pm.