

DARSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 11TH APRIL 2017

MINUTES [approved by councillors on 16-05-17]

Public Forum – a member of the public raised the issue of a possible right of way, to an adjoining property, over his driveway. Suffolk District councillor, Raymond Catchpole, provided helpful comments and information about planning regulations.

4-1 – The chairman, Robin Leggate, welcomed councillors Keith Rolfe, Michael Simons, Jasmine Backhouse, John Butler, Simon Manning, Ernie Hare and Jean Loveridge. Apologies were received from Cllr. Chris Poupard and Michael Gower [Suffolk County councillor]. Suffolk Coastal District councillor, Raymond Catchpole, was present. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance. There were four members of the public present.

4-2 – Declarations of interest and any dispensations allowed – none.

4-3 – Minutes of previous meeting [14-03-17] were [with a small amendment] approved as a true record and signed.

4-4 – Matters arising on the minutes not on the agenda – the clerk reported that she had written to Hopkins Homes about the A12 signs, with no reply. She had also contacted Suffolk C. Planning who said it was a Highways matter - Raymond Catchpole to follow up. The hedges opposite the new estate – councillors agreed that they needed some form of management/trimming. The clerk to contact Nicholas Newton [tree warden] with regard to any tree preservation orders, and also contact Suffolk Highways re trimming. The Annual Village Meeting was discussed and plans agreed, with refreshments. The litter pick had been very successful with 18 volunteers, resulting in 30 sacks of rubbish. The clerk asked to contact Waveney Norse with regard to emptying the bins in lay-bys.

4-5 – Finances –

- Balances - c/acct: 4,239.17 [31-03-17]; sav/acct: 4,602.74 [31-03-17]; Total assets: £8,841.91.
- Cheques for approval: 748 to Vernon Pearl for 348.95 [paving and village sign] ; 749 to East Anglian Air Ambulance for 192.10 [coffee morning donation S. 137]; 750 – void; 751 to C. Cardwell for 153.85 [net sal Apr]; 752 to C. Poupard for 85.92 [allotment and orchard maintenance]; 753 to Darsham Village Hall for 165.00 [hire of hall].
- NALC increase in clerks' salary scales – councillors agreed that the clerk should receive the increase; her pay is now SCP 15 - £8.873 per hour for 5 hrs per week.

4-6 – Allotments and orchard – the chair read a report from Cllr. Poupard; the pump is going well and all allotments are let; security was briefly considered and it was felt that there might be a need for a gate. [To be discussed in May]. Cllr. Jasmine Backhouse said that the orchard was looking lovely; a watering party would be held every Thursday at 5.30pm. There was a gap in the planting and it might be desirable to have a table and bench there.

4-7 – Planning –

- DC/17/1267: Green Fm. Cottages, Brussels Green – councillors had no objection to the erection of a greenhouse
- DC/17/1148/FUL: Ash Spring Wood – application for temporary accommodation for supervision of game rearing unit. This application was extensively discussed and letters of objection from neighbours were read out. This was the third application for this site and councillors saw no reason to change their opinion that the application was not justified – it was rejected by 6 votes with 2 abstentions. New build houses were available in the village and game rearing did not come under the heading of agricultural housing provision. The clerk asked to reply robustly after consultation with the vice-chairman. There were further comments by the chair and Raymond Catchpole [Suffolk Coastal District councillor]

4-8 – Reports from District and Parish Councillors – Raymond Catchpole gave a brief update on the devolution plans which are in abeyance. The East Suffolk District Council will be elected in 2019 and there will be a “shadow” ESDC to start off with. It will be a new council with new policies including a new Local Plan. The Sizewell C Task Group is analysing responses to the Stage 2 consultation. Key points of mitigation and legacy had not been addressed. Suffolk housing needs briefly commented on.

4-9 – Any other business and correspondence – the latter received and discussed; the chair thanked Derek Reeve for his excellent work on the website.

4-10 – Next meeting – 16th May.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm