

DARSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 13TH JUNE 2017

DRAFT MINUTES [approved by councillors on 11th July 2017]

Public Forum – no members of the public wished to speak

6-1 – **Welcome** and apologies – the chairman, Robin Leggate, welcomed councillors Jasmine Backhouse, John Butler, Michael Simons, Jean Loveridge, Keith Rolfe, Simon Manning and Ernie Hare. Apologies were received from Raymond Catchpole [Suffolk Coastal District councillor]. Richard Smith [Suffolk County councillor] attended at 8pm. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance.

6-2 – **Declarations** of interest and any dispensations allowed – none

6-3 – **Minutes** of the previous meeting [16-05-17] were approved and signed as a true record.

6-4 – **Matters arising** – litter bins near station – clerk had contacted Waveney Norse and they would be cleared shortly. The clerk was asked to again contact Hopkins Homes to get the signs on the A12 removed.

6-5 – **Finances** –

- Balances at 31-05-17 - c/acct: - 5,983.99; savings acct. – 4,602.17; **Total reserves - £ 10,586.16;**
- Cheques for approval - 757 to C. Cardwell for 153.85 [net sal Jun]; 758 to HMRC for 115.20 [tax to July 17]; **Total cheques - £ 269.05**
- Savings account – the clerk suggested that this should be closed as no interest was paid on it and one account would simplify the audits. All were in agreement and the signatories signed a letter to Barclays. Councillors felt that if interest rates improved in future then it might be worth re-investing.

6-6 – **Planning** –

- Priory Farm, Darsham - DC/17/1517/AME: amendment of roofing materials duly noted and DC/17/2289/VOC: alterations to layout and external appearance – both applications extensively discussed and councillors had no further comments to add to their comments on the original application.
- The chair reported on a meeting on Local Plans for villages and the proposed new Local Plan from East Suffolk District Council; it was noted that a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish would involve extensive work, considerable commitment and support from parishioners. There might be a possibility of sharing a plan with neighbouring parishes.

6-7 – **Reports from County and parish councillors** – the chairman welcomed the new Suffolk County councillor, Richard Smith. He described his experience and said that he was looking forward to attending meetings of the 12 councils in his ward. Richard Smith briefly commented on Sizewell C plans and

consultations. Questions were raised about legacies from the construction proposals both in housing and infrastructure.

- Cllr. Poupard gave a brief report on the allotments and said the pump was not working and rabbits were causing a lot of damage.
- Cllr. Loveridge – footpath 2 now clear; FP 8 signpost damaged.
- Cllr. Backhouse reported that in the orchard there were 38 out of the 41 trees surviving. 2 had died but one had been vandalised and broken apparently by a vehicle. General security of the orchard and allotment field was discussed as there is also a possible threat from travellers – the clerk asked to source information on security bars and gates. Cllr. Smith said that he might be able to give a small grant towards this. The chair thanked Mike Backhouse for supplying water for the weekly watering event and Sue Rickeard for donating a table to the orchard grounds.
- Derek Reeve is planning a separate tag for the orchard on the website – the chair thanked Derek for all his work.
- Cllr. Simons is now the contact for the Sizewell Parishes Liaison Group [SPLG], but reported that it did not seem a very active group.
- Cllr. Rolfe reported on the new housing project – the site fence had gone up, an archaeological dig would take place in the next 4/5 weeks; the village hall committee would be responsible for the new play area, not the parish council as previously stated.

6-8 - **Correspondence** – received and discussed

6-9 – **Any other business** – It was noted that Brussels Lane is prepared for top dressing which has not yet been done, despite work on The Street having been completed.

6.10 – **Next meeting** – 11-07-17

The meeting ended at 8.50pm.