

# DARSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017

There was no public forum as no members of public present.

2-1 – **Welcome** and apologies – The chairman, Robin Leggate, welcomed councillors Jean Loveridge, Ernie Hare, Simon Manning, Michael Simons, Keith Rolfe, Jasmine Backhouse and Chris Poupard. John Butler was absent. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance. Also attending – Michael Gower [Suffolk County councillor] and Raymond Catchpole [Suffolk Coastal District councillor].

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

2-3 – **Minutes** of previous meeting [17-01-17] were approved and signed as a true record

2-4 – **Matters arising** on the minutes – none

2-5 – Standing Orders – reviewed, approved and signed.

2-6 – **Finances** –

- Balances - C/acct [at 31 Jan 17] - £5,327.80; Sav/acct [£4,602.17; **Total assets - £9,929.97**
- Cheques for approval - 735 – to C. Cardwell – 302.14 [net sal dec/jan]; 736 to Chris Poupard for 16.00 [flyer]; no. 737 to Jasmine Backhouse for 100.00 [tree trimming on allotments]; no. 738 to George Jackson for 30.00 [mowing allot.]
- S. 137 [LGA 1972] donations were discussed and allocated as follows -
  - St. Elizabeth Hospice – 40
  - Leiston CAB – 40
  - Halesworth Volunteer Centre – 40
  - EACH [childrens' hospice] - 40
  - Darsham churchyard – 330
  - Royal British Legion [wreath] – 50 [paid Nov. 16]
  - Support for either Alzheimer's or Dementia charity to be decided.
  - **Total - £540; cheques to be sent in Mar.**
- Heelis and Lodge were appointed internal auditor; the clerk explained the external audit regulations from 2018.
- Financial regulations were reviewed, approved, and signed

2-7 – **Sizewell C consultation** responses discussed; Raymond Catchpole reported that EDF would possibly need to have a stage 2A consult before stage 3; councillors felt that there were considerable shortcomings in the details so far proposed by EDF.

2-8 – **Orchard and allotments** – Cllr. Jasmine Backhouse reported that more fruit trees were being donated by Darsham Nurseries and they offer a 10% discount for members of the public buying trees; also support in maintaining the orchard. Botanica [Woodbridge] have also offered a 10% discount. The chairman offered to supply stakes, ties, guards etc, for which councillors are most grateful.

Cllr. Chris Poupard reported that an ad in The Fisherman had resulted in 4 new lettings; it seems that Darsham allotments rents may have to increase in the autumn. It was felt that spending c. 4,000 on anti-rabbit fencing was not justified.

2-9 – Planning – DC/17/0441/FUL – Red Safety Light equipment at Darsham level crossing – councillors had no objection.

2-10 – **Reports** from County, District and parish councillors –

- Michael Gower [Suffolk county councillor] made further comments on the Forthcoming Sizewell C consultations and emphasised the need for vigilance in reacting to any future proposals. He also said that Suffolk Highways services were improved.
- Raymond Catchpole [Suffolk Coastal District councillor] – pointed out that with the union of Waveney and Suffolk Coastal there will be new elections in 2019 with a “shadow authority” in the meantime. The chair thanked Raymond Catchpole and Michael Gower for attending and their comments.
- Cllr. Jean Loveridge – stated that FP8 by the station was still being used altho’ closed off by Suffolk CC. The clerk asked to write to Footpaths Officer to seek clarification. It was agreed to add a new fence by the village sign and Vernon Pearl will be asked for a quote.
- Cllr. Keith Rolfe – updated councillors on the land sale situation by the village hall.
- Michael Shipp to be asked to quote for seat on Coronation Square and the bench on the allotments.

2-11 – **Any other business** – it was agreed to hold the coffee morning in support of the East Anglian Air Ambulance on 11<sup>th</sup> March and also the litter pick on 19<sup>th</sup> March. Both will be advertised in the Fisherman and on website.

2-12 – **Next meeting** – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.