

# DENNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## **Draft Minutes of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

November 20th 2017 7pm

In the Jubilee Hall

**Councillors:** Cllr Robert C .T. Wardley (Chairman), Cllr Katherine Whitbread (Vice Chairman), Cllr Robert C. Rous, Cllr Matt Lunn, Cllr John Calver, Cllr Mary Mann, Cllr Doris Dearing, Cllr Nick Watts, Cllr Rebecca Smith  
**Invited:** Mr Ian Page

**Copied for information to:- District Councillors Paul Rous and Christopher Hudson  
County Councillor Stephen Burroughes**

1. APOLOGIES: C. Cllr Stephen Burroughes, Cllr Matt Lunn
2. INTRODUCTION TO MR IAN PAGE - Chair Cllr Wardley introduced Mr Ian Page, executive interim Headteacher of Charsfield and Dennington Primary Schools, and welcomed him to the meeting. Mr Page thanked Cllr Wardley for his introduction and said how welcoming everyone in Dennington had been to him. He explained that he was at the school for as long as he was needed, and was working to sustain a very popular school. He cited a recent open day at which the school had hosted 14 families with a view to admission for September 2018. (The planned admission number is 11). Mr Page went on to say that he welcomed councillor visits to the school.(Mr Page left the meeting at 7.15)
3. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 11TH 2017: These were agreed and signed as a true record.
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Ch. Cllr Wardley (Suffolk Constabulary, Dennington Consolidated Charities), Cllr M. Mann (Village Hall), Cllr R.Rous (DCC, Church), Cllr N. Watts (Village Hall)
5. REPORTS: C.Cllr S. Burroughes report had been circulated by email prior to the meeting. The main points were as follows:-
  - Get your flu vaccination now!
  - GCSE and A Level results on the rise in Suffolk
  - Recruitment gets underway for Suffolk Fostering Service
  - Vital to check white goods says Suffolk Fire and Rescue
  - Parents urged to have their say on Schools Admissions Consultation (His full report can be found on the website).

No reports were received from District Councillors.

Update on installation of defib in bus shelter: Ch Cllr R. Wardley brought the recently purchased difibrillator to the meeting and explained that it is easy to use. When the ambulance service is called they supply a code that will open the locked cabinet, and then talk through the process step by step. The machine can be used for either adults or children. Once used the pads then need to be replaced. The machine will be fitted into the bus shelter.

Update on defibrillator for Owls Green: Clerk R. Hart explained that C.

Cllr S. Burroughes had informed her that his funding had been cut and that the funding for this would be available from April 2018.

Update on repainting of the bus shelter: Ch Cllr R. Wardley informed the meeting that he had received a verbal quote from Root and Branch of approx £400 plus materials. The meeting agreed to wait until a written quote had been received before proceeding with the work.

Update on installation of kerbstones around the old pond site: The meeting was informed that 2 quotes had been sought.

Update on repainting the village sign: The meeting was informed that a quote was being sought.

Update on tree work on perimeter of village hall car park: Cllr N. Watts informed the meeting that he had received a quote of £900 to reduce the height of certain trees. He assured the meeting that the company had the appropriate level of public liability insurances etc (some of the branches overhang telephone lines). The meeting accepted the quote.  
Cllr N. Watts to action.

6. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS: It was reported that a complaint had been received, early Nov 2017, from a member of the public regarding Footpath 20 which runs across a field that had been ploughed. Cllr R. Rous informed the meeting that the matter had been dealt with.

7. BUDGET: To agree and set the precept and budget for 2018/18: The budget papers had been circulated prior to the meeting. The proposed budget raised the precept by 1.5% to £8,982.00, below the rate of inflation. The Clerk explained that there were still a number of outstanding actions (item 5 refers) and that it was hoped to continue repairs and refurbishment throughout next year. After a short discussion the precept of £8,982.00 was agreed unanimously.

8. CLERK'S REPORT: To include bank balances and cheques to be signed  
Bank Accounts as at 27/10/17  
Current balances: Current acct £2,328.46  
Active Saver £3,098.79  
Equip acct £9,392.39

She confirmed the receipt of £20 from Norse for community litter picking, the transfer of £1,000 from Active Saver to Equipment Account and the transfer of £2,000 from Active Saver to Current Account.

The following cheques were agreed and signed:

100126	Village Hall donation	£300
100127	Sports Club donation	£300
100128	Church donation	£450
100129	CAB donation	£ 55
100130	EAAA donation	£ 55
100131	Heelis and Lodge auditors	£ 86
100132	R Hart/salary	£362
100133	R Hart/stationery	£121.25
100134	V/Hall rent April - Oct	£ 50

The Clerk reported that she had contacted D.Cllr P. Rous (minutes item 4

September 2017 refers), who had confirmed his intention to remain as District Councillor. A short discussion followed regarding councillors' expectations of its District Councillors. It was agreed that whilst attendance at Parish Council meetings is encouraged it is not obligatory. The meeting expressed the hope that District Councillors would continue to represent Dennington's interests at district level. The Clerk was instructed to invite both District Councillors to the AGM in May 2018 and to ask them to submit a report. (Clerk also to copy both into emails requiring actions - planning, highways etc)

The Council has a new website, address is [dennington.suffolk.cloud](http://dennington.suffolk.cloud)

9. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN: An update. This item was deferred to the February 2018 meeting.

10. TO CONSIDER THE INCREASE IN POLICE PRECEPT: Ch Cllr Wardley drew the meeting's attention to the proposed increase in the police precept of 2%. The meeting expressed concern regarding the lack of police presence in rural areas and the poor response to reported crimes in Dennington in recent months. Councillors instructed the Clerk to write to Mr. T. Passmore raising these concerns and expressing the hope that an increase in the police precept might result in greater police presence.

Councillors also instructed the Clerk to write to SCC Chief Executive regarding similar concerns with council services and a precept increase.

11. TO CONFIRM DATE AND TIME OF MEETINGS FOR 2018:

The following were confirmed as meeting dates for 2018:-

Feb 19th

May 21st both AGMs

July 23rd

Sept 24th

Nov 26th budget

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

Local Plan Submission (October 2017) : (Cllr N. Watts left the meeting at this point) The meeting noted that Cllr N. Watts had made a submission under the "Call for sites October 2017: SCDC Local Plan Review".

Cllr N. Watts re-joined the meeting.

Ch. Cllr R. Wardley informed the meeting that he had received an email expressing concern regarding the demise of the village ducks due to road traffic.

13. PUBLIC SESSION: Nothing raised

Meeting Closed 8.15

Signed:

Date: