

DARSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 11TH JUNE 2019

DRAFT MINUTES [not yet approved by councillors]

Public Forum

The chairman, Robin Leggate, welcomed the new East Suffolk District councillor, Norman Brooks with responsibility for transport and parking. NB spoke of his role and other interests and mentioned the controversial planning application in Darsham. He felt that as the site was within the Local Plan that it was likely to go ahead and unfortunately in a rather shorter time frame than that desired by the local community and the parish council. The chairman thanked NB for attending – he then left at 7.50pm.

Richard Smith, Suffolk County councillor gave a welcome to all new councillors and spoke about the preparations for the budget in 20/21! Plans for new government funding review are delayed, largely due to Brexit concerns, and this makes it very difficult for county councillors to start satisfactory preparations. Sizewell C - EDF are holding another forum, no date yet. RS will be part of a Joint Liaison Group with EDF and expected to be closely involved with future discussions. RS gave his apologies for the July meeting. The chair thanked Richard Smith for coming. The official parish council meeting opened at 8pm.

6-1 – The chairman, Robin Leggate, welcomed councillors Jasmine Backhouse, Simon Manning, Michael Simon, Keith Rolfe, Heather Ballantine, David Stanley and Diane Taylor. John Butler was absent. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance.

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

6-3 - Minutes of previous meeting 14-05-19] were approved and signed, with a few small changes for accuracy and additional information.

6-4 – Matters arising – the clerk reported that she had raised the issue of the driveway in Low Rd., and had received acknowledgement from East Suffolk Planning.

6-5 – Finances –

- **Balance** at Barclays Bank at 31st May 2019 - **£13, 027.73**
- **Cheques approved as follows:**
 - 843 – HMRC – 129.40 [tax to 5 July]
 - 844 – R. Leggate – 40.61 [paint for orchard barrier]
 - 845 – British Heart Foundation – 150.00 [donation from coffee morning]
 - 846 – C. Cardwell – 172.60 [net sal June]
 - 847 – Darsham Village Hall – 165.00 [hire for 1 year]
 - 848 – J. Backhouse – 29.56 [orchard sundries]
 - **Total cheques - £687.17**
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6-6 – Audit for year Apr 18 – Mar 19 – the internal auditor’s report was received and recommendations noted. The Annual Governance statement was approved and signed and Annual Accounting Statements received, approved and signed. These will be displayed on the PC website. It was noted that the accounts are available for public inspection until mid-July or at any time by applying to the clerk.

6-7 – Allotments and orchard –

- David Stanley gave a report on the current state of the allotments and highlighted the need for expenditure on, primarily, the water supply and also fencing. Letters have been sent to all plot holders and councillors agreed that the GDPR policy should be updated in the Autumn when renewal letters are sent out.
- Jasmine Backhouse thanked her “fantastic team” for all their help; the new barrier will have a height indicator on it; the orchard and allotments need mowing and plans for a joint notice board were briefly discussed and hopefully it could be made locally.

Richard Smith left at 8.30pm

6-8 – Planning – Simon Manning thanked everyone for their input on the proposed Hopkins Homes development.

6-9 – Reports from councillors –

- Michael Simons said that the new Sizewell could raise an extra £6 on everyone’s electricity charges; EDF are planning another forum.
- Diane Taylor said that emergency procedures and contacts notice needed updating and she would set about this.
- Heather Ballantine plans to walk all the footpaths.
- Keith Rolfe said the hall was nearly finished and it was hoped to have a grand opening at the village fete on 3rd August. Councillors suggested having a bottle bank by the new hall and also dog waste bins and benches.

6-10 – Correspondence – received and discussed

6-11 – Any other business – Tree Charter campaign might be of interest to the village; clerk asked to research SID signs for next meeting.

The meeting ended at 9pm.