

DARSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 19TH FEBRUARY 2019

MINUTES [approved by councillors on 12-03-19]

Public Forum – The vice-chairman, Simon Manning, welcomed Suffolk County councillor, Richard Smith and Suffolk Coastal District councillor, Michael Gower. Cllr. Smith gave a report on SCC budget and financial constraints and priorities. He said SCC would be discussing the proposed Sizewell C power station shortly and although Darsham were holding a public meeting on 2nd March, he asked for councillors' views on an informal basis. There was a general opinion that the building of the power station would have a detrimental impact on the surrounding neighbourhood, with huge increase in traffic, lack of infrastructure to service the temporary workforce, serious impact on AONB and would induce a poor quality of life for the whole area, as well as impacting on the tourist trade. RS said he would bear these points in mind when SCC discussed Sizewell C. The chair thanked Richard Smith for coming to the meeting.

Cllr. Gower [Suffolk Coastal District councillor] then added further comments on the Sizewell proposals, and their long and short term effects on the communities in the area. He recalled that Sizewell A hadn't had a good effect on the area and feared that Sizewell C would have a negative impact in the long term as well as producing short term disruption.

2-1 – Welcome and apologies – the chairman, Simon Manning, welcomed councillors John Butler, Jasmine Backhouse, Chris Poupard, Keith Rolfe and Michael Simons. Apologies were received from Robin Leggate and Ernie Hare. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance.

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

2-3 – Minutes of previous meeting [08-01-19] were approved and signed as a true record.

2-4 – Matters arising on the minutes not on agenda – the clerk asked to contact SDC planning re the buildings in Wash Lane.

2-5 – Finances - **Balance** at Barclays Bank at 31-01-19 – £11,785.21; **Cheques approved as follows:** 822 to NSALG for 36.00 [sub]; 823 to C. Cardwell for 165.09 [net sal Feb]; 824 to SPLG for 30.00 [sub] Total cheques – £231.09 [NB – due to lack of signatories the cheques were held over until the next meeting]; councillors agreed to appoint Trevor Brown as internal auditor for the year April 2018 to March 2019.

2-6 – Planning – DC/18/3117: Ash Spring Wood – this will now be a SCDC officer decision; DC/19/ 0200/ All Saints Cottage, The Street, Darsham – listed building consent agreed by councillors.

2-7 – Suffolk Coastal District Council Final Draft Local Plan – Cllr. Gower said that there seemed to be a lack of awareness, in the plan, of the forthcoming Sizewell C and Anglia ONE and TWO wind farm plans. He also pointed out that a large number of new houses would be sold to retirees and this would create an increasingly ageing population.

Councillors were very concerned over the proposal to build 190 houses South of Darsham station. It was felt that this would greatly alter the character of the area and create all sorts of traffic problems if the

Sizewell C goes ahead. It was chiefly over housing plans that councillors would base their response following their previous comments on the initial draft of the local Plan; Cllr. Manning to formulate a response and circulate this.

2-8 – SCC order for waiting and parking – councillors discussed the proposals for Darsham and asked the clerk to point out that a 30 minute waiting restriction in the lay byes N. and S. of Darsham station, did not take into account the statutory resting times [40 mins]for HGV drivers.

2-9 – Sizewell C. proposed – councillors discussed the plans for the village meeting on 2nd March.

2-10 – Orchard and allotments – Security issues – Peggs had submitted a quote for a height restriction barrier and after discussion, councillors agreed to accept his quote of £685 – councillors noted that a proportion of this cost would be offset by a locality grant from Cllr. Gower and the chair thanked him for arranging this. It is much appreciated.

Cllr. Backhouse gave a report on more trees planted, 5 so far with some spaces still free – she suggested buying some tree posts to put in the spare spaces to protect the land from parking and councillors agreed to this expenditure. Cllr. John Butler agreed to flail the allotment hedges on Low Road.

2-11 – Reports from councillors – Michael Simons requested a cheque for the annual subscription to SPLG, this was agreed. Chris Poupard gave details of a notice board for the allotment field, but councillors felt that it was too expensive and research into other provision would be made. Cllr. Rolfe gave an update on the progress of the new hall [possibly opening in April]. There had been local comments about reduction in the road width in The Street past the new development. Cllr Rolfe had measured at various places and found that the tarmac surface conforms with the standards set down by the Local Authority Building Control and the agreed plans.

2-12 - Correspondence was received and discussed.

2-13 - Next meeting – 9th April 2019.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.