

LIDGATE PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th November 2016**

Councillors present: John Whitefield (Chairman), Stuart Crosby, Steve Child and Sue Sage

Also present: Joanne Kirk (Clerk) and one member of the public. County Councillor Mary Evans arrived at 8.35pm

Issues raised during the Open Forum:

The following issues were raised during the Open Forum:

- The possibility of clearing of the undergrowth of a wooded section in The Street.

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Chris Morley and Chris Bliss. Borough Councillor Clive Pollington also sent his apologies.

2. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

Sue Sage declared an interest in item 8, planning application DC/16/2359/TCA

3. Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th September 2016 and the planning meeting held on Wednesday 28th September.

It was resolved that the minutes were correct. The chairman then signed them.

4. Co-option of a new councillor

Three residents have expressed an interest in joining the Council. It was resolved that the Council would adopt a Co-option Policy and that the three possible candidates would be invited to the next meeting.

5. Update on list of actions agreed at the last meeting

There were no outstanding councillor actions.

6. Police issues**a) The police and lost property**

Suffolk Police do not deal with the majority of reports of lost and found property. If firearms, drugs, high value items, laptops, cameras or mobile phones are found they should be taken to one of their public enquiry offices in Ipswich, Lowestoft or Bury St Edmunds. No attempt should be made to handle dangerous items: contact the Police via **101** or in an emergency **999**.

Items such as passports, driving licences or bank cards should be returned to the issuing agency.

If someone loses something, this does not need to be reported to police unless it is a hazardous item such as a firearm, ammunition, explosives, chemicals or poisons: again, contact us the Police via **101** or in an emergency **999**. If residents are unsure what to do, there is an online form which will direct them to the most appropriate course of action, or the appropriate alternative agency.

7. Finance**a) Approval of any payments and signing of Schedule of Payments**

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- J P Kirk expenses – LGA 1972, s111 – **£12.70**

Steve Child and Sue Sage signed the Schedule of Payments. The Chairman then countersigned it.

b) Approval of payments authorised between meetings

No payments were authorised between meetings.

c) Regular payments made between meetings

10/09/16	See 003 above	159/8e	Fidelity Funds Network	D/D	£15.00
30/09/16	025	165/7h	J P Kirk	Online	172.63
30/09/16	026	159/8e	CAS Ltd - insurance	Online	£786.32
10/10/16	See 003 above	159/8e	Fidelity Funds Network	D/D	£15.00
31/10/16	029	165/7h	J P Kirk	Online	172.43

d) Approval of the record of online payments made since the last meeting

Steve Child checked and signed the record of online payments.

- e) **Signatory to complete the checklist of Internal Controls**
Steve Child completed and signed the checklist of internal controls.
 - f) **To sign the VAS agreement from Wickhambrook Parish Council**
John Whitefield signed the VAS agreement on behalf of the Parish Council.
 - g) **Draft budget and budget report**
It was resolved that the figures in the draft budget were acceptable and that the final budget would be approved in January 2017.
8. **Planning**
- a) **DC/16/2359/TCA, 6 Hill View, Lidgate, Fell one Norway spruce**
It was resolved that no objections would be made to this application.
 - b) **DC/16/2360/TCA, Pear Tree Cottage, The Street, Lidgate, Fell one ash and one horse chestnut**
It was resolved that no objections would be made to this application.
9. **Highways/Rights of Way/Tree issues**
- a) **Trees behind the bus shelter**
This item was postponed until the next meeting.
 - b) **Inconsiderate parking in the village**
The flyer was amended and the clerk was asked to print some copies to give to councillors.
10. **Playing field issues**
- a) **Update on the offer of a bench for the playing field**
The bench has now been installed.
 - b) **Playing field inspection reports**
No issues were raised.
11. **Report from County Councillor Mary Evans**
Mary Evans spoke about the following:
- The street lighting team is working better. The street light opposite Cobbold's View has now been fixed.
 - Highways are being reorganised very slowly but the changes should make the service more efficient. Highways will be divided into specialist teams like flooding, drainage and surface dressing. They have changed the drainage contractor who will carry out a more thorough job. They are trying to get a proper log of those drains which cause problems. The call centre staff are going to be re-located to Ipswich alongside the Highways hub. Traffic management is also going to be improved.
 - VAS. If the speed data shows that there are regular offenders, the police speed van will be sent out. For really serious offenders, the speed motorbike will be sent out.
 - Broadband. BT is rolling out the second phase of their contract. The Broadband team is mapping her division to show where there are gaps in Broadband provision so that possible solutions can be found to help areas with a poor service.
 - There is a consultation on access to 30 hours of free early years child care for families where both parents work.
 - She agreed to talk to Highways about the flooding on The Belt.
12. **Village issues**
- a) **Possible Fit Villages course**
It was resolved that details of possible courses would be included in the next newsletter.
 - b) **Update on the village project to purchase swings for the playing field**
The Parish Council has received a cheque from Waitrose for £250. County Councillor Mary Evans has pledged £900 and Borough Councillor Clive Pollington has pledged £600. The clerk has produced a questionnaire for children in the village to use as evidence in a Havebury grant application. Steve Child and Stuart Crosby agreed to distribute the questionnaires to children in the village and return them to the clerk.
 - c) **Spring bulb planting**
Steve Child agreed to speak to a resident about supplying bulbs.

13. Correspondence

a) Next Parish Conference, Monday 14th November 2016 between 6.30pm and 9pm at the Memorial Hall in Newmarket

Councillors were asked to notify the clerk if they wished to attend.

b) Boundary commission consultation – for information only

The current parliamentary boundaries in Suffolk were designed to achieve electoral equality and have resulted in some as fairly arbitrary dividing lines. The Boundary Commission proposal is for there to be 7 constituencies in Suffolk with South Suffolk Constituency to be split between three districts instead of two. West Suffolk and Bury St Edmunds remain split between two. In the case of the South Suffolk Constituency, there are (and will remain) two district wards from St Edmundsbury: Clare and Cavendish with just over 3000 electors. Full details of the proposals are available at: <https://www.bce2018.org.uk/>.

14. Any other business for noting or including on the next agenda

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed (Chairman) Dated