**DENNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**



MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2016 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**

**Present: R. Wardley, R. Rous, D. Dearing, N. Watts, M.Mann, John Calver, R. Smith (agenda item 2 refers)**

**County Councillor: S. Burroughes District Councillor: P.Rous**

**Members of the Public: 1 Clerk. Ruth Hart**

1. APOLOGIES: M. Lunn, K. Whitbread

2. TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR: It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mrs Rebecca Smith onto the Parish Council. The Decleration of Office was signed and the Clerk will inform SCDC. Cllr Wardley welcomed her to the meeting.

3. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN MINUTES OF MEETING NOVEMBER 9th 2015: These were agreed and signed as a true record

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:Cllr Wardley(DCC, Suffolk Constabulary), Cllr Mann (Village Hall), Cllr Watts (Village Hall), Cllr Rous (DCC, Dennington Parish Church)

5 REPORTS: Councillors noted with regret that due to financial cuts, PC K. Mann would no longer be attending meetings or sending a report. They were advised that crime reports were now available on the Suffolk Constabulary website.

C.Cllr S. Burroughes (The full report can be found on the Village website).

His report was summarised as follows:-

Searching for Suffolk's most active community

Celebrating dementia friendly communities

Suffolk Fire and Resuce services

Broadband deployment

Company director caught selling "dodgy" goods

Parents encouraged to get "sugar smart"

C.Cllr S. Burroughes informed the meeting that:

i. the budget for Education had been increased and that GCSE minimum requirements were now being met across the county

ii. closer working with Cambs and Norfolk was being encouraged as part of a move towards devolution, greater co-opertaion and partnership and a formal agreement should be finalised within the next few months

iii. following a recent Ofsted inspection Children's Services and Children in Care were now rated as "Good" and the County were now aiming for "Outstanding"

iv. due to funding negotiations with the EU, Faster Broadband roll-out had stalled (C. Cllr S. Burroughes will invite a representative to the next meeting)

D.Cllr P. Rous reported that discussions were underway for closer working with Waveney District Council - some back office roles were already shared, the details are yet to be finalised.

Councillors expressed concerns regarding additional layers of bureaucracy

6. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS: Concern was expressed regarding the automated reponse to complaints raised on the Council's website. It was felt that Parish Councils should receive a more detailed level of service.

i. verge damage Blyth Villas - It was reported that SCC have written to occupier regarding the damage caused by his/her vehicle. SCC will re-instate at some point

ii.overhanging hedge Fishers Farm - It was reported that the hedge had recently been cut

iii. faulty street light Swainston Way - reported and repaired

iv. Cllr Wardley asked the meeting to report any damage to signage in the village to him, he will complie a list and report it to SCC

7. PURCHASE OF PARKWAY MOWER - Cllr Wardley informed the meeting that DCC had generously offered to advance their donation and to temporarily loan the amount payable in VAT to enable the mower to be purchased ahead of the 2016 grass cutting season. (The Parish Council had received £4,000). The purchase of the mower at £15,600 was proposed by Cllr Rous and seconded by Cllr Calver and unanimously agreed.

8. PCSO MATCHED FUNDING – Councillors noted with regret the request

for matched funding for PCSOs from Temporary Chief Constable, Mr Wilson/Police & Crime Commissioner, Mr Passmore. Cllr Wardley reminded the meeting that this was a national responsibility and should be funded accordingly.

9. CONSIDERATION OF PURCHASE/INSTALLATION OF DEFIBRILLATOR The clerk reported that she had been contacted by a school governor asking whether the Parish Council might consider the purchase of a defibrillator for village use. Following a short discussion regarding the purchase price, ongoing maintenance, options for its location and how it operates, Cllr Wardley agreed to look into costs etc and bring the information to the May meeting. C. Cllr Burroughes suggested that the purchase of a defibrillator could be funded from his Locality budget. The funding of a first aid course for interested parties was also discussed.

10. CONSIDERATION OF CELEBRATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY - Cllr Rous offered to organise an event together with those who had formed the committee for the Golden Jubilee. He informed the meeting that the sorts of events organised elsewhere included litter picks, beacon/bonfire lighting, street parties and picnics. London would see a service at Westminster Abbey and a street party in the Mall. Cllr Rous suggested a short service, ringing the church bells and a village picnic. Following a short discussion, Cllr Rous was thanked for his proposals and it was agreed that such an event should go ahead.

11. CLERK'S REPORT:

**Bank Accounts:** interest has been paid on both savings accounts as follows:-

Equipment account £31.96

No 2 Account £23.82

Barclays Accounts as at January 31st

Current account £ 2,000.62

No 2 account £ 4,868.34

Equipment account £15,380.85

The Clerk confirmed that she had recveived £4,000 from DCC. This comprised 2 parts - a temporary loan of £2,600, the VAT component of the purchase price of the mower which will be reclaimed and then repaid. The remaining £1,400 is a further donation in advance of the new financial year to enable us to purchase the mower immediately.

Cheques agreed and signed at the meeting:

100062 DCC village green rent £ 50

100063 R Hart mileage £ 79.20

100064 R Hart salary £ 360

100065 R Hart stationery £ 95.10

100066 Village Hall hire £ 30

100067 Ransomes mower £15,600

100068 treeincarnate £ 500

To note 1st edition of The Local Councillor received, contains information on:-

SALC survey results into parish clerks' stress levels

village of the year winners

country raods campaign

celebrations for Queen's 90th birthday

launch of Suffolk's walking strategy

spotlight on Neighbourhood Planning

12. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANNUAL LITTER PICK: Monday April 4th at 6.30

13. CORRESPONDENCE: None

14. TO CONFIRM DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: May 16th commencing at 7pm - annual meeting of the parish council and annual parish meeting

15. PUBLIC SESSION: It was reported that a number of neighbouring villages, including Cratfield had installed defribrillators

Signed: Date: