

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 April 2011.

PRESENT

Councillors: Mr D C B Webb (Chairman), Mr A E Hunt (Vice Chairman), Mr B Tibbles, Mrs R Woodcraft, Mr NJ D Crocker and, Miss M Verneti (Clerk).

1. Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs A Aldridge, Mr K G Webb, and, District Cllr Mr P Austin.
2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** held on Monday 7th March were proposed by Cllr B Tibbles and seconded by Cllr A E Hunt. Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23rd March were proposed by Cllr N Crocker and seconded by Cllr B Tibbles and both sets were unanimously agreed. The Chairman signed them as a true record.
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**
There were no declarations of interests.

4. REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND THE POLICE

County Cllr R Leighton stated that he would keep discussions and explanations about the New Strategic Direction until the Annual Parish Meeting, but in the meantime he explained that with the up coming election there would be a new Chairman and Vice Chairman at the County Council, as well as a new Leader and this would no doubt bring on a number of changes.

Cllr N Crocker asked Cllr Leighton about what Suffolk County Council were planning to do to improve Broadband across the region. Cllr Leighton responded that SCC was taking every opportunity to try to enhance the Broadband coverage, but could not be more specific than that, and was asked to find out what practical help was available.

There was no report from the Police this month.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- a. The Chairman reported on what he described as a very positive meeting regarding the future of the Visitor Centre. He stated that the County Council had not earmarked the Visitor Centre as an asset to be potentially sold, but they were keen in the possibility of a collaboration with the local community to run it. It was also discussed that the Land belongs to the Parish council where as the County Council had bought the lease to the actual hut. Further discussions would need to be held with the relevant groups, but it was a good start.

- b. The new bark chips had been delivered to the village green and the Clerk thanked those who turned out to get them spread before the start of the Easter school holidays.
- c. The EA had indicated that the footpaths would be ready to re-open by Easter, and a letter had been received to this effect which the Clerk had included as part of the meeting correspondence.
- d. The matter of the rubbish at the Village Hall was brought up – the bin was disgusting and in urgent need of cleaning and with the season about to start, it was suggested that a second bin was needed so the Clerk was asked to chase SCC.

6. PLANNING

a) Planning Notifications:

- a. **Marshview, The Street C11/0219** – Permission Granted for erection of single storey side extensions and associated alterations.
- b. **Bunbury Cottage, The Street C11/0122** – Permission Granted for erection of extension to single storey outbuilding together with front and rear dormers to main dwelling.

b) Planning Applications:

There were no new Planning Applications.

c) There were no new Tree works

7. ACCOUNTS

a) Receipts

- a. Bank Interest all accounts 01.12.10 to 31.03.11 - £1.31

b) Payments:

- a. TMA Bark supplies – Bark for Village Green - £463.76
- b. Blois Farms – BIH Field Apr to Oct - £75.00
- c. Miss M Verneti – salary Jan to March - £1,084.20
- d. Miss M Verneti – expenses Jan to March - £119.61
- e. SALC Membership 2012 - £146.00

Cllr B Tibbles proposed and Cllr A Hunt seconded that the accounts were passed, and this was unanimously agreed.

8. SEA DEFENCES UPDATE

The Chairman reported that there was not much to update other than there had been a National Flooding Exercise and he believed the EA were planning to check the floodgates, but as yet he had had no update on how the event went.

9. EXCLUSION NOTICE REVIEW UPDATE

Cllr N Crocker stated that he was having a meeting with SALC the following day to discuss the review, and he would report back to the Parish Council as soon as he could. The Chairman then made a proposal that under Standing Order 1c that when Cllr Crocker was ready the Parish Council would hold a special meeting *in camera* to discuss the matter further. Cllr B Tibbles seconded this proposal, all Councillors agreed, and the resolution was passed.

10. VILLAGE SIGN

The Chairman stated that he had been in touch with the people who had the sign and they had indicated that late May/early June would be a good time for them. They also confirmed to the Chairman that the sign was 5'2" wide and 6'1" tall, which is considerably bigger than the one on the green. He intended to bring the matter up at the APM, and put something in the newsletter asking for resident's suggestions as to where the old sign should be placed. One suggestion had been Stocks Green, but it was felt that with all the foliage it wouldn't stand out.

11. FORTHCOMING ELECTION

The Clerk stated that all the nomination papers had been filed at SCDC and accepted. The Polling forms had all been put on the noticeboards as required. There were three separate issues; Elections for the Parish Council, Election for the position of District Councillor for the Walberswick and Wenhaston Ward, and the AV referendum.

The election would be on Thursday 5th May.

12. ROYAL WEDDING CELEBRATIONS

It was agreed that the games and races on the Green would start at 3pm. Permission was to be sought from SCC to close the road during the road race and it was suggested that jugs of water be made available. It was hoped that plenty of people would turn up to help with the Marshalling.

13. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. Various information had been received from Southwold Town Council with regards to the working party to be set up to discuss the future of the Southwold Library. As many residents of Walberswick used the library STC had asked if someone from WPC would attend the working party. The Chairman stated he would bring this matter up again at the APM to see if anyone was interested in representing the Parish Council.
- b. A letter was received from SCDC regarding the changes to the Glass recycling Banks in the village – it explained that over the next few months any plastic banks would be replaced with metal wheeled bins managed by SCDC themselves.
- c. The Disability Advice Service had written to the Parish Council to ask for a donation. It was agreed that the Clerk would find out if anyone in the village actually used the service before committing any resources.
- d. Waveney Norse had sent through the Grass Cutting Quotes for the 2011 season – they were still much cheaper than could be obtained elsewhere so it was unanimously agreed to accept them.
- e. The clerk had received an Email from Christine Mitchell regarding permission for the Fete to be held on the Village Green – this was unanimously given.

14. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

- a. Cllr N Crocker brought up the fact that a great deal of the rubbish on the beach appeared to be foreign packaging and suggested that this might be coming from the Tankers anchored off shore. It was agreed to contact STC to see if they were aware of a similar problem
- b. The Beach Clean was mentioned, and it was agreed that some of the rubbish was considerably bulky – The village Beach clean concentrated on the area from

the Harbour to the Spon Bridge (at the bottom of Stocks Lane), and it was suggested that Natural England and Dunwich Parish Clerk be contacted to see if they arranged periodic cleans of their areas.

- c. The Chairman stated that the fencing would be completed in the next couple of days around the play equipment on the sports field.
- d. The Chairman then stated that the Clerk had resigned, but had agreed to stay on until a suitable replacement could be found. It was agreed to put advertisements on the notice-boards, the local press and the SALC website.

15. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

- a. Mr A Walpole asked about the Visitor Centre and whether or not SCC might be interested in selling the hut back to the village. The Chairman responded that it was too early in the discussions to make that decision but it may be a possibility in the future.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be the Annual Parish Meeting on the 14th April and following the election on the 5th May the Annual Meeting of the new Parish Council was scheduled for Monday 16th May at 7.30 pm.

The Meeting was closed at 8.30 pm

Signed.....

Date.....