

Minutes of the BRUISYARD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Tuesday, 30th October 2007, at 7.30 in the Vestry, St Peter's Church, Bruisyard.

Present: The Clerk, Peter Robinson, Shirley Smith, John McKee, Eleanor Berwick, Margaret West, Colin Hart.

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies for absence:-** Jeremy Holland-Howes apologised for being 15minutes late.
- 2) Minutes of the last meeting:-** The minutes of the last meeting had already been circulated and read. John McKee proposed that the minutes for the meeting held on 18th September 2007 be accepted and Margaret West seconded this proposal. All were in favour.
- 3) Matters arising:-** There have been 15 responses to the questionnaire about broadband connection. Oliver Hitchcock mentioned he has only a dialup connection and Margaret West's neighbour has broadband but hasn't responded, these will be added to the results.
- 4) Review and adoption of draft business plan for the Village Hall:-** All members have studied the proposed business plan. Eleanor Berwick suggested adding in section '4. Strategic context' the percentage of people with a limiting long-term illness, to the number of 35 as this amounts to 20% of the inhabitants of the village. The Members wanted the ITV local news program About Anglia adding to the list of those asked to publicise the project in section '9. Marketing and communications strategy'. Peter Robinson proposed that the business plan be adopted by the Council with the above amendments. John McKee seconded this proposal and all agreed.

The Environment Agency has objected to the planning application for the village hall and it will be passed to the Planning sub-committee meeting on 14th November. David Smith will speak on the behalf of the Parish Council at the meeting and will have a 3 minute slot to put the Council's case to the committee. Colin Hart, the District Councillor, will also speak on the Council's behalf and has offered to lobby other District Council Members on the Planning Sub-committee on our behalf.

Village Hall committee members and Robert Smith, the architect, had a site meeting with Carl Allen, the planning case officer and Ann Westover, landscape architect for Suffolk Coastal District Council. Ann Westover expressed her concern about the oak tree immediately behind the proposed building site. There is a lot of dead wood in the tree and the trunk is on the far side of the ditch at the north end of the Park. John McKee followed up this element of the planning application by asking Dr Oliver Rackham, guest speaker at the tree wardens training day, about the extent of oak tree roots. His expert opinion was that oak tree roots will not extended more than 12 feet from the centre of the trunk under the conditions the tree is growing in and that roots would not come up again if forced to grow down by the presence of a ditch as in this case. Other concerns of the siting if the proposed hall were that a vehicle could not drive up to the entrance and that there were no plans for lighting in the car park. The committee members did not think the distance from the disabled car parking spaces to the hall would be excessive and thought that lighting would be inappropriate in the environment of Bruisyard but agreed that solar lights could be use to light entrances.

The Council has received a draft lease agreement for the car park land from Robert Rous. With minor changes to the wording of the summary and adding of the acreage the Members agreed to accept the terms and conditions. The Clerk will send Robert Rous the amended draft lease.

5) Financial Matters:- a) John McKee proposed it was in order for the Council to have paid £35.25 to SALC for the 2007 Revised Code of Conduct advertisement on 16th October. Jeremy Holland-Howes seconded this proposal and all agreed.

b) Oliver Hitchcock proposed that it was in order for the Council to have paid Essex and Suffolk Water £16.92 for the water charges on 26th October. Margaret West seconded this proposal and all agreed.

6) Date of Next Meeting:- Peter Robinson proposed to change the date of the next meeting from 13th to Thursday 15th November in order that the Council can discuss the outcome of the Planning sub-committee decision on the village hall planning application.

7) Miscellaneous Items:- John McKee briefed the Members on the contents of a letter received by Mrs Marten of 1 Clare Cottages from Suffolk County Council's Department of Environment and Transport stating that her child was not entitled to free transport to school on the grounds that 1 Clare Cottages is less than 3 miles from the middle school in Saxmundham. On contacting the department to point out that the child does live more than 3 miles from the school Mrs Martin has been told to that this is incorrect and she must pay the transport costs or her child will not be transported to school. The Members agreed to enquire into the matter and give Mrs Martin any assistance they could if required.

Peter Robinson has noticed that the post collection time from the post box in Bruisyard Street has changed to 10:00 am from 4:30 but the information on the box has not been changed. Margaret West suggested that the new time of collection be publicised in the next Newsletter.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:30 and thanked the PCC for the use of the Vestry.