

WALBERSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held in the annex of the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday, 4th January 2010

PRESENT

Councillors Mr A E Hunt (Chairman), Mr D C B Webb (Vice Chairman), Mr K G Webb, Mr B Tibbles, Mrs M V Dabbs, Mrs A Aldridge, Mr R Buncombe and, Miss M Verneti (Clerk). District Cllr Mr P Austin.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - County Cllr Mr R Leighton
2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** for the 7th December 2009 were **approved** and were signed as a true record by the Chairman
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - There were no interests declared
4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - a. A holding letter had been received from Inspector Reid regarding the Parish Council's views on the Mobile Police Station.
 - b. The Clerk had checked with Suffolk Acre that a replacement Flagpole would be covered by the insurance. It was therefore agreed to authorise Harrison's Flagpoles to replace the flagpole at the village hall.
 - c. The Clerk had received an email from SCC Highways Department regarding the changes to the Parking restrictions and the cost involved. It was agreed to forward this onto Walberswick Car Parks Ltd for their attention.
 - d. WCLCT have agreed to pay for fencing in the play area on the Sports Field but require another quotation, which the Clerk agreed to obtain.
 - e. WCLCT also sent a letter stating that the path from Old Vicarage Cottage to the Ferry was now in a dangerous state, not having been cut back, and with the slabs very uneven and broken. The Clerk was asked to chase this up with Suffolk Coastal.
 - f. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain an up to date Electoral Register
 - g. The Chairman updated the Parish Council on the email that had been received from Flagship Housing regarding 9 Church Lane. It now appeared that they were going to upgrade the property and the tenant was remaining.
5. **PLANNING**
 - a. **Planning Notifications Received:**
 1. **Westwood Lodge, C09/1638** Approved regardless of Parish Council objections to the size of the Wall. Agreed it add this file to the list for the proposed planning meeting.
 2. **Saltings, Seven Acres Lane, C09/1905** Approved with some alterations which the Parish Council had not been notified about. Again agreed to add this file to the proposed planning meeting.
 - b. **Planning Applications Received:**
 - a. **The Old Corner House, The Street, (C09/1965)** Construction of new underground bunded oil tank – no objections.
 - b. **Lane Corner, Palmers Lane, (C09/1851 and C09/1852)** Demolition of chimneys and ground and first floor extension – No objections.

- c. **The Old Yacht yard, Southwold Harbour (DC09/1038/FUL)** Additional window – no objections.
- c. **Tree Works:**
 - a. **Long Roof, Leveretts Lane, C09/00167/TCA** This application replaced the original and saw a great reduction in the number of trees to be cut down. The Parish Council still wanted to arrange a meeting with the Tree Officer to see exactly the situation.
 - d. **Ongoing Planning Issues::** A letter from a resident in objection to the Alexandra Cottage application was read out, as was the response from Suffolk Coastal. The Parish Council agreed to set up the proposed meeting with Mr Ridley as soon as possible.

Cllr D Webb also brought up the fact that another resident had brought to his attention that several of the properties in the village had restrictive covenants on them from the Blois Estate and that one of the provisos was that plots would not be split. After some discussion it was agreed that Cllr K Webb would approach the Blois Estate to discuss this informally and see if anything could be achieved.

6. ACCOUNTS

- a. **Receipts**
 - i. There were no receipts
- b. **Payments**
 - i. Mr A Church – repairs to notice board - £23.75
 - ii. Mr K Oram – Christmas Tree - £85
 - iii. Essex & Suffolk Water – Sports Field water bill - £16.81
 - iv. Mr T Oram –Spiking Village Green - £50
 - v. Village Hall Hire Costs Nov & Dec - £35
 - vi. Miss M Verneti – Christmas Expenses £50

It was unanimously supported that the above accounts should be paid.

- c. **2010/2011 Precept**
It was agreed that a 2% rise for the precept be applied for for the next financial year, the Clerk completed and sent off the form to SCC.

7. Proposed Resolution “That this Council solely address content made formally to Walberswick Parish Council submitted via the Clerk”

Cllr R Buncombe spoke about the above resolution and his concerns. After a discussion it was agreed that the Resolution was not required and re-assured, Cllr Buncombe withdrew the proposal.

8. Changes to 2010 Meeting Dates

Due to pre-booked holidays the dates of the April/May Parish Council and the Annual Parish Meeting had to be changed – therefore the new dates for the year are:

February 1st
 March 1st
 March 29th (5th April is Easter Monday)
 10th May (3rd is Bank Holiday)

7th June
5th July
2nd August
6th September
4th October
1st November
6th December

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday April 15th

As the gap between the 29th March and the 10th May is 6 weeks, if there is any urgent business which needs attention there will be a short Parish Council meeting before the Annual Parish meeting.

9. Cllr D Webb had received a complaint from a member of the public who had seen Quad Bikes on the beach and dunes, they had provided a number plate for the horse box from which the quad bikes were unloaded and Cllr Webb had reported this to the Environment Agency, who had agreed to follow this up and also arranged to meet Cllr Webb down on the beach to see if there was any other way of stopping vehicles reaching the beach.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. **Suffolk Accident Rescue Service** asking for a donation – it was agreed to send them £25.00
- b. **The Boundary Committee Review** the Parish Council asked the clerk to look out the original reply and re-send it stating quite clearly that their opinion hadn't changed.
- c. The Chairman read out a letter he had received from a resident in the village complaining about the development at Alexandra Cottage. The Clerk then read out the response from SCDC. Another resident interrupted the meeting, and the chairman suspended the meeting whilst the resident expressed his views about the matter.
The meeting was then re-convened.

11. SEA AND RIVER DEFENCES

Cllr D Webb reported that works carried out to the River wall were not satisfactory and he agreed to write and express the Parish Councils' disappointment.

Cllr Webb also brought a copy of a letter he had written to the Environment Agency regarding the Dunwich River sluice. He had heard back from them that they were considering the feasibility of an additional sluice alongside the existing one, but this project is still under consideration.

The Meeting was suspended to receive external reports:

12. MATTERS RAISED BY THE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND THE POLICE.

Cllr Austin reported that it had been announced that John Gummer MP had announced he would not be standing at the next election. The council felt let down by this late announcement and it meant that there would be a lot of work involved in "educating" any new prospective candidate.

There was no report from the Police and Cllr Leighton had sent his apologies.

The meeting was re-convened.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS/MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Two items were brought up for discussion which raised the issue again that there was no item on the Agenda for Members to bring up things that had not arisen in time to be submitted for the Agenda, It was agreed to re-instate this item as long as Councillors were careful not to make any formal decisions about these items without them being added to the next Agenda and wherever possible the Clerk would be notified before hand so that they could indeed be added to the current Agenda.

The first was the issue of vandalism to the lights on the Christmas Tree – it was agreed to put a strongly worded piece as part of the Parish Council Report in the Village News.

Secondly Cllr Buncombe asked that everyone who had helped with all the Christmas Arrangements, organising the Christmas Tree, the Carols round the Tree and the refreshments at the Village Hall be formally thanked.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 1st February 2010

The Meeting was closed at 8.45 pm

Signed.....

Date.....