

DARSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 8TH JANUARY 2019

DRAFT MINUTES [not yet approved by councillors]

Public Forum – no questions; one member of public present

- 1-1- The chairman, Robin Leggate, welcomed councillors Jasmine Backhouse, Chris Poupard, Keith Rolfe, Ernie Hare, Michael Simons and Simon Manning. Apologies were received from Cllr. John Butler and Richard Smith [Suffolk County councillor]. Michael Gower [SCD councillor] attended and the clerk, Caroline Cardwell.
- 1-2- Declarations of interest – Jasmine Backhouse in respect of item 8 Planning.
- 1-3- Minutes of previous meeting [13-11-18] were approved and signed as a true record.
- 1-4- Matters arising not on agenda – the clerk was asked to contact the SCDC Enforcement officer re building in Wash Lane. Concerns were again raised re parking at station.
- 1-5 - Finances - Balances at 30/11/18 – £12,188.89; Cheque approved - 818 – C. Cardwell – 329.98 [net sal dec/jan]; the statement of internal control for year ending March 2019 was reviewed and approved.
- 1-6 – Budget for year April 2019 to March 2020 – councillors discussed in detail future spending needs, taking into account any possible grants – it was agreed to raise the precept very slightly to £5500 for the year 19/20.
- 1-7 - Asset register – this was reviewed; councillors noted the orchard tables had been added. Otherwise all assets were in good condition.
- 1-8 Planning. - *Cllr. J. Backhouse left the room, having declared and interest, at 8.01pm,*
- DC/18/5158: Harleys, Low Rd., Darsham – proposed replacement outbuilding. Councillors discussed this application and were happy to support it. *Cllr. Backhouse returned to the room at 8.05pm.*
 - ENF/2017/0170: land adjoining Oak Spring – appeal by Mr. Colin Thackeray against the enforcement order. After much discussion councillors felt that legally the parish council must support the enforcement order, with one abstention, although they agreed that the holding was well kept. They advised the owner to apply to Suffolk Coastal Planning department for retrospective change of use.
 - DC/18/4818/SCO: High Lodge, Haw Wood, Hinton – change of use from golf course to holiday lodges – councillors discussed Blythburgh parish council’s concerns and asked the clerk to contact SCDC planning to ask if we could be kept informed of any applications.
- 8.25pm - The meeting was closed for Michael Gower [Suffolk Coastal District councillor] to address the meeting. His report covered the forthcoming Sizewell 3 EDF consultation, the Local Plan with the agreement to build 10,000 new homes and the possible effect of so many houses on village communities. He also said that there was money still available from the Enabling Budget. There were further comments on the problems of parking at Darsham station. The chairman thanked Michael Gower for attending – the meeting opened at 8.46pm.*

1-9 – Allotments and orchards – Cllr. Poupard gave an update on the current plot holders; at present there is 1 vacant plot. It was agreed to transfer the NSALG membership contact to Chris Poupard and possibly form a formal association for members. Councillors agreed to spend up to £600 on an allotment notice board, but expecting it to cost somewhat less. Cllr. Backhouse reported that there were plans to plant 4 more trees in March. It was agreed to ask Peggs, Saxmundham for a further quote for a height restricting bar, more robust than the one already quoted for. Michael Gower, indicated he would support such a height restrictor with a local grant up to £400.

1-9 – Reports from councillors –

- Michael Simons said there were lots of meetings scheduled to consider the Sizewell 3 consultation. It was agreed to have a public slot for the village at the March meeting, starting at 6.30, when councillors would be considering their response to EDF suggestions.
- Keith Rolfe said the new hall might be finished in March, and the clerk is to check with the SCDC Planning office on how much S. 106 and CIL money might be available

1-11 – Darsham future objectives – councillors agreed to hold an exhibition at the Annual Parish Meeting in May, followed by the first meeting of the new parish council.

1-12 – Correspondence – received and discussed

1-13 – Next meeting – 12th February.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.