

MINUTES of the MEETING of LEAVENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 4th December 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at The Village Hall, Leavenheath.

PRESENT: P Mortlock (Chairman), R Cowell, S Whitelaw, D Kingham, R Bellenie, D Hattrell (Clerk) and J Finch (County Cllr).

PUBLIC FORUM: There were no residents present.

APOLOGIES: were received from C Morgan and L Parker.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 6TH NOVEMBER 2019: These were accepted as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: All items were covered by the Agenda.

UNRESOLVED ITEMS LIST: The outstanding items were discussed as follows: -

1) The Lake Walk - Progress was being chased regularly. Activity was previously observed, however, stopped. The Chairman and R Cowell had visited the Golf Club to seek an update. The work was close to completion, however, no recent progress observed which led volunteers to stop working in the vicinity. No further progress had been made since the Golf Club cut back the foliage on Footpath 5.

2) A134 Crossing (Royston Wood/Plough Lane) - J Finch achieved agreement to yellow backed signage subject to the cost of £1250 being met by the Parish Council. This was agreed and the order progressed, however, the completion date is still awaited. The landowner had agreed to cut back obstructing gorse and has been chased. The yellow backed signage has been ordered, however, the County Council requested payment ahead of the work. The Invoice has been paid and J Finch has been urged to chase early completion.

3) Speed on Stoke Road - J Finch had raised the issues with County Council Engineers previously. They did not see this as priority. It was agreed to continue to monitor and raise concerns. J Finch had been asked to forward the policy in respect of changing speed restrictions. J Finch clarified that unless serious accident data shows a need, the County Council will not create new speed limits. Since D Kingham requested the policy again, J Finch has been chasing but without success at this stage.

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: L Parker had sent apologies and confirmed that there were no news regarding The Lion application presently. On other matters, he has been taking up reports from individual residents on local matters.

POLICE REPORT: There was no report, however, P Mortlock had provided a link showing our crime figures that can be accessed from our website. S Whitelaw reported on the crimes ongoing since October which are showing on the site which include 1 local report of violence or sexual offence.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: County Cllr J Finch attended and his report covered the Stars of Suffolk Awards Ceremony recognising D Day heroes, brave ex-serviceman, firefighters, charity workers and life saving teenagers. Parking Enforcement duties are to pass

from the Police to Local Authorities in Suffolk from the end of January. A new App is backed by Suffolk County Council Health Service for asthmatic youngsters. The White Ribbon Campaign to stop domestic violence was launched. Further Fostering and Adoption sessions are planned for next year.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING/ HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY: Surveys have been returned and the analysis was due to start after the data is input onto spreadsheets. The return rate was around 37%. The next meeting is scheduled for 7th January and prize draw takes place on 11th January.

CORRESPONDENCE: On-going correspondence was discussed. It was agreed not to program the Parish Council's Street Lights to stay on all night over the festive period.

HIGHWAYS: There were no news on the time scales for the yellow backed signs. J Finch confirmed it was appropriate for the Council to keep a list of volunteers to spread grit for insurance purposes as in previous years. The Village Hall grit bin needs replenishing - **Action Clerk to report.** It was agreed to copy future emails to J Finch relating to footpaths where we need to chase required action.

FINANCE: The Bank Balances as at 4th December are £36337.45 in the Community Account and £15474.67 in the Rate Reward Account making a total of £51812.12. The Budget and Precept for next year was considered. The Responsible Finance Officer had worked with R Bellenie between meetings to produce a spreadsheet for the meeting to consider. Following discussion it was resolved to agree a standstill precept as far as residents are concerned at £19490, the budget for Village Hall will be decreased by £500 and the Village Green increased by £500. The Community Infrastructure Levy return for the year ending 2019 was duly approved and signed. The CIL monies at £4018.56 will be allocated towards the new Playground. Members thanked R Cowell for carrying out a very thorough Risk Assessment and Review of the Asset List. This is on-going and has revealed a need to carry out some maintenance jobs to prolong the life of some village assets. £1000 will be spend from the Village Assets Capital Reserves to prolong the life of Village Assets with timely maintenance next year.

The following were authorised for payment: -

Funds Transfer	500.00	St Matthews Church	Towardsinsurance costs
Funds Transfer	434.85	D K Hattrell	Clerk's Salary
Funds Transfer	100.40	Inland Revenue Only	Clerk's Deductions
Funds Transfer	169.13	SCC Pension ACC	Clerk's Pension
Funds Transfer	319.20	Tree & Lawn	V Green Maintenance
Funds Transfer	9.00	Leavenheath Village Hall	N/Plan hall hire

Total **£1532.58**

REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES : Reports were given from the Village Green, Village Hall and the Footpath Warden. The Village Hall continues to have success with their film viewings which is already sold out for Saturday. Anglian Water found an issue during a routine spot check which is being resolved. The Hall will be in use for voting on Election Day next week. There was mention of the organ at the Village Hall which is used for the Sunday Services. This is currently on loan from residents to the Hall. The Village Green Committee now has a new Treasurer and Secretary. The Fund Raising Committee are planning

some exciting events to support funds for the new Playground. In relation to Footpaths a tree over Kingsland Lane has been reported to the County Council.

IDEAS TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE: Residents have approached the Parish Council concerned that village social events are not being arranged. It was noted that this is not the role of the Parish Council. In nearby villages, Community Councils have had much success with Village Events.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: There were discussion about the Defibrillator and the Playground Questionnaire, however, no resolutions resulted.

The meeting closed at **9.25 p.m.**

Planning Meeting on 4th December 2019

The following decisions was advised from the Planning Authority:-

DC/19/04562 - Sunset House, Nayland Road - Planning Permission had been granted for single storey rear and side extension to house swimming pool.

The following applications were discussed: -

1) **DC/19/05136** - 7 Mayfield, Leavenheath - Erection of part two storey and first floor rear extensions. This was considered between meetings to comply with the deadline. There were **No Objections**.

2) **DC/19/05174** - Leavenheath Farmhouse, Locks Lane - Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) on planning permission DC/19/02832 - Erection of replacement dwelling (following demolition of existing dwelling. This was considered between meetings to comply with the deadline. There were **No Objections**.

3) **APP/D3505/W/19/3237656** - Land East Of, 18 Oaklands, Leavenheath - Appeal against the Decision to refuse permission. This is being considered by the Planning Group. Strong Objections were sent originally and will be strengthened further and issued ahead of the deadline - **Action Planning Group**.

4) Any other Urgent Planning items: Nothing was raised.