

DARSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING [ZOOM] – 10TH NOVEMBER 2020 – 6pm.

DRAFT MINUTES [not yet approved by councillors]

The chairman, Robin Leggate, started the meeting by reporting the resignation of Cllr. Simon Manning due to ill health. The chair said he would be greatly missed as he had been such a good councillor and particularly helpful over planning matters. All good wishes were sent from councillors.

Public Forum – no members of the public joined.

Richard Smith [Suffolk County Councillor] gave a brief report covering further consultation period for EDF on Sizewell C [18 Nov to 18 Dec.], most proposals were connected with transport issues. Covid 19 figures in Suffolk continue low in proportion to the rest of the country, but it essential to follow rules of the second lockdown. There are growing concerns over the financial consequences in all sectors.

Questions followed from councillors Michael Simons [northern park and ride]; Diane Taylor on Covid 19 figures; Robin Leggate – possible charger at Emmerdale Farm Shop, but not allowed on private premises. The village hall committee had already rejected the idea. SCC will hold an online discussion on 26th Nov. Richard Smith left at 6.15pm and the chair thanked him for his attendance. The District Councillor, Norman Brooks, had sent a report which had been circulated to all councillors.

11-1 – The chairman, Robin Leggate, welcomed councillors Jasmine Backhouse, Heather Ballantine, Keith Rolfe, David Stanley, Diane Taylor, John Butler and Michael Simons. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance..

11-2 – Declarations of interest and any dispensations allowed – none

11-3 – Minutes of previous meeting [13-10-2020] were approved and agreed as a correct record.
[Chairman to sign later.]

11-4 – Matters arising on minutes not on agenda – 3 Ivy Cottages – no reply yet from Planning re details of applications; there had been an application for holiday lodges at Thorington [DC/20/3142] – they are to be built on the golf course and the Bramfield and Thorington parish council had opposed it. Councillors felt that this council should have been informed as a contiguous council. Query again to be raised with Waveney Norse re dog bin at village hall, and also over the noise of train klaxons near the station. – clerk to write. The clerk reported that 10 out of 17 plot holders had returned their allotment fees.

11-5 – Finances - Balances at Barclays Bank [on 30-10-202] - **£11,610.36**; Cheques were approved as follows - 902 – C. Cardwell – 188.30 [net sal Nov]; 903 – HMRC – 141.20 [tax to Jan 5]. It was also agreed to pay Royal British Legion £50 for wreath, and a further £40 as an extra donation. Other grants of £40 each were approved for British Heart Foundation, Leiston CAB, East Anglian Children’s Hospice and East Anglian Air Ambulance. [These donations were approved under LGA 1972, S. 137.] Councillors agreed to pay for churchyard upkeep £330 and a possible grant to the Village Hall for wi-fi etc.

11-6 – Budget for year April 2021 to March 2022 – the clerk had supplied supporting figures for past expenditure and budget; councillors discussed possible forthcoming expenditure; the clerk informed them that the Band D precept figures were likely to be available after Christmas; spending allocations were discussed and setting the precept was delayed until Jan 2021.

11-7 - Planning – Cllr. Heather Ballantine agreed to take over Simon Manning’s responsibility for planning issues. Councillors discussed the following applications –

- DC/20/4486 - 2 Ivy Cottages, The Street, Dearsham: extension - support;
- DC/20/3971 – 1 Millfields, Darsham: velux windows - support;
- Planning Consultation Survey [ESDC] – comments to be sent to clerk to fill out online.

11-8 – Allotments and orchard – manure is to be delivered shortly; David Stanley to get quotes for further rabbit proof fencing; there were no reports on the orchard.

11-9 – Covid 19 pandemic – no local issues

11-10 – Reports from councillors

- Diane Taylor – 4th Dec is the re-scheduled meeting to determine the necessary standards to use the village hall as an emergency centre
- Michael Simons – no further updates on Sizewell C.
- Heather Ballantine – comments on Quiet Lanes project – nominated lanes include Brussels Green, Fox Lane and Low Rd. HB asked to pass on Footpaths interest and Diane Taylor agreed to take it up. Clerk to re-write councillors’ responsibilities for website.
- Keith Rolfe – reported continuing problems over finishing touches to village hall.

11-12 – Any other business – the clerk said she had notified East Suffolk re the resignation of Simon Manning, and notices would be ready shortly. It was noted that a new cheque signatory would be needed; Michael Simons volunteered and the clerk will get necessary forms from Barclays. The chair reported no further response to his letters about parking and the forthcoming development on The Street.

11-13 – Next meeting – 8th December 2020 would be held via ZOOM at 6.30pm

The meeting ended at 7.40pm.