

# **Bredfield Parish Council**

Minutes of the Bredfield Parish Council Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009, at Bredfield Bowls Club at 7.00pm.

Meeting started at 7.06 pm.

Present

Councillors – Mr G Taylor, Mr P Tilley, Mr D Hepper, Mr T Richardson, Mr A Miller.

Chair. Mr A Miller

1 member of the public was in attendance.

## **1.0 Apologies received and reasons accepted by the Parish Council**

Ms D Causier, Miss A Henderson – they had both informed the Clerk that they were not available due to work commitments

## **2.0 Confirm minutes of 28<sup>th</sup> September 2009.**

2.1 Minutes were approved

## **3.0 Action Points from the meeting of the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2009.**

3.1 **AP 2009/26.** Mr Hepper informed the Council that the Village Hall Committee had quotes for full sized goal posts and a boot scraper. The grant form would be forwarded to the parish clerk shortly. Play equipment for the children's play area had been agreed, however after discussions with local residents it was felt that the "group activity" net swing chosen could create noise issues. Mr Hepper informed the council that investigations into further play equipment had been stopped.

3.2 **AP2009/25.** After discussion members agreed that the only items currently to appear on the Council's asset register would be:

1. Village Sign
2. Village Pump
3. Seat
4. Lawn Mower
5. Village Notice Boards at the Forge and at the village hall entrance

Items one and two would be included at their insurance value and all other items listed at a nominal value of a pound (£1) each.

3.3 2009/27 Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC) service efficiency review. Mr Tilley and Mr Richardson had met and circulated comments for the review which were subsequently sent to SCDC. Mr Tilley also attended a meeting on 21 October 2009. This meeting chaired by the leader of SCDC highlighted the difficult position local authorities found themselves in. SCDC will by 2012/13 have a budget gap of some £3m or 20% of their current requirements. It was highlighted at this meeting that this was a time for reviewing all work and then carrying through only the priorities. Agenda item agreed for January 2010, Check with SCDC to find out conclusions of their review.

3.4 2009/29 Melton Parish Council planning issues. The clerk had been in touch with Melton P.C. but no meeting had to date been arranged by them.

#### **4.0 Matters for the Community Police Team**

4.1 PC Marie Smith joined the meeting. There was a thorough discussion of the C309 / Woodbridge Road junction issues led by Mr Richardson and Mr Miller highlighting the signage and speeding issues. Major points raised included the requirement of heavy lorries travelling to Debach to use the centre of the road to manoeuvre the corner after the Forge, the bus service had to use the Debach side of the Pump junction to gain entry to Scotts Lane. PC Smith agreed that the C309 had speeding issues and that the junction presented a hazard. There were difficulties in finding a suitable safe site to use "SID" for speed checks. Mr Richardson and Marie Smith agreed to meet on site to identify a suitable location **AP 2009/30**.

4.2 Police report submitted and attached to minutes.

#### **5.0 Report from the County / District Councillor**

5.1 Councillor Bellfield sent his apologies. However he informed the Clerk that Suffolk Coastal District Council is continuing to review service priorities. He was extremely concerned about the potential growth of applications for operator's licences along the C309 and the return route to the A12 as it was being seen by some as a "lorry route". Suffolk County Council was now working with others to review spending of central government funds across the county.

#### **6.0 Parish Plan**

6.1 Mr Hepper suggested that improving access to the A12 from the C309, improved signage and traffic flow at the Pump and supporting to SORR to control HGV traffic remained priorities.

Mr Hepper also commented that the Environment Group was now well established and had planned a programme for 2010.

6.2 Mr Hepper said that two points from the Parish Plan were outstanding:

AP.23 “To review road signage within the parish and rationalise” Mr Hepper agreed to carry out a walk through of the village and report to the next Council meeting **AP 2009/31**

AP.24 “To investigate the provision of passing places on certain roads in the Parish”. It was agreed that this referred to Ufford Road in particular. Mr Miller noted that most “passing places” along Ufford Road were not official but two could be improved when the resurfacing was to be carried out in 2011. The Clerk reminded the Council of Mr Spall’s commitment to improvements of the passing places should they found to be on private land, however warned the Council that any improvements made by the parish would commit the parish to future revenue expenditure. It was agreed that the Clerk writes to East Area Highways and ask if improvements can be made to passing places during resurfacing **AP2009/32**.

## **7.0 Accounts**

7.1 The accounts were agreed and attached to the minutes.

7.2 Payments for expenses and village hall improvements were made. It was unanimously agreed to write to the Village Hall Management Committee to congratulate them on the recent improvements to the floor and décor of the hall.

7.3 The precept for 2010 – 11 was raised by the clerk as a request from SCDC may be made prior to the next Council meeting. The members discussed the need for a further increase in these difficult times and considered that there were still a number of outstanding issues relating to the environment and fabric of the village that will need addressing in the near future. These include the repair of the war memorial, village sign, renovation of the Pump and new road signage at the C309 / Woodbridge Road junction. There are insufficient funds being carried forward by the Parish Council to carry out this work. Furthermore, Mr Miller noted that the present Clerk was unpaid and that any change in these circumstances would also put a substantial burden on the current precept. It was therefore unanimously agreed to raise the precept to £3,500 p.a. Mr Tilley raised the point that the waste collection costs, ostensibly for the Village Hall and Shop had reached nearly £800 p.a. which represented just under 25% of the precept. It was that both the Village Shop and the Village Hall Management Committee should be approached about the potential of sharing of these costs. **AP2009/33**

## **8.0 Correspondence**

8.1 Wickham Market Resource Centre

Wickham Market Partnership has requested support to lobby the PCT about its concerns over the out of hour’s doctor’s service at Wickham Market. The Council

unanimously agreed to support WMRC. The council confirmed its support in a letter sent on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

8.2 New signage detail for Pump signs agreed unanimously.

8.3 LDF correspondence from Mr Hurst. The Council were read the letter from Mr Hurst and were inform that the Clerk had replied saying that further consultation about site specific allocations was expected early in 2010 and the Council would respond to SCDC then.

8.4 Consultation on Nuclear National Policy Statement – Sizewell - . The Clerk asked for volunteers to attend the meeting in his place as was on holiday.

8.5 Proposed changes to Car Park Management by SCDC – no comment.

8.6 A number of communications have been received from SORR about highways policy and planning issues at Debach Enterprises, Gressingham Foods, Coddendam and Hill Farm Clopton, all of which impact on Bredfield.

1) Due to the application for an operators licence at Hill Farm, Clopton the C309, B1078 and B1079 is now seen as a lorry route. The Clerk suggested that this matter be raised at the next Parish Council meeting.

2) SORR’s communications with SCDC about a lack of planning enforcement at Gressingham Foods led the Council to the conclusion that the planning authority were being ineffectual in their role to the local community as an enforcement agency. The Council have unanimously agreed to support SORR’s in their formal complaint regarding enforcement investigation EN/08/0116 – Expansion of Gressingham Foods – Loomswood Farm, Hall Road, Burgh. The Council also requested the Clerk to discuss the issue of planning and enforcement of planning control with Suffolk Association of Local Councils, Cllr P Bellfield (SCC and SCDC councillor), Sir M Lord M.P. The Clerk was also requested to review recent planning matters in Bredfield and report to the Council any issues of poor practice at the next meeting. **AP2009/34**

## **9.0 Matters raised by members of the public**

None

## **10.0 Planning**

No planning applications received

## **11.0 Highways**

11.1 Ufford Road U3415. SCC East Area Highways have acted upon the request to improve the “grip” clearance along Ufford Road during the last month. The

Chairman requested that a letter of thanks be sent to SCC East Area Highways. **AP 2009/35** to include a request to surface passing places when the road was re-surfaced in 2011

## **12.0 Any other matters arising**

12.1 Parish Meeting. The Clerk stated that he had been unaware that what had in recent years been called the “Bredfield Parish Council Annual Meeting” was in fact supposed to be the Annual Parish Meeting. The Chair agreed that the divide between the Parish Meeting and the Parish Council meetings had become unclear. Members agreed that they felt that improving the promotion and attendance of other organisations at the Parish Meeting could provide an effective means of providing community information. **AP2009/36** Clerk to investigate and report back.

12.2 Code of Conduct for Parish Councillors. It was agreed unanimously by all members to carry a motion that the Council adopts the existing code of conduct without change and that this date of adoption shall be inserted into the new council standing orders.

12.3 Standing Orders. It was agreed that the standing orders provided by the clerk shall be adopted without change. Current members have received a copy for their records. (attached to the minutes).

## **13.0 Dates and venue of the next meetings**

13.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 25th January 2010 at 7 pm in Bredfield Bowls Club.

Meeting closed 9.56 pm