

**MINUTES of the MEETING of LEAVENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 5th June 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at The Village Hall, Leavenheath.

**PRESENT:** P Mortlock (Chairman), C Morgan, R Cowell, S Whitelaw, R Bellenie, D Kingham, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr) and L Parker (District Cllr).

**PUBLIC FORUM:** No public attended.

**APOLOGIES:** No apologies were recorded.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** R Cowell declared an interest in the Lion Planning item.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 15TH MAY 2019:** These were accepted as a true record.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** None were raised.

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

1) The Lake Walk - Progress is being chased regularly. Activity was previously observed, however, work seemed to have stopped recently and was being chased again. The Chairman and R Cowell visited the Golf Club to seek an update. The work is now close to completion.

2) A134 Crossing (Royston Wood/Plough Lane) - J Finch achieved agreement to yellow backed signage subject to the cost of around £1250 being met by the Parish Council. This had been agreed and the order is progressing, however, we do not have a completion date at this stage. The landowner has agreed to cut back obstructing gorse.

3) Speed on Stoke Road - J Finch had raised the issues with County Council Engineers. They did not see this as priority. Various factors were discussed including accidents at the location, camber on the bend and increasing traffic volumes due to the Konings expansion plans. It was agreed to continue to monitor and raise concerns. The availability of a crash map was discussed covering the past 20 years, however, not all accidents are reported. D Kingham will continue to monitor and chase progress.

4) Public Open Space path A134 to Maple Way - This path is maintained by Babergh District Council. R Cowell reported rotted wooden sleepers at the A134 entrance. District Cllr L Parker agreed to report. R Cowell sent a photograph to L Parker. L Parker confirmed he has reported and will chase progress. He will report back to the next Parish Council Meeting.

**BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:** District Cllr Lee Parker attended and reported on the Full Council Meeting of the newly elected District Councillors. All roles have been agreed and they are up and running. The intention is to have a collaborative cabinet and they have an independent Chair. L Parker was hopeful that this arrangement will work well. The most pressing item currently is balancing the budget. L Parker is on the Planning Committee again and is also a member of cabinet.

**POLICE REPORT:** There was no report, however, P Mortlock had provided a link showing our crime figures that can be accessed from our website. He reported on the crimes during April which are showing on the site which include 2 local reports.

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:** County Cllr J Finch attended and reported that Suffolk County Council's AGM shared a new programme using Council land to build homes. Children's Services has been graded as outstanding by Ofsted. The success and future of the Highways Community Self Help Scheme was out-lined. This includes local sign cleaning, pruning, verge cutting etc. The Fostering drop in sessions continue. Following his report Cllr Finch was questioned on the Highways Self Help Scheme and it was agreed to include as an Agenda item for next meeting - **Action Clerk.**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING/ HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY:** D Kingham was pleased to advise that further people had signed up to help with a Neighbourhood Plan. The Village Hall is booked for a meeting on 18th June at 7.30 p.m. to assign roles and get started towards a plan. D Kingham will consider remaining with the Committee and reporting back to the Parish Council on a regular basis - **Action D Kingham.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** On-going correspondence was discussed and it was agreed to forward the email in relation to requesting football posts for the Village Green to the Chairman as the Village Green Committee need to consider and reply - **Action Clerk and Chairman.**

**HIGHWAYS:** It was agreed to include the Highways Agenda item closer to the start of the Meeting on future Agenda - **Action Clerk.** The Tree Warden, Footpath Warden and volunteers continue to do an excellent job in clearing the footpaths around the Village.

**FINANCE:** There was no report on bank balances as access to records has been withdrawn pending the Mandate changes. This is despite the Bank promising access would not be withdrawn in the meantime. A complaint is being pursued in relation to the poor handling of our Account by Barclays.

The Exemption of External Audit form and Accounts and Statements were proposed by the Chairman, seconded by R Bellenie and unanimously carried.

**The following were authorised for payment: -**

Funds Transfer	531.73	BHIB Ltd	Village Green Ins
Funds Transfer	428.10	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	413.22	BHIB Ltd	PC Insurance
Funds Transfer	336.00	Bowman & Son	V Green maintenance
Funds Transfer	319.20	Tree & Lawn Co Ltd	V Green maintenance
Funds Transfer	276.00	P Mortlock	Skip for V Green
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2573.78</b>		

**REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES :** Reports were given from the Village Green, Village Hall and on the Footpaths. The window in the committee room had been replaced due to a stone cracking it. S Whitelaw is now fully in place as the Village Hall Treasurer. On the Village Green, the mound has been removed. A quote in the region of £11,000 has been received for fencing the play area.

**IDEAS TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE:** It was agreed to put a special thank you in the report for the Newsletter to all the Wardens and Volunteers who continue to make the paths accessible to all through their hard work - **Action Clerk.**

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:** R Cowell suggested we book a speaker early for next year's meeting as this always adds more interest to the Meeting.

**REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS:** A representative from our website provider will visit S Whitelaw to provide training of how to navigate and update the Parish Council website. The SALC Planning training was suggested for members to consider. R Bellenie had ordered the dog waste bins as agreed. R Cowell was liaising with the Suffolk Wildlife Trust regarding the new bench. For the Village Green, a picnic bench and further memorial bench have been offered.

The meeting closed at **9.02 p.m.**

*The following decision was advised from the Planning Authority:-*

a) **DC/19/01950** - The Lake House, Stoke Road, Leavenheath - Discharge of Conditions Application where Condition 8 (Flood Resilience Strategy) and Condition 9 (Agreement of Measures to Improve Sustainability of Development) had been approved.

b) **DC/19/01969** - Bramble House, 5 Kingsland Lane, Leavenheath - Planning Permission had Been Granted for single storey link extension.

c) **DC/19/01745** - 14 Elm Tree Lane, Leavenheath - Planning Permission had been Granted for single storey front extension.

The following applications were discussed: -

1) **DC/19/01969** - Bramble House, 5 Kingsland Lane - Application to extend - **No Objections**.

2) **DC/19/01849** - The Lion, Honey Tye - Application for 5 dwellings following demolition of existing buildings. Objections had been sent by the Planning Group as agreed. This was due to Heritage issues, design and highways access and safety. Other corrections to the accuracy of statements had been pointed out.

3) **Other urgent Planning Matters: DC/19/02604** Sunset House, Nayland Road - single storey rear and side extension to house swimming pool. The planning group were reviewing this application between meetings.

D Kingham agreed to contact Paul Bryant for support with the Neighbourhood Plan.