

MENDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 17TH SEPTEMBER 2018

MINUTES [approved by councillors on 19-11-18]

Public Forum [4 members of public present] – points raised by parishioners included – information re defibrillator training is available; it was noted that pads and batteries needed replacing. There were further complaints about local parking issues and concern over dogs' condition – MSD councillor to inform appropriate authorities. There were also comments on the need to trim the chestnut tree in The Street [it was noted this was done by MSDC], and flooding issues and need for drain jetting.

Lavinia Hadingham [Mid Suffolk District councillor] then gave her report including information on shopfront grants in Stowmarket, Gateway 14 land purchase East of Stowmarket for planned business park; the DC cabinet has approved a homelessness reduction strategy; Stars of Babergh and Mid Suffolk – nominations sought

1. Welcome and apologies – the chairman, Tony Dawson, welcomed councillors Stewart Orr, Denis Pye, Mark Shortt and Steve Keeling. Apologies were received and accepted from Kathy Ferrar, Thelma Brown, Jimmy Kent and Richard Mattocks, also SC councillor Guy McGregor. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance.
2. Declarations of interest and any dispensations allowed – none
3. Standing Orders [NALC Model 2018] – these were checked, amended as necessary, and signed.
4. Minutes of previous meeting [16-07-18] were approved and signed as a true record.
5. Matters arising not on the agenda – Speedwatch revival in hand, all equipment is ready and insured; there will be a forthcoming recruitment drive. There was further discussion over school parking problems and the need for the school to encourage parents to park responsibly
6. Finances –
 - Balance at Barclays Bank [30-08-18] – 12,440.03
 - Cheques approved as follows:
 - 205 – to Business Services at CAS - £226.01 [insurance]

- 206 – SALC – 123.60 [councillor training]
 - 207 – C. Cardwell – 323.98 [net sal aug/sept]
 - 208 - HMRC – 121.40 [tax to Oct 5]
 - 209 – C. Cardwell – 100.00 [annual home working payment]
 - 210 – Mendham and Withersdale Village Hall -1200.00 [S. 137, LGA 1972]
 - Total cheques - £2094.99.
 - Donations [S. 137] – 1200 was agreed for Mendham and Withersdale village hall and further donations would be approved at the next meeting in Nov.
7. Mid Suffolk District Council – the new electoral arrangements were duly noted.
 8. Suffolk Police – cllrs. Steve Keeling and Tony Dawson had attended a meeting at Fressingfield to discuss local councils “hiring” a PCSO between them. Mendham councillors felt that it would be too costly for their villages.
 9. Gambling Act 2005: statement of principles – councillors had no comment to make on these.
 10. Planning – councillors noted MSDC permission for the toilet extension to All Saints Church, Mendham [DC/18/02901]
 11. Correspondence – received and discussed
 12. Any other business – Steve Keeling had been asked about the field by Hunters Lane at Withersdale called the Poors Land. The clerk replied that it was a registered charity, let to a local farmer and the charity had about £100 pa income. Currently the land was not available for any other use.
 13. Clerk’s pay scales [*the clerk and the public left the room*] – the clerk had requested an upgrade from the present SCP point and councillors agreed to raise it to SCP 19, from October 2018.
 14. Next meeting – 19th November 2018. *The clerk advised that this will be the budget meeting.*

The meeting closed at 8.50pm