

MENDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 16TH SEPTEMBER 2019

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

Public Forum – neither County, District councillors nor members of public were present

1. The chairman, Denis Pye, welcomed councillors Kathy Ferrar, Richard Mattocks, Steve Keeling, Sally Mackinnon and Clare Rix. Apologies were received from councillors Jimmy Kent, Thelma Brown and Mark Shortt. Apologies also received from County and District councillors Guy McGregor and Lavinia Hadingham. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance.
2. Vacancy – Richard Mattocks was proposed, co-opted, all councillors agreed and RM signed the declaration of acceptance.
3. Declarations of interest and any dispensations allowed – none
4. Minutes of previous meetings [15-07-19; 03-09-19] were approved and signed as a true record.
5. Matters arising not on agenda – the Speedwatch operation: new batteries are needed for speed gun.
6. Finances -
 - Balance at Barclays Bank -30-08-19 – £7,864.03;
 - Cheques for approval
 - 243 – Mendham and Withersdale village hall – 1,200.00; 246 – CAS – 218.40 [insurance]; 247 – C. Cardwell – 177.46 [expenses from March to Sept incl. home working]; 248 – Suffolkbiz – 100.00 [website maintenance]; 249 – HMRC – 134.80 [tax to Oct 5]; 250 – C. Cardwell – 359.36 [net sal Aug/Sep]; 251 – MSDC – 198.00 [bin emptying]; 252 – MSDC – 107.78 [uncontested election costs]; Total cheques - £2,495.80
 - Cheque signatory – the papers have been signed again and sent to Barclays Mandate Team
 - NALC Financial Regulations 2019 were approved and adopted
 - Village hall donations – the clerk circulated a list of parish council contributions and donations from 2012; Kathy Ferrar presented an account of income and expenditure for the hall
 - Any other financial business – councillors agreed to purchase new batteries for Speed Watch gun

7. Planning –

- DC/19/03548: Thorpe Hall, Hunters Lane, Mendham – new staircase – no comment
- DC/19/Rose Cottage – site meeting report; councillors support this application.
- DC/19/04183: land opposite school – access application for proposed building site – there will be a public meeting on 23rd Sept. in the school to discuss this proposal; councillors had no comment at this stage.

8. BMSDC Joint Local Plan – councillors discussed the parts of the plan immediately relevant to Mendham; the current “village envelope” was agreed to be satisfactory; there were further comments on the proposed 6 houses opposite the school and comments on access difficulties, and possible future traffic problems. Councillors had no particular comments to make on the Local Plan.

9. Emergency Policy – councillors queried the need for one in this village; clerk to source suitable outline plan.

10. General policies – clerk asked to sort 6 or 7 for the Nov meeting

11. Car park trees – trimming had been discussed with a tree surgeon; it would cost c.£250-300 and this expenditure was agreed. To be carried out at half-term

12. Speeding in village – discussed; clerk asked to contact SCC for details of hiring under the SID scheme.

13. Defibrillators – Kathy Ferrar is in charge of the village one in the BT kiosk. Neil Chapman is in charge of the village hall one. They will both notify if and when new batteries are needed.

14. Clerk’s appraisal meeting – this took place in August with the chair and vice-chair meeting the clerk for discussion. The chair requests clarification of some points.

15. Reports from councillors – none

16. Correspondence – none

17. Any other business – there has been fly-tipping in the carpark; chair to call MSDC for removal. It was noted that the Waveney was getting blocked by vegetation – Sally Mackinnon to contact James Johnston at the Mill for advice. It was noted that there needed to be a discussion about the website – this to be on Nov. agenda.

Cottage in car park – Richard Mattocks to contact owner to see if it could have some repair. There were further comments on car parking problems at the school.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm