

BIRDBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10 September 2014 at the Community House, Birdbrook at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr T R Walker Mr D Hoye
Mr L Carter Mr R Bolton
Mr S Rhenius

Clerk: Mr D Hilliard

14/63 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs A Beetson due to illness.

14/64 OTHER APOLOGIES

Cllr Finch.

14/65 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10 July 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed. Robert Bolton moved and seconded by Derek Hoye.

14/66 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

14/67 COMMUNICATION AND REPORT OF THE CLERK

Pond – The clerk will arrange a site visit by the Conservation Volunteers.

Noticeboards – The quotes were given to the Chairman who announced them. As there was some difference in the amounts it was agreed to ask for detailed amounts from one of the quotes to clarify things. The Clerk will arrange this. The Parish Council agreed that the Clerk and Chairman could then make the final decision on the quotes.

Bin at Baythorne End – Derek and Leigh will arrange to remove the bin.

Emergency Plan – It was noted that Robert Bolton's telephone number had changed and Hazel Hodge's details will be removed and replaced by Leigh Carter.

Flood risk – The following alterations will be made – Add in Baythorne End properties, the A1017/1092 roads. For flooding history add in Mill Road.

14/68 DOCUMENTS ON DEPOSIT

Clerks and Councils Direct – Noted.

Playground flyers – Noted

EALC AGM – Noted

Essex Air Ambulance – Suggested they be put in touch with the Gliding Club who may agree to support. Steve Rhenius will provide the Clerk with the contact details.

14/69 MEMBERS REPORTS

Pond – the duck house is listing and has weed growing from it. Leigh Carter and Derek Hoye will investigate and deal with this if possible

Parks – Nothing to report.

Chairman's – The bus shelter has been erected. The timetables need to be put up. The Clerk will ask Moira Mason if the shelter at Baythorne End could be replaced as it is reaching the end of its life. The Clerk will pass on thanks to Moira for arranging the new shelter. The neighbourhood watch meeting has yet to be arranged by the Chairman.

The situation at the Doctors' surgery in Steeple Bumpstead is giving cause for concern. The new GP's have all resigned and will leave on 31 December. The provider are recruiting replacements. Steve Rhenius is on the Patient Participation Group and will arrange for the contact details of the Group to be passed to the Clerk. The Clerk will contact Steeple Bumpstead Parish Council to raise concerns over the state of affairs.

The Chairman also reported that the Plough is up for sale. It was suggested that the possibility of a community buyout could be explored. The Clerk will contact the pub in Toppesfield which is the subject of such a buyout to find out about the scheme. Robert Bolton suggested the situation be monitored.

The New England site is still for sale. The Chairman will make some enquiries about its possible use for building. Robert Bolton has an interest in this item.

Highways – Some potholes have now been filled.

14/70 PLANNING

Application no 14/01162 – noted.

14/71 FINANCE

The Clerk reported that the External Auditors had agreed the accounts for the year 2013/14 with a note that the Fixed Assets should not reduce. However, the Clerk noted that this would relate to the loss of the bus shelter and that the replacement shelter was no longer Parish Council responsibility.

As agreed, the Clerk will arrange to transfer £2,000 to reserves.

The Financial Report was noted and agreed.

14/72 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

None to exclude.

14/73 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

14/74 TIME, DAY AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 6 November at 7.30pm in the Community House.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at approximately 8.50pm

Signed: Dated: