

DEPDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12 November 2013 at 8pm in The Erskine Centre, Chedburgh.

PRESENT: Chairman: Mark Leadbeater
Councillors: Geraldine Arnold
Andy Barnetson
Dennis Bibby
Peter Payne
Andrew Rabett
John Walladge
Susan Boor (Clerk)
Derek Redhead – Borough Councillor (arrived at 8.20)
Mary Evans – County Councillor (arrived at 8.20)
PCSO Sophie Mitchell

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – none
2. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS** –
Councillor Barnetson declared an interest in Item 9.
3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 3 SEPTEMBER 2013**
The Minutes, having been circulated before the Meeting, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.
 - 3.1 No volunteer had yet come forward to represent the interests of Depden on the Community Council. Councillor Leadbeater had attended the AGM of the Community Council held 7 November 2013.
 - 3.2 No action on the repairs on the road thorough The Green and the overhanging trees opposite 'Pilgrims'.
4. **POLICE REPORT** – to be circulated. Attachment 13/6
5. **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH & SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD**
Councillor Barnetson urged residents to join Crime Watch. Speed checks had taken place in the village resulting in 4 verbal warnings being given. In the last three months Rural South had 26 reported crimes and Rural North 33, 19 being reported in the Cavendish area in one evening. Priorities being speeding and burglaries. The next Safer Neighbourhood meeting 3 December 2013.
6. **SALC REPORT** – no report
7. **FOOTPATH REPORT**
Councillor Leadbeater reported that 2 trees are down across Footpath 11/12.. Councillor Rabett agreed to investigate. Footpath 1 is still overgrown.
8. **COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN**
Councillor Barnetson reported that as Chedburgh had abandoned their plan he had decided that the Plan for Depden should fold.
9. **NOTICE BOARD**
The refurbishment of the Notice Board is due to take place at the end of November.

10. SPEED WATCH

A resident Nicki Golding had expressed an interest in setting up a Speed Watch Scheme through the Green, with the help of PCSO Sophie Mitchell. It was decided to defer this matter to the next meeting as more details are required, including any cost. The Clerk agreed to contact the Highways Department about portable SID signs.

11. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Mary Evans agreed to chase the Highways Department concerning repairs to the road through The Green and the overhanging trees opposite 'Pilgrims.' The cost of school transport is being investigated and consultations are to be held about the provision of Homecare and Home Meals Service.

12. BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Redhead reported that at a recent Parish Conference the workshop concerning the reduction in the St Edmundsbury Borough Council given to Parish Council was the most popular. The Inspector is due to report on Vision 2031 in February 2014. The partnership between St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath Councils is close to completion. The cost of the partnership is not yet known but has resulted in the loss of experienced staff.

13. TREASURER'S REPORT

13.1 *Community Account.*

The Clerk stated £385.00 will need to be transferred from the Business Day Saver Account.

Grant received from County Council for refurbishment to Notice Board	250.00
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Cheque already signed:

Broker Network Ltd (Came & Co.) for insurance	159.00
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Cheques for the following were approved and signed

CCDRCC (Hire of Erskine Centre)	60.00
Susan Boor (Clerk's Salary)	175.32
Susan Boor (Clerk's Expenses)	37.82
HMRC (Clerks' PAYE)	43.80

When the above payments have been cleared, a balance of £254.23 will remain.

13.2 *Business Day Saver Account – £385.00 has been transferred to the Community Account, it will leave a balance of £4510.23.*

14. INTERNAL AUDIT

The Internal Audit had taken place 30 September 2013 by Pearl Sugden with nothing to report.

15. PRECEPT FOR 2014/15

15.1 BUDGET FOR 2014/15 Attachment 13/7

With regard to correspondence from St Edmundsbury Borough Council concerning the reduction of the grant given to Parish Councils and the threat of a referendum at a cost of £1000 to £1500 if the Parish Precept is increased by more than 2%. As a very small Parish with low spending there is little scope for saving costs. After a discussion it was decided to increase the Precept (amount from the Council Tax) from £2444.00 to £2493 which should result in a small increase in the Council Tax of residents of Depden.

16. CORRESPONDENCE ** not circulated

Rural Services Network Digest x 9
SALC re NALC ebulletin
Rural Opportunities Bulletin x 3
West Suffolk Textile Recycling – Notice Board
Community Action Suffolk newsletter x 5
Eibe Action Trail Information **
Healthwatch Suffolk
SARS Concert – Notice Board
Rural Vulnerability Service x 4
West Suffolk Partnership Event
SALC Courses
SALC re NALC ebulletin
Suffolk Foundation Grants **
Suffolk View Magazine
Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine x 2
Rural Fair Share Petition
Rural Services Network Spotlight on Small Businesses
SALC AGM Invitation – to Dennis Bibby/Andy Barnetson
RSPB Event
West Suffolk Partnership News
SALC re Council Website of the Year **
Community Action Suffolk Events
Littlethorpe Shelters Leaflet **
Community Action Suffolk Funding
St Edmundsbury B C Rural News
Came & Co Parish Matters
SALC re LAIS1358 Scrap Metal
Community Action Suffolk Launch Events
SALC AGM Papers - to Dennis Bibby/Andy Barnetson
SALC re LAIS1359 Sustainable Communities
SALC Survey re Council Tax Support – completed
Statement of Community Involvement
Vision 2031 Submission Letter
St Edmundsbury BC Parish Conference Funding Workshop Correspondence
SALC re Gypsy Short Stay Provision
High Sheriff Awards and Grants
SALC re Model Standing Orders **
SALC re Nomination to NALC Smaller Councils
Rural Services Network Annual Meeting
CCDRC Community Council Report

17. MEETING DATES FOR 2014

The meeting dates for 2014 were distributed.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 18.1** Councillor Walladge reported that several bags of dog excrement had been placed in the bin in the bus shelter. The Clerk agreed to produce a sign for the bin and a request in the Newsletters for dog owners to take the bags home.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 14 January 2014.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Chairman Date