

MINUTES of the MEETING of BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 2nd December 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in Bell House, Stone Street Road, Boxford.

PRESENT: J Fincham-Jacques (Chairman), A Sargeant (Vice Chairman), S Mattocks, P Wallis, D Hattrell (Clerk), B Hurren (District Cllr) and 3 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: M Wooderson and J Finch

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS: Nothing was declared.

MINUTES OF 4TH NOVEMBER 2019: Accepted as correct.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Nothing was raised.

PUBLIC FORUM: Nearby residents to The Brewers Arms pub shared their objections to the proposed planning. They confirmed Polstead Parish Council voted to object to the plans. They confirmed part of the proposal is on land not owned by the pub. They felt that access to the proposal is dangerous from the A1071, it is outside the settlement boundary and they reject the economic argument. They stressed this wasn't personal, it is just their views as custodians of their property. A representative from the pub then spoke in favour of the development stating they currently employ 17 staff, some from Boxford and employment would increase with the lodges. He stated many are supportive of the proposal and he challenged the road safety point with no incidents on crash map and potential changes from County Highways should improve matters further. He felt the development was important to the sustainability of the pub.

REVIEW OF ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC: The application was on the Agenda for later in the meeting.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: County Cllr J Finch sent apologies but had provided a report covering the Stars of Suffolk Awards Ceremony recognising D Day heroes, brave ex-serviceman, firefighters, charity workers and life saving teenagers. Parking Enforcement duties are to pass from the Police to Local Authorities in Suffolk from the end of January. A new App is backed by Suffolk County Council Health Service for asthmatic youngsters. The White Ribbon Campaign to stop domestic violence was launched. Further Fostering and Adoption sessions are planned for next year. B Hurren confirmed the District Council will employ people to enforce parking offences.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: District Cllr B Hurren attended and reported that their budget is now without support from Central Government. Their sources of income include new homes bonus and CIL money for capital projects. They are in Election Purdah currently. He has been chasing the on-going issues at Goodlands regularly. It seems when the second application was rejected, some items were left out of the scope. The issues currently include the fencing of the play area and setting up an arrangement for the upkeep. He continues to work towards a solution for residents. It was noted the County Council and not Landex is funding the resurfacing of Daking Avenue.

FINANCE: The Bank balances as at 2nd December were **£46782.77** in the Community Account, **£13390.71** in the Deposit Account and **£52209.82** in the Reserve Account making a total of **£112383.30**.

Consideration was given to the request from the Church for a grant towards insurance costs. Following discussion S Mattocks proposed £1750, this was seconded by P Wallis and unanimously carried - **Action Clerk**. Attention then turned to the Precept and Budget for 2020/21. The figures had been collated by the Responsible Finance Officer and discussed with P Wallis ahead of the meeting. There was a view that we needed to request a 1.9% increase giving a Precept of £38869 this year. This was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by A Sargeant and unanimously carried. P Wallis had re-worked our Risk Management Policy and brought it up to modern standards. The Chairman proposed acceptance of the Risk Management Policy, this was seconded by S Mattocks and unanimously carried.

The following payments were approved: -

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Details
Funds Tr	Glasdon	1973.89	New Grit Bins
Funds Tr	D K Hattrell	893.25	Clerk's Salary
Funds Tr	HM Revenue	55.18	Clerk's ddtns & ERS NIC
Funds Tr	SCC - Pension ACC	287.51	Clerk's Pension
Funds Tr	Sudbury Town Council	723.42	Litter Contract
Funds Tr	M A Crighton	185.00	Cemetery Contract
Funds Tr	Boxford Comm Council	500.00	Contribution towards Str Party

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TERMS OF REFERENCE: The draft Terms of Reference with the changes incorporated from the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group had been circulated ahead of the Meeting. Acceptance of the Terms of Reference was proposed by P Wallis, seconded by S Mattocks and carried with 3 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

CORRESPONDENCE: The correspondence report was discussed. It was agreed to follow the Suffolk County Council Street Lighting arrangements over the festive period with the lights staying on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve nights. It was noted the Councillors details required updating in Box River News - **Action Clerk to report**.

CEMETERY: The Tenders were discussed after the Meeting. It was agreed to award the Cemetery Contract to our existing Contractor. This was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by P Wallis and unanimously carried. The Public Liability Insurance document will be requested - **Action Clerk**.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: S Mattocks reported on a face to face discussion with the resident driving his car and trailer along the RUPP. He confirmed he only had four more journeys to make. S Mattocks suggested he attends a Parish Council Meeting. Station Field lay-by is overgrown so it was agreed to ask B Hurren to report - **Action Clerk**. A Street Light is out on Church Street near the war memorial and Churchyard gate - **Action Clerk to report**. Wash Lane still needs a sweep. It was agreed to report to B Hurren - **Action Clerk**. P Wallis and residents who helped were thanked for organising the Christmas Tree.

The meeting closed at **9.09 p.m.**

Planning Meeting Held by Boxford Parish Council at Bell House, Boxford on Monday 2nd December 2019

The following decisions were advised from the Planning Authority: -

- a) Planning permission had been granted to retain private pond at Boxwood Hall, Butchers Lane - **DC/19/04588**.
- b) Work can proceed to trees in Conservation Area at Box House, Swan Street as the District Council do not wish to object - **DC/19/05156**

The following were discussed: -

- 1) The Brewers Arms, Bower House Tye, Polstead, Colchester - Planning Application for Change of use of land for the erection of 6 dwellings and the siting of 5 holiday cabins including creation of car park and alterations to exiting vehicular access - **DC/19/04957 -**

The following response was agreed: -

*Please note Boxford Parish Council **Objects** to this application in its current form due to the size and scale which represents overdevelopment in its surroundings.*

However, please note this Council is supportive of local businesses. Members commented that they are concerned about the sustainability of local businesses including pubs in the area and they may have looked more favourably on a smaller scheme.

- 2) Homestead, Hadleigh Road - Planning Application for 1 dwelling and detached garage including installation of electric gates (following demolition of existing bungalow) - **DC/19/04816**.

There were **No Objections**.

- 3) The Fleece, 8-10 Broad Street - Listed Building Application for works to facilitate part conversion of public house and associated outbuildings to form 3 flats and 3 dwelling houses - **DC/19/05558**.

It was agreed to seek an extension for comments until after the January Parish Council Meeting - **Action B Hurren and Clerk**

- 4) Any other urgent Planning matters: Nothing was raised.