

**MINUTES OF THE CHELMONDISTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2012 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30 pm.**

Present: *Chairman:* David Cordle

Councillors: Rosie Kirkup, C Keeble, M Stevens, Dot Cordle, D Latter, B Walker, and Cllr A Fox.

In Attendance: *Parish Clerk*-Fran Sewell, SCllr David Wood, DCllr Tony Roberts and Babergh Officer, Karen Coll, PcsO Joanne Adams and colleague.

1. **WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN:** *Cllr David Cordle* welcomed all and opened the meeting at 7:30pm. He informed the meeting that sadly Roberta Morgan had resigned from the Council for personal reasons. *See Correspondence.*
2. **APOLOGIES:** *apologies were received (and accepted) from* - Cllrs J Hawkins and J Deacon - holiday
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** *to receive disclosures of personal & prejudicial interests from Cllrs on matters to be considered at the meeting.*
Cllr Latter declared an interest in **Item 15 e)** reimbursement of expenses.
4. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING:** *to agree minutes of the meeting held on 31st July 2012*
The minutes were taken as read and were agreed to be a true record of the meeting by those who had been present and were signed by the Chairman.
5. **MATTERS ARISING:** *to consider matters arising from meeting on 31st July 2012*
 - 5.1 **Item 9.1..Babergh DC:** *Recreational Open Space Audit* - Clerk has acquired an extension to 22nd September
 - 5.2 **Item 9.3..Chelmondiston Village Hall Management Committee:** *Waste Collection Charges for Village Hall* - proposed by Babergh/Mid Suffolk DCs to cover increasing costs. The Hall is not being classed as a business but classified under the *Controlled Waste Legislation 1992* (reviewed).
The Chair invited DCllr Tony Roberts to speak... Charges have been deferred until 2013. However, this still has to be put to full council so it is not conclusive.
 - 5.3 **Item 9.5..Babergh/Mid Suffolk DCs:** *Neighbourhood Planning Workshop* - Clerk considered that the District Council officers had two points of view: either to carry out a Neighbourhood Plan or a Village Design Statement. The former would have more clout but was very expensive. Requires further discussion.
 - 5.4 **Item 13 ..Council Tax support:** *Effects on Parishes-* until now the Government has decided who should get *council tax benefit* but now this has become the decision of each local authority.
The Government will also reduce its monetary contribution to the local authority, which covers these benefits, by 10%. Therefore, householders may receive less support and will possibly have to pay more towards their council tax. The outcome could be that the parish councils' precept would be spread across fewer households, which would amount to an increase for householders.
The local authority will have to devise its own benefit scheme to decide how much council tax recipients would have to pay. The Government has also said that low-income pensioners must not end up paying more council tax, as they are not able to work to help support themselves.
Babergh DC have posted a consultation on their website to find a way, which means those who are least able to pay do not carry a disproportionate burden. Put on Website.
 - 5.5 **Item 16.. Tennis Courts:** *no further forward.* Clerk will make contact.
 - 5.6 **Item 18.. Play Equipment:** The Playing Field Management Cttee has completed their part of the application for the s106 funding. Clerk would check and complete the application before sending off to Babergh.
6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION** (Pertaining to the Agenda)
No public were present.

7. REPORTS: *to receive reports (if available) from*

a) Safer Neighbourhood Team: *Pcso Adams reported* - 1 theft in August from a Satnav taken from a car in the village car park. During the last 12 month period there had been 8 thefts and 1 interference with motor vehicles in the car park at Pin Mill.

b) County Councillor: *David Wood reported* - **Libraries:* On the 1st of August the new Library service was launched with the Industrial and Provident Society taking responsibilities from the County Council. The IPS will take control of the 44 Libraries in Suffolk, as well as the mobile library, school, and prison services. It is claimed that the funding for the Library service will be protected for a total of two years.

**Care Homes:* The County Council will be outsourcing its 16 Care Homes and 8 community wellbeing centres; to a selected provider (the County has specified a preferred bidder in Care UK). This decision will take place at the September Cabinet meeting on 11th of September.

**Textile Bags:* Now going to all homes to help prevent 7,000 tonnes of clothing going into landfill.

**Broadband Band Update:* Suffolk CC officially invited bids to the £40m Broadband contract that will help provide faster internet speeds for the County.

Both BT and Fujitsu will now have until 7th of September to make their case for winning the contract. Suffolk CC will hold a special cabinet meeting on 20th of September where these bids will be discussed with leaders from across the public sector. The contract will then be awarded on the 8th of October.

**Ganges:* SCC Highways regarding the s106 has submitted their report. Cllr Kirkup questioned whether the parish councils would be consulted on highway matters relating to their parishes, as had been requested. David Wood would get copies of the submissions and would keep us all informed .

c) District Councillor: *Tony Roberts reported* - The merging of the administration services between Babergh and Mid-Suffolk were almost complete. They were looking to make a further 3.5 m savings over the next 3 years.

**Ganges:* If and when planning was approved it would take 2 years to clear the site of protected wildlife before any building work could begin.

8. BABERGH /MIDSUFFOLK DCs: *Community Engagement* - to discuss a response to questionnaire.

Tony Roberts introduced (Karen Coll, Corporate Manager- Business Improvement Corporate, Babergh and Mid Suffolk DC.) - she explained the Community Engagement programme and handed out questionnaires, which could be filled out either as a council or by individuals. The information gathered throughout the consultation will be used to help set the strategic priorities of both district councils and will be taken into account when setting the budgets. She confirmed that they would return with the feedback from the scheme.

The Chair thanked them for coming and both took their leave.

9. REPORTS FROM: Committees/Representatives of other Committees/Groups /Meetings *to receive reports and requests and to take any action deemed necessary.*

a) Planning: See planning minutes from 28th August 2012

APPLICATIONS

B/12/00788/FUL - Red Lion Inn, Main Road, Chelmondiston, IP9 1DX

Erection of single storey pitched roof kitchen extension. SUPPORTED

B/12/00797/FHA - 4 Anchor Mill, Anchor Mill Lane, Chelmondiston IP9 1DR

Convert existing garage into additional living accommodation (including installation of flue and roof-lights. Erection of front porch, summerhouse and garden shed. SUPPORTED

B/12/00811/FHA - Park View, Pin Mill Road, Pin Mill, IP9 1JN

Erection of 2 storey side extension and replacement garage (existing garage to be demolished) Erection of replacement retaining wall.

It was proposed that the application be SUPPORTED, with the comment that it is regrettable that the extension to the existing property does not have the same brick facing as the original building.

BABERGH and MID-SUFFOLK ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY: Planning

Responses were recorded to the questions asked. (See question sheet. Clerk would forward to DCllr J Deacon and DCllr Tony Roberts).

THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT: *to consider a response to the consultation re "Barrier Busting"*

The committee agreed with the views expressed in the "Local Works" document and it was proposed that we endorse the responses suggested. Clerk will write.

WIND TURBINES: *to discuss the outcome of a meeting with Belstead PC and to consider a response.*

Cllr Latter reported that Belstead PC is looking for support from neighbouring parishes with ideas about how to fight the proposal that 2 wind turbines, of a height exceeding that of the London Eye, be built at Belstead. This proposal has not yet been turned into a planning application. It has been suggested that in the pipeline there is a plan to build pairs of turbines all the way to the A 137 in the region of Jimmy's Farm, and for a wind farm to be built on the borders of Tattingstone and Wherstead parishes.

These suppositions have not yet been confirmed.

It is suggested that because of the large size of the turbines there is a differential wind speed between the blades at the top of their cycle and those at the bottom of the cycle, creating a solid noise, most noticeable at a short distance from the turbines. It is reported that the turbines in Kessingland can cause constant vibration sufficient to cause crockery to rattle on shelves.

Whilst there are financial incentives to persuade landowners to agree to the positioning of turbines on their land, and firms specialising in helping applicants for turbines to get through the hoops of planning laws, no help appears to be available for those who feel that the building of turbines close to their homes would have a detrimental effect on their health and well-being.

Councillors present suggested that, in the first instance and until Belstead actually receives notice that a planning application has been made, we could:

- 1) put a request onto our Parish website for anyone with experience of similar applications to offer their advice to Belstead about what they might do if they do receive a planning application for turbines;
- 2) write a letter to Belstead PC expressing our support for their concerns that so little information appears to be forthcoming about the actual effects on public health of extremely large turbines being placed close to dwellings. We would endorse their concerns that the regulations pertaining to wind turbines are out of date and do not fit the current larger scale turbines. It is a matter of regret that the government is not putting more effort into exploring the effects on health and well-being of very large turbines in the vicinity of communities.

MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS:

1. Cllr Stevens reported that the time for appeal against the enforcement order on land East of Stanley House had run out without there having been any appeal. The landowner has 3 months now to comply with the order.
2. Cllr Fox asked for it to be minuted that he had received a complaint from a local resident about the bright yellow posts, which have appeared in the vicinity of the barge blocks at the edge of the River Orwell. No one seems to know what these posts are for nor why they have to be such a striking colour. Next meeting on 18th September 2012.

b) **Village Hall:** No meeting to report on.

c) **Footpaths, Trees & Hedgerows:** P3 invoice had been sent to Suffolk CC.

d) Playing Field:

i) **Play equipment update:** The Babergh grant forms had now been filled out by the Playing Field Cttee and the Clerk would check through and fill out the relevant pieces for the Parish Council before sending everything off.

ii) **Dog restriction notice:** More verbal complaints had been received about dog fouling on the field. Notices had been displayed about keeping dogs on leads and clearing up after them but unfortunately some people continued to misuse the area. A debate followed.

Proposal: to permit the Playing Field Cttee to display a notice banning dogs from the playing field due to continued dog fouling.

Proposed: Cllr R Kirkup **Seconded:** Cllr A Fox **Vote:** 7 in favour 1 against (Cllr D Latter)

Further work clearing the undergrowth down the right hand side of the field would begin this autumn.

e) **Village Amenities:** The replacement dog bin has been put in place adjacent to the Jubilee Garden. Cllr Stevens will reinstate the waste bin.

f) **Clerk's report:** Code of Conduct-*Dispensation* advice could be found in the circulation envelope.

g) **Others:** There were no other reports.

- 10. CORRESPONDENCE:** *to respond to correspondence received up to the meeting 31st July 2012 and to take any action deemed necessary.*
- 10.1 Roberta Morgan:** *Letter of resignation* - from 31st August 2012, due to personal reasons.
- 10.2 Suffolk ACRE:** *Insurance Policy Renewal* - Due 1st October Will be more than last year due to jubilee garden etc Not had time to check out policy .. £799.47 Agenda October.
- 10.3 Chelmondiston & Pin Mill Community Council:** *Donation Letter-* £456.75 towards the cost of the new field gate at the bottom of Edgell's 'horse' meadow, Pin Mill. Clerk to write
- 10.4 BDC/ Mid-Suffolk DC:** *Village Bottle Bank Revenue-* (opposite Red Lion) Feb-July 2012 £427.26. Clerk has sent in a claim form.
- 10.5 Audit Commission:** Appointment of External Auditor-BDO LLP to audit Annual Return (Limited Assurance (below £6.5m)) for five years from 2012/13. The Auditors also apply an intermediate audit, at no extra cost, each year to a 5% sample of bodies operating below a £200,000 threshold. Fees payable £200-£300
- 10.6 Circulation Bag:**
SALC: *LAIS Up2Date* (120810) **SAVO:** *Vollies magazine* - August
Suffolk View: *Magazine* **Cllr D Wood:** *Parish Report*-August
Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign: *Newsletter*-August
Code of Conduct: **Dispensation Guidance *Discloseable Personal Interest Form for Application for Dispensation.*
Audit Commission: *Appointment of External Auditor*
- 11. PENINSULA COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTRE:** *to consider proposals and to take any action deemed necessary*
- Textile/Media Banks:** Clerk had e-mailed JMP Wilcox to ask why the textile bank had been removed and to ask for the media bank to be emptied. Although the textile bank had been emptied several times, no money had been received. Clerk was still waiting to hear from them regarding their payment methods and the tonnage collected.
- 11.1 Village Skip Days:** Generally the skip days were going very well. Mr Nunn had been left with a £14 float and he was issuing receipts. Clerk had put more posters up and leaflets in shops. From the 8th September, the site would open every Saturday, from 10am-3pm until further notice. Clerk had invoiced Shotley PC for the cost of 1 skip. There had been some fly-tipping, which Mr Nunn had seen to. As yet, Suffolk CC had not replaced the signs.
- 11.2 Waste Carrier Licence:** Mr Nunn questioned whether the council would consider getting a carrier's licence so that metal could be taken to the dealers without having to hire a skip.
Proposal: for Clerk to enquire about obtaining a Waste Carrier Licence for an individual or for the Council.
Proposed: Cllr David Cordle **Seconded:** Cllr R Kirkup **Vote:** all in favour
- 11.3 Business Rates etc:** The Clerk had spoken with the Babergh DC who thought that the proposed use of the site was too transient and it could possibly be delisted. She contact a Mr Bell at the Valuation Office, e-mailing the details of the Parish Council's intentions for the site with regard to the Village Skip Days. Mr Bell had replied saying he would try to get the site delisted.
- 12. PAYMENTS METHODS BY PARISH COUNCILS:** *to consider a response to Government consultation*
- Clerk had read through the consultation paper. Many of the larger councils were using bank transfers etc for paying bills rather than using cheques. This could be deemed to be illegal, as according to Standing Orders, two signatures were required. Problems were arising, as some companies were now refusing to take cheques and quite a lot of business purchases were being conducted over the internet. Government is now considering whether this mandate should be removed or an adjustment made whereby councils could use both methods of payment. Regulations would need to be put in place for security reasons. NALC/SALC would advise.

13. JUBILEE GARDEN: update and to consider a maintenance programme

It was noted that several members of the public were weeding the area, when passing. Cllr Kirkup and the Clerk would be meeting with the new Head at the Primary School later this month, to discuss the future planting of bulbs and plants by the school children. Cllr Walker agreed to do some watering when necessary. Clerk would contact Roberta Morgan regarding the plaques, for further information. Mr Gant would be treating the wooden 'sleepers' before the winter.

14. PIN MILL: to receive reports/proposals and to take any action deemed necessary.

14.1 Flood Alleviation Scheme - up date: Clerk would be going to a site meeting on Wednesday 5th September. Cllr Latter would attend if possible. The Residents' Association had been informed, as had Mr Edgell.

14.2 Dinghy Park/Common: Matt Clarke had now left and the grass cutting contract taken over by Steve Meacock. All seemed to be well and he had removed all the reed debris from the Common.

Clerk had spoken with Mr Meacock about cutting the hedge in the village car park.

15. FINANCIAL ITEMS:

15.1 RFO's Monthly Report: to receive report....Monies paid in

500040 Chelmo Waste Centre: CASH	130.00	8 Aug
500040 Dinghy Permits (2)	32.00	8 Aug
Lloyds Bank – Interest	2.19	9 Aug
500041 Chelmo Waste Centre: CASH	139.00	21 Aug
Babergh DC: Grant for Jubilee Garden	934.00	29 Aug
	£1,237.19	

BALANCE on 31st August 2012

Un-presented chqs: £15.30

Treasurers Account £2,319.96

Business Instant Access Acc. £49,491.19

Total (in credit) £51,811.15

15.2 to consider Payments to and other invoices arriving after the posting of this agenda

1423 a) S.A. Meacock Garden Service (Pin Mill Grass) 60.00

1424 b) S Sackers (Claydon) Ltd: 2 Invoices Skip for Chelmo site 540.00

1425 c) Glasdon UK Ltd: Dog bin(replacement) 126.78

1426 d) Mrs F Sewell: Clerk's Expenses

Hollingsworth: refreshments re Unpaid Work Team 6.95

Tesco/Ink Xpress: stationery 27.82

Salary August (5) Salary 589.67 624.44

1427 e) David Latter: Reimbursement -petrol, cutting field and Pages Common. 11.05

Another invoice was received from Sackers (28/08/2012) after the posting of agenda. It was agreed to pay this in addition to the agenda invoice.

Proposal: to approve payment of invoices listed: **a) 1423 to d)1426**

Proposed: Cllr M Stevens **Seconded:** Cllr Dot Cordle **Vote:** all in favour

Proposal: to approve payment of invoices listed: **e) 1427**

Proposed: Cllr C Keeble **Seconded:** Cllr M Stevens **Vote:** 7 in favour 1 no vote (Cllr Latter)

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS AND CLERK

Cllr Walker agreed to help with the Emergency Plan as Roberta Morgan had now left.

17. THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Tuesday 2nd OCTOBER 2012 in the Village Hall

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone and closed the meeting at 9:15pm.

SignedDavid Cordle.....

Date ...2/10/2012.....

These minutes were agreed to be a true record and were signed off by the Chairman at the meeting held on 2nd October 2012.