**MINUTES OF STEEPLE BUMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON THURSDAY 15 AUGUST 2019**

**Present:** Kerry Barnes (Chairman) arrived at 7.48pm, John Drage, John Fellows, Sophia Girvan, Peter Hill, Andrew Kenning, Ian Westrope, Lorraine Wright.

District Councillor Diana Garrod

Clerk: Pauline Kenning

Members of the Public: nil

**6556**

Apologies

Apologies were accepted from County Councillor David Finch, Jon Borges, Kerry Barnes will be arriving late.

**6557**

Declarations of Interests

none

On his arrival the Chairman declared an interest in the planning application for 9 Churchfields

**6558**

Minutes of the last meeting (previously circulated)

The following amendments were made by John Fellows.

Item 6548.1. The cost for the Church wall work was £470.83 plus VAT.

Item 6551. The safe belongs to the Moot Hall and not the Parish Council.

Item 6552. Request for articles for the website from the Yellow Book should be made to the Editor and not John Fellows

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Ian Westrope and seconded by Andrew Kenning, all agreed. The minutes were signed by the Vice Chairman

**6559**

Question Time

There were no members of the public present

**6560**

District Councillor’s report

Cllr Garrod report was previously circulated and not discussed

Cllr Garrod reported some additional news.

**Local Plan Sub-Committee – Land South of Haverhill**

At the meeting held 18th July 2019 the committee looked at the Additional Sustainability Appraisal of North Essex Local Plan Section 1: Summary of Draft Findings. The Summary presented the draft findings relating to alternatives to providing growth in the Plan Area. The Council examined ‘Land South of Haverhill’ that had been put forward for potential development of around 4,840 dwellings. However, this site was removed by the North Essex Authorities from the inclusion in any of the alternative spatial strategies. One reason for discounting states: ‘Haverhill located outside of the Braintree district and the land in question at extreme north-west corner of the Braintree district, thus there is poor compliance with the principle of developing along the A120 growth corridor. Any strategic development would have to take place in co-operation with West Suffolk Council. However, West Suffolk Council is only just embarking on the preparation of a new Local Plan and is exploring issues and options; so plan making timetables for the two authorities are not currently aligned’.

This is the land on the Steeple Bumpstead side of the bypass opposite Culina. It also falls within the Dedham & Stour Valley AONB.

**6561**

County Councillor’s report

Not present.

Report to be circulated after the meeting

**6562**

Appointments to Village Charities

Chairman reported that he had spoken to Frank and he suggested that Kerry speak to Ian Westrope or Paula Suckling regarding why Parish Council appoint people to the various village Charities. Sophia Girvan agreed to speak to Paula Suckling and gather some further information.

**6563**

Open Spaces, Highways and Lighting

1. **Pathway repair -** Andrew Kenning reported that he had now been asked to submit the top five repairs for consideration. This has been done.
2. **Footpath Survey -** Lorraine Wright reported that she had spoken to Jim Bartley PROW for our area and met with him. She received a box of new yellow arrows that can now be put up. Peter Hill agreed to help identify where we need new posts. Approx 30 new oak posts would be needed.
3. **New Bench for Humphrey’s meadow -** Peter reported that the tree is too big for a bench from the supplier in Saffron Walden. Two reasons have now become apparent for not having the bench around this tree. Firstly, it is too big and a bespoke bench would be extremely expensive and secondly, it is too dangerous to place a bench here. Following the recent high winds another large branch has fallen from this tree. Also, if the bench were to be damaged who would be liable for repair. The Chairman agreed to contact the parishioner to explain the situation and offer the opportunity for a bench somewhere else.

**6564**

Planning

**1. Planning Applications/Decisions**

18/00408/FUL Enterprise Property Group Ltd **Pending decision**

Still awaiting a date for the planning committee meeting.

19/00110/FUL Suckling, Freezes Farm, **Granted with conditions**

19/00282/HH Fell, 3 Fordwater Close, New England **Recommend approval**

19/00140/TPO Manby, 54 Lion Meadow **Pending consideration**

19/00980/HH 28 Churchfields Drive **Withdrawn**

19/00141/TPOCON Nash, 17 Water Lane **Pending consideration**

19/01125/HH 9 Churchfields Drive  **Recommend approval**

19/00150/TPOCON Claywalls House, 39 Chapel Street **Recommend approval**

19/1195/FUL Maltings House, Sturmer Road **Recommend approval**

19/00191/TPOCON 5 Lion Meadow **Pending consideration**

The Parish Council has been asked to comment on how they would use the Section106 money should the Enterprise development go ahead. This would be in the region of £55,000 for allotments, play equipment or outdoor sports. The council agreed that the money would be used for the replacement, renewal and enhancement of Parish Council play equipment and recreational areas. John Fellows suggested a covered seating area. Chairman suggested an enhancement for the Camping Close with some mature trees.

**6565**

Finance and Administration

**1. Clerk’s report**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Receipts** |  | **Payments** |  |
| BDC Street Cleaning grant | £ 1,622.61 | Election costs – BDC | £ 60.29 |
|  |  | Clerks wages | £ 684.11 |
|  |  | Ron Thorn - Bin emptying | £ 210.00 |
|  |  | EALC - Book | £ 49.99 |
|  |  | Interest charged | £ 1.26 |
|  |  | Eon Street Lighting | £ 50.34 |
|  |  | Clerks expenses | £36.40 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Total** | £ 1,622.61 |  | £ 1,092.39 |

Balances as at 05/08/19

Current Account: £ 9,375.32

Savings Account: £27,842.38

Earmarked Reserves: £ 4,600.46 – War memorial

Acceptance of the Clerk’s report was proposed by Ian Westrope and seconded by Peter Hill. All agreed.

The Clerk reported that the bank mandate change was now complete and that we were moving towards making online payments.

John Fellows and Kerry Barnes agreed to be the authorisers for the online banking payments and both agreed to contact the bank to set this up.

**6566**

Archive Project update

Andrew Kenning reported that the first batch of records has been delivered to Essex Records office and a receipt has now been received. This project continues and Andrew Kenning is preparing the next batch of records to transfer to Essex Record Office.

**6567**

Website

Jon Drage reported that more information has been received for website. However some more history/photos on the village would be good. It was suggested that he visit the upstairs in Moot Hall where lots of information is kept. Councillor profiles are still needed from John Fellows, Kerry Barnes & Ian Westrope.

John Fellows asked if the website could be interactive. John Drage said that this could be difficult but he could do a monthly newsletter.

**6568**

Village survey update

Sophia reported that neighbourhood plan survey will be distributed at the beginning of September and there will 4 weeks to return it. The Yellow Book distribution team will be asked to do the deliveries.

**6569**

Mental Health First Aid Training

The Clerk reported that date has been provisionally booked for 23rd November at the Lecture Hall. However, this is subject to sufficient interest. Further publicity will be circulated to interested groups and via the website and Facebook.

**6570**

Speedwatch Training

So far 3 people have expressed an interest in attending the training. We are now waiting for the date from the Helions Bumsptead Parish Clerk.

**6571**

VE Day

Chairman is putting together an organising group and will arrange an initial meeting.

**6572**

Yellow Book delivery

The Editor is checking the number of books to be delivered by each round as some have been short.

**6573**

Information Sharing

The Fox has a new buyer, surveys have been done. Hopefully going through in the next month.

OLB - Peter Hill, the Chairman & Clerk met to discuss the Parish arrangements for OLB. The Chairman agreed to contact St Mary’s Church to discuss this further.

Lorraine Wright reported that the conifer on the edge of the Old School House is causing a problem for crossing the road. Ian Westrope agreed to speak to the house holder

Following the resignation of Ron Thorn we need to reappoint a bin emptier/handyman. The Chairman agreed to put together an advert to be circulated and included in the next edition of the Yellow Book (12th September is the deadline for Yellow book entries). The closing date for applications will be mid October

Slabs on River bank - the Chairman has received correspondence from SBWEG and agreed to follow it up with the householder again as it is on Environment Agency land.

SBWEG would like to lay the hedge on Bellropes this autumn. Andrew Kenning asked if the Parish Council would fund the cost of the stakes and other materials. This was agreed in principle and Andrew Kenning was asked to obtain a quote for the next meeting.

The Chairman mentioned that the Broadgates side is encroaching onto Camping Close and was not being cut by Alex Coleman. Andrew Kenning reported that SBWEG had discussed this but currently do not have any plans to tackle this area.

**6574**

Next Meeting – Thursday 12 September 2019, 7.30pm, Moot Hall.

**6575**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.26 pm

Signed: Kerry Barnes

Date: 12th September 2019