

## Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of 2 December 2019 held at the Parish Hall, 7.30 p.m.

### **1. Welcome.**

Three Parish Councillors (Gerald Godfrey (GG), Jacqui Harrison (JH) and Rod Apps (RA) were present. There were three members of the public present (Lea Ingham, Chris Roberts and John Bedwell).

### **2. Apologies for absence.**

There were apologies for absence from Chris Bromley and Andy Spinks.

### **3. Minutes.**

The Minutes of the meeting of 4 November 2019 were accepted.

### **4. Matters Arising from Minutes of 4 November 2019.**

Item 4. Planning Application for the Methodist Chapel. An e-mail from Iain Robertson, Planning Department East Suffolk, had been received noting that the application had been refused, on the basis that the “scale of the extension to the rear would harm the significance of the listed building and that a less harmful solution should be sought of single storey scale.” The Parish Council noted its disappointment with this decision, bearing in mind that the Chapel had now been empty for some years, and was liable to deteriorate further. It was noted that the planning application has now been withdrawn. Rod Apps undertook to try to find out why the application had been withdrawn.

[Action: RA]

Item 4 – Code of Conduct for the Parish Council. Rod Apps had investigated this, and had found that there was a “Suffolk Local Code of Conduct” that applied to councillors appointed to county, borough, district, town and parish councils in Suffolk. Paper copies of this Code of Conduct were circulated to the parish councillors.

Item 5. Rod Apps reported that an entry for the Village Newsletter regarding the Vehicle Activated Sign had been submitted for inclusion in the next Newsletter, which would probably be after Christmas/New Year.

Item 6. Rod Apps confirmed that a notice confirming the retention of the precept at the same level as 2019-20 had been sent to East Suffolk Council.

Item 7. Rod Apps confirmed that an e-mail had been sent to Judy Cloke (District Councillor) advising her of the next meeting of the Parish Council, but that no response had been received.

Item 9. Following the discussions regarding a website for the Parish Council, the view had been expressed that it would be best to opt for a provider that was more than a one-person business, in order to reduce dependency issues. It was also noted that the LMC had opted for such a business, and that there would be benefits associated with both the Parish Council and the LMC adopting the same provider (TiaGrace Web Design, Bungay). It was noted that the existence of a website for the Parish Council might well help to publicise the work of the Parish Council and to encourage more parishioners to become councillors. Rod Apps undertook to take the development of a website forward.

[Action: RA]

## **5. Planning Application: Old Butcher's Arms**

At the last meeting of the Parish Council, Rod Apps had agreed to send an e-mail to Ms Van de Pietermen expressing the Council's disappointment that the corrections she had referred to in her e-mail had not been made public, and that a 5-bar gate had been placed across a gap in the hedge adjoining Tooks Common Lane as if there was to be access to the property by that means. Before that e-mail was sent, Rod Apps received notification from Chris Roberts saying that the application had been approved and that Suffolk County Council Highways had withdrawn their objection relating to access to the site. Chris Roberts outlined some of the background to the application on the basis of documents on the Planning Department website, and noted that the access issue appears to have been sidelined, in that a response to the Suffolk County Council Highways had not been made and that access to the proposed menage appears not to have been identified.

Rod Apps undertook to write to the Planning Department of East Suffolk to obtain further clarification regarding the proposal and the documents on the website, and in particular in relation to the access arrangements. This would include an offer to meet representatives of the Planning Department.

[Action: RA]

## **6. Pond near Meadowsweet House, Mill Lane.**

A discussion took place around this, with the background being that at a meeting of the Commoners' Association the duckweed growing in the pond could be due to a lack of flow and some blockage from the road, and that this issue should be put to the Parish Council. The discussion concluded that given that the pond was on private property, there was no reason for the Parish Council to be involved, and that responsibility for any issues associated with the pond were the responsibility of the owners.

## **7. Finance**

There was nothing to report under this heading.

## **8. e-mails received**

There was nothing of any particular interest arising from e-mails that had been received.

## **9. Any other business**

Chris Roberts raised the issue of flooding experienced in the recent wet weather. He highlighted the stretch of road running from the village sign down to Peardyke Common had become flooded. He had submitted a report to Suffolk County Council Highways asking them to undertake a survey. One of the taxis that take local children to school had flooded the engine when trying to pass through, and had to be towed out. It would appear that the problem can be solved relatively easily by deepening the ditch on the eastern side of the road, with the water then flow down to the edge of Peardyke Common rather than flowing onto the road. The installation of the kerb by Suffolk County Council Highways would suggest that the problem is the responsibility of them to resolve.

## **10. Date of next meeting**

Monday 6 January 2020, 7.30 p.m. Village Hall.  
The meeting closed at 8.32 p.m.