

**DARSHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

MEETING [ZOOM] – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020

DRAFT MINUTES [not yet approved by councillors]

There was no public forum.

7-1 – The chairman, Robin Leggate, welcomed councillors Michael Simons, Diane Taylor, Heather Ballantine, John Butler, Jasmine Backhouse, David Stanley and Keith Rolfe. Simon Manning joined the meeting later. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance. Also joining the meeting were Richard Smith [Suffolk County councillor] and Norman Brooks [East Suffolk councillor].

7-2 – Declarations of interest and any dispensations allowed – none

7-3 - Minutes of previous meeting [12-05-2020] were approved and signed.

7-4 - Matters arising – none

*The meeting was opened for Richard Smith to give his report – he stated that the Suffolk County council was transforming itself to cope with the present challenging situation. The present crisis has created very considerable pressures on county finances, with a total spend on Covid-19 related matters of £70,000,000. However with extra government support, most county councils were coping fairly well. Sizewell C, proposed – the planning process was progressing and now he had changed his views to feel that Sizewell was not the right place to build a power station. Considering the effect on environment, traffic during construction, a 9-12 years construction phase with effects lasting for possibly longer. There is no doubt that the proposed construction will affect most of Suffolk. The chair thanked RS for attending. A question was asked re Huawei and how it might affect BT research centre at Martlesham.*

7-5 – Finances - **Balance** at Barclays Bank [30-06-20] - £10,551.06 [*includes 1<sup>st</sup> instalment of precept and £1,502.82 VAT reclaim*]

**Cheques** approved - 887 – Trevor Brown – 110.0 [audit]; 888 – HMRC – 137.40 [tax to 5 July]; 889 – C. Cardwell – 366.44 [net sal June/July; 890 – J. Backhouse – 25.08 [orchard sundries] - Total cheques – £638.92

7-6 – Internal audit report – this was received, all recommendations considered and will be acted upon. The chair thanked the clerk for her work preparing the audit.

7-7 – External audit requirements – the certificate of Exemption was approved [clerk to send to PKF Littlejohn]. The AGAR documents [annual governance and accountability returns were agreed and noted and dates for public inspection of accounts were agreed and signed. [All these to be displayed on website]

7-8 – Planning – Simon Manning reported that there were no current planning matters. The chair reported that the PC had lost the fight to change or alter the application by Hopkins Homes for 26 houses in The Street. However the planning officer has agreed that he will take careful notice of the need for adequate sewerage, and an appropriate construction method statement, minimising any parking or material storage on The Street. Further comments made by councillors, but the chair indicated that the development would go ahead and now we must agree to mitigation of any possible adverse effects for residents.

7-9 – Sizewell C, proposed – councillors received a report by Michael Simons. He had no information on the windfarm plans off the coast. EDF are bringing a “tour bus” to all the villages – Darsham Village Hall – 27/28 July] –

*Richard Smith left the meeting at 6.50pm*

7-10 – Covid-19 – the chairman reported that the village response to those affected by the lockdown had been extremely helpful and he extended thanks from the PC to everyone who had fetched medicines, delivered groceries, and given support in so many ways.

7-11 – Reports from councillors

Diane Taylor – had nothing further to report. The emergency questionnaire had had a poor response; however the Covid-19 support group had demonstrated the wide range of skills in the community.

Heather Ballantine – reported on the issues connected with parking at the Fox. This was briefly discussed by councillors. The chair commented on the need for a pool of volunteers to support a Speedwatch programme. The A12 footpath blocked; HB to inform SCC.

*Norman Brooks [East Suffolk councillor] arrived at 7pm – he gave a report on the setting up of the new civil car park enforcement that has now been taken over by the East Suffolk council. Support to local communities is ongoing, with extra funding for hazard tape, signage etc. The chair thanked NB for attending – he left at 7.10pm*

Jasmine Backhouse - gave an update on the orchard. One tree had died, there is a problem with nettles, and there are complaints of people not cleaning up after their dogs. It was agreed that signage and bunting would make people more aware, as well as having info on not littering.

Keith Rolfe – no response from Waveney Norse over new dog bin. Clerk asked to contact again. The government guide on re-opening is complex and there are concerns over complying with details. Councillors agreed that the PC would pay for Broadband and wi-fi for the first 18 months for the hall, to be reviewed in 18 month's time.

David Stanley – allotments - comments on bags for dog waste; supply installation due to begin 10<sup>th</sup> August.

Michael Simons – comments on 100 club and where the results are published.

Robin Leggate – general comments re bottle bank siting; these could possibly be moved from The Fox car park to the village hall. A plaque in memory of Bessie Shackley [of Darsham Radar Station] had been offered to the village hall and there was some discussion over where it should be sited.

John Butler – further comments on village hall cleaning.

7-12 – Any other business – Website accessibility to be discussed in Sept.

7-13 – Next meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020; venue to be decided; 6pm start to be considered.

The meeting ended at 8pm.