

# **Bramfield and Thorington Parish Council**

**A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup> 2015 in the Village Hall, Bramfield at 7pm.**

## **Minutes**

### **Present:**

Cllr. C. Mullett (Chairman); Cllr. A. Rozkalns (Vice Chairman); Cllr. M. Bond; Cllr. A. Thomas; Cllr. W. Shoote:

### **Also Present:**

County and District Cllr. M.Gower and Andrew Niven

### **Apologies:**

Cllr. P. Layfield

### **To receive declarations of interest:**

There were no declarations of interest from councillors.

### **To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on January 12<sup>th</sup> 2015:**

These were agreed.

Proposed: Cllr. A. Thomas:                      Seconded: Cllr. A. Rozkalns:

### **Matters arising:**

There were no matters arising.

### **To receive a report from the County and District Councillor:**

Cllr. M.Gower reported that Suffolk County Council has to make savings of £38.2m and that SCC Highways now have a computerised system for reporting potholes. Cllr. M. Gower noted that Suffolk Coastal District Council Planning Department was working very hard with several new housing developments being planned across the District. He also said that there were just two weeks left to submit an application to Suffolk Coastal District Council for money from his Councillor Enabling Fund. It was suggested that there could be a bid for LED lighting for outside the Village Hall.

### **To receive a presentation from Andrew Niven on 'Speedwatch':**

Andrew Niven said that he would like to get 'Speedwatch' out in a flyer, on the website and in a newsletter out as soon as possible. He said that Cllr. A. Rozkalns had already offered to help with the printing of the newsletter for which there would be a cost. It was agreed in principle that the Council may fund this printing but the amount needed was still to be discussed. Andrew Niven said that the 'Speedwatch' initiative would need to buy a 'speed gun', signs and jackets. He reported that each session must have a minimum of three people – one to use the 'speed gun', one to

take the registration number of the cars and the third to write down the make and model of the cars who would then have to fill in the appropriate paperwork. Andrew Niven said that to have regular coverage, it was believed that 10-12 people were needed all of whom would need to have had training and been briefed by the Police. Andrew Niven said that a 'speed gun' cost around £1200, a jacket cost £5 each and two signs cost £70 each. He then said that whilst the initial outlay for the 'speed gun' was £1200, it would cost £250 each year to recalibrate the 'speed gun'. He also noted that there would also be annual costs for printing and other administrative costs. Andrew Niven said that 'Speedwatch' initiatives elsewhere had reduced speeding from 4 in 5 cars speeding to 1 in 5. In conclusion, Andrew Niven said that the cost of 'Speedwatch' was an initial outlay of £1500 and around £300 in ongoing annual costs. He said that the site for the 'Speedwatch' would be agreed by the Council and the Police with the two factors of safety and a fair place to catch speeding cars being the criteria for the site selected.

### **Questions from Parishioners at the meeting:**

There were no questions from parishioners.

### **Primary School Federation Proposal:**

There was concern over the Federation of Bramfield Primary School with Middleton, Peasenhall and Yoxford Primary Schools. It was felt that there had not been enough consultation and that Bramfield Primary School would suffer from being in the Federation. The Clerk was asked to invite the Headteacher of Bramfield Primary School to the Annual Parish Meeting to report on the Federation and to answer questions on the issue.

### **A Bramfield Village Noticeboard for villagers to put up notices and other issues:**

The Thorington Noticeboard cost £700/£800 so it was believed that a new one would cost much the same. However it was reported that a new noticeboard was being made locally for the Village Hall for a much lower price. It was agreed to find out if the same person would make a noticeboard for the Parish.

### **Transport Issues:**

The Clerk went through the suggestions and advice in an email from David Chenery at Suffolk County Council Highways. The Clerk was asked to find out more about '30mph speed limit x yards ahead' signs, white picket fences at the village entrance with road markings to give an illusion of road narrowing and 30mph repeater signs replaced so they reflect and made bigger.

The Clerk was also asked to make Highways aware of subsidence of the road into a calvert/ditch from outside the Village Hall to Pitmans Grove, the No.1 streetlight is out and trees are overgrown over Streetlight No.2 an in Walpole Road west of Edmunds Lane, the road drops off straight into the ditch.

### **Planning Matters:**

There are no planning applications this month.

## **Clerk's Report and Correspondence:**

The Clerk reported that the law is changing in how small parishes should operate on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He said that a list of Parish Meetings all starting at 7pm for the year is now on the Bramfield Noticeboard and will be on the website. The Clerk has informed the Pensions Regulator that he is to be the named contact and he has informed Suffolk Coastal District Council of the Council's Precept for 2015-2016.

The Clerk further reported that he had transferred the Barclays Bank Online Banking from the former Clerk to himself. He had attended the New Clerk's Course on January 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015. The Clerk said that he was about to send the Council's response to the Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies Development Plan Document – Issues and Options Consultation and he had correspondence from Suffolk Age UK, Home Start Suffolk Coastal and the Police regarding a Bramfield Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

## **Financial Report:**

(a) Balances at the bank on January 31st 2015:

Community Account	£6 291-90
Business Account	£6 590-84

(b) Cheques for payment:

Chq. No. 100955	Disability Advice Service	£100.00
Chq. No. 100956	SALC – New Clerk Training	£117.60
Chq. No. 100957	Clerk's January Salary	£176.60
Chq. No. 100958	Clerk Expenses	£ 54.00

The Clerk reported that owing to a bookkeeping error, the Clerk was overpaid in January by £3-98. This has been rectified in this month's salary.

Proposed: Cllr. M. Bond:

Seconded: Cllr. W. Shoote:

## **Matters of Information from Members:**

There was an update on the illness of a parishioner.

## **To receive agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> 2015 and APM.**

There were no items.

## **The Meeting ended at 8-55pm.**