**DENNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST FOLLOWING PLANNING MEETING at 7pm**

**In the Jubilee Hall**

***Councillors:*** **Robert C .T. Wardley (Chairman), Matt Lunn (Vice Chairman), Robert C. Rous, John Calver, Mary Mann, Doris Dearing,Nick Watts, Katherine Whitbread**

***Copied for information to:- District Councillors Paul Rous and Colin Hudson***

 ***County Councillor Stephen Burroughes and PC Kevin Mann***

***Present: R. Wardley, M. Lunn, R. Rous (from 7.25pm), J. Calver, D. Dearing, K. Whitbread, N. Watts***

 ***District Councillor: P.Rous***

***Members of the Public: 0 Clerk. Ruth Hart***

**1. APOLOGIES:** PC K. Mann, CC S. Burroughes

**2. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON JULY 20TH –** : The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

**3.**  **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Wardley reminded councillors of their duty to complete the Declaration of Pecuniary Interests.

**4. REPORTS:** C.Cllr S. Burroughes report was summarised as follows:-

* encouraging results for Suffolk GCSE students
* Good news for Keystage 2 results
* Suffolk's broadband programme gets new cash injection
* Suffolk skills show to take place on October 21st at Trinity Park
* Scams "in the bin" thanks to Suffolk Scamnesty
* New meningitis vaccination programme launched for teenagers aged 17 and 18 yrs old

 (the full report can be found on the website).

District Councillor P. Rous gave a short report as follows:-

As a new District Councillor, P. Rous will be attending the quarterly meeting on September 24th. He sits on the Scrutiny Committee and is a reserve for the Planning Committee. He informed the meeting that there is now one Planning Committee, (previously there had been 2 - North and South), with the aim of bringing consistency and cohesion to the planning process.

He also reported that he had attempted to make contact with the Planning Officer regarding Blyth Villas (see item 5), but to no avail.

**Grass Cutting -** Cllr Wardley reported that Mr I. Mann, as well as cutting the grass areas around the village, had also undertaken some tree and hedging work. He proposed that the Council make a donation to him of £100 towards the cost of machinery hire and fuel costs. This was unanimously agreed.

**Tree work -** It was reported that work had been undertaken to the 2 horse chestnuts at Rectory Corner most affected by disease, and that further work would continue during the winter. Cllr Watts was thanked for undertaking this.

**Hedging -** It was reported that the allotment boundary hedge with Mill Lane would need some attention over the winter. Cllr Watts agreed to investigate and complete, winter 2015.

**Cllr Lunn reported back from a Sports and Social Club meeting held on September 8th**.

* The recent successful Car Boot sale had raised £461. He informed the meeting that the Club was considering possibly holding 2/3 throughout next year. Councillors expressed the hope that sufficient volunteers could be found to hold a summer fayre in 2016. (They realise the amount of efffort that goes into planning and organising such an event).
* The meeting had discussed and agreed to develop a set of regulations to formalise the financial management of the Club and to strengthen links with the Bowls Club.
* The meeting had discussed the risk of vehicular access around the far end of rhe building (between the Rectory hedge) and requested that the Parish Council erect a fence.

The Parish Council agreed to erect a post and wire fence.

**Church roof -** It was reported that lead had recently been stolen from one of the lower rooves of the church and that the police had intelligence that this was by a gang operating nationally. An alarm is due to be installed September 24th with Suffolk Historic Churches agreeing to pay 50%. Cllr Wardley agreed to be one of the five alarm keyholders.

**5. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:**

**School pavement between the school and the old corner shop** - Cllr Wardley reported that he had received an email concerning the overgrown hedge and the narrow width of the pavement. He reported that the hedge had now been cut and the meeting discussed the possibility of widening the narrow pavement. (It is currently less than the statutory width). It was agreed that the Clerk will refer the matter to SCC.

**Overgrown hedge at Fishers Farm -** Concern was again raised regarding the overhanging hedge at Fishers Farm and the difficulty this presents to pedestrians. It was agreed that the Clerk should refer the matter to SCC.

**Opening onto the A1120 carriageway at Blyth Villas -** Cllr Wardley reported that during the summer he had received several complaints from residents concerning the new openings at Nos 1 and 2 Blyth Villas directly onto the highway. He informed the meeting that despite several email communications including photograghs of the site (dated Aug 13th, 16th and 26th) he had received no response from the Planning Department. Having referred the matter on to the East Area Highway Manager, (Derek Oldham), Cllr Wardley was informed that:-

* SCDC are investigating and will initiate enforcement action, but the member of staff concerned is currently on leave
* In June 2014 the Development Team in Ipswich had been contacted by a prospective purchaser of No. 2 Blyth Villas regarding the possibility of vehicular access and had been advised that the restricted visibility meant that an access would not be acceptable to SCC.

The meeting were of the opinion that the lack of direct response from the planning officer was unacceptable and a breach of professional standards, and that a letter of complaint should by sent by the Clerk to Mr Stephen Baker, Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service.

**6. CLERK'S REPORT:**

**Bank Accounts:**

Barclays Accounts as at the end of August :-

 Current Account: £ 1,132.12

 Active Saver/ No 2 account: £7,075.01

 Active Saver/equipment account: £8,348.89I

No cheques signed since last meeting:-

Cheques agreed and signed at this meeting:

100050 R Hart/Salary £360.00

100051 Ladywell Accountancy £ 35.00

100052 SCDC election costs £100.00

100053 Came & Company £363.00

100054 I. Mann £100.00

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Council's insurance policy needed to be renewed and that the 3yr guaranteed premiumn had ended. Having considered the 3 quotations provided by Came and Co. it was agreed to follow their recommendation and take out annual insurance for the next 3 yrs with Hiscox for an annual premium of £363. This represents a saving over 3yrs of £60.

The Clerk reported she had received the external auditors' report. The annual return was duly dated.

The Clerk reported on outstanding action from July meeting:-

Frozely Br - no contact from county surveyor re widening the grass cutting area to improve visibility

Blyth Villas - action on new layby - nothing further to report from C.Cllr S. Burroughes

Village Square - no information on when it was last resurfaced.

Confirmed in writing with McKenzie Joinery to proceed with repairs to Bus Shelter and to replace oak posts on Pond Site and confirmed repairs to picnic benches, following estimate of £237 (hoped work to be completed by end summer)

**8. TO CONFIRM DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** November 9th at 7pm

**9. PUBLIC SESSION:** Nothing raised

**Meeting closed 8.10**

Signed: Date: