

## **Bredfield Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Bredfield Parish Council Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at St. Andrews Church Room, Bredfield at 7pm.**

Meeting started at 7pm.

#### **Present**

Councillors: Mr Andrew Miller (chair), Mr D Hepper, Mr D. Leyland, Mr T. Richardson, Mr G Taylor, Ms D Causier.

Fifteen members of the public were in attendance.

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

Ms A Henderson – illness

PC Bob James – work commitments

#### **2.0 Confirm minutes of meetings on 19<sup>th</sup> November and 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2012**

The minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> November were scrutinised and amendments were discussed. An amended version was agreed as a true record and the chair signed them accordingly. The minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> December were also agreed to be a true record and the chair also signed these. It was unanimously agreed that in the future amendments (other than a simple inaccuracy) would only be discussed at the subsequent parish council meeting, in a public forum, and would not be suggested through email correspondence with the clerk.

The clerk will differentiate between draft and agreed minutes for the village website.

**AP13/01**

#### **3.0 Matters arising from action points of previous meetings**

##### **AP11/35 Village map**

Cllr Hepper will remind Mr Schofield to send an electronic copy to Tony Bence for the village website **AP11/35**

##### **AP12/03 A12 junction**

The clerk has sent an email to David Chenery and Tony Buckingham (SCC) but has as yet received no reply. **AP12/03**

##### **AP10/17 village noticeboard**

No further news on this **AP10/17**

##### **AP11/26 glebe land**

See agenda item 9.0

##### **AP11/16 war memorial**

See agenda item 13.0

##### **AP11/40 site specific allocations**

See agenda item 12.0

##### **AP12/09 Olympic event**

The clerk had received the necessary receipts and cheques had been given to Mary Bishop and Hassina Khan **Resolved**

##### **AP12/25 budget adjustments and precept decision**

See agenda item 10.0

##### **AP12/17 tree preservation orders**

There was no further information on this. The clerk had been contacted by SCDC about the need for a tree warden in Bredfield. It was suggested that Paul Wiggins might have expressed an interest in this in the past and the clerk will contact him. **AP13/ 02**

**AP12/23 improved broadband**

The clerk had put up a notice on the village noticeboards to attract interest, but had only received one enquiry. It was resolved not to pursue this, especially given SCC's commitment to improving the service in the near future. **Resolved**

**AP12/24 statement of funds for play area and sports field from SCDC**

The clerk had passed this information to Cllr Hepper. The play area committee had also been advised. **Resolved**

**AP12/26 neighbourhood planning**

See agenda item 12.1.

**AP11/28 potholes on Ufford Road**

Cllr Leyland had made enquiries with the highways department at SCC and had been informed that the potholes were not big enough to warrant repair at the moment. **AP11/28**

**AP12/27 wheelchair access in village**

The clerk had emailed Mrs Keats with the necessary contact details for SCC, in order that she could make a report on wheelchair accessibility in Bredfield. **Resolved**

**AP11/36 road signs in Bredfield**

The clerk had emailed Mandy Mann at SCDC with regard to the lack of progress with road signs in the village, but had as yet received no reply. **AP11/36**

**AP12/28 application C/12/2319/**

The Pump House, Pump Corner, Bredfield.

The clerk had informed the planning department at SCDC of the parish council's comments.

**Resolved**

**AP12/29 EDF meeting**

See agenda item 8.0

**AP12/30 application C12/2370/ Perseverance Cottage, Woodbridge Road, Bredfield.**

The clerk had informed the planning department at SCDC of the parish council's comments.

**Resolved**

**4.0 Declarations of interest**

Cllr Taylor declared an interest in agenda item 12.2 and he would withdraw accordingly. It was agreed to swap items 12.0 and 14.0 so that he could leave the meeting after 12.1.

**5.0 Report from Community Police team**

The chair read out a written report which had been submitted. It was noted that the new officer reporting to the parish council will be PC Bob James. There had been one reported, and as yet undetected, crime in Bredfield since 19<sup>th</sup> November. This was the theft of copper pipe from the village hall. The clerk was asked to put police contact details on the village website. She will send these to Tony Bence. **AP13/03**

**6.0 Report from County/District Councillor**

Cllr Bellfield presented a short verbal report.

- There would be no changes to council tax at SCC and SCDC.

- Suffolk had been nominated as the most improved county council in the country.
- Schools had performed badly, especially at KS2, and Suffolk was third from bottom in nationwide league tables. A prime objective would be to make improvements to attainment in both primary and secondary schools in the county.
- At district level there was a difficult situation with the LDF. There were delays to its publication, and this allowed developers more opportunities. It was essential to get the core strategy agreed as soon as possible.
- Cllr Bellfield had agreed to make a donation of £1683.69 (third party contribution) towards the Bredfield Jubilee Field purchase from the Locality Budget. Thanks were extended to him from the parish council.

Cllr Bellfield was informed that Bredfield had not been invited to the Sizewell C stakeholders' meeting. He was asked to ensure that the village would be included in the future, particularly if the park and ride option progressed to stage 2 of the consultation. Thanks were extended to Cllr Bellfield for his report.

## **7.0 Correspondence**

The clerk continues to send councillors a regular record of all post received. Important communications would be covered during agenda items to follow.

## **8.0 EDF Sizewell C consultation: deciding on a response from the parish council that includes issues raised at the public meeting on 11.1.13**

Cllrs Leyland and Richardson had drafted a parish council response, taking into account points raised by village residents. Cllr Richardson read out both the response and a covering letter. There followed some discussion, which included members of the public.

Cllr Leyland reported that EDF would not be drawn on the detail of some aspects of the Sizewell C consultation. For example, they do not as yet have comprehensive data on traffic flow on and around the A12. This would presumably be covered at Stage 2 of the process. The 'Reinstatement' paragraph was discussed, with reference to its accuracy. It was agreed that the paragraph would be accepted as an expression of residents' concerns.

Mr Coles mentioned the issue of light pollution at the site, and felt this was worth adding to the response. Cllrs Leyland and Richardson agreed.

Both SCDC and SCC hoped to reopen discussion on the four village by-pass. The park and ride proposals could then be relocated to a more northerly location. Bredfield councillors supported this, and Cllrs Leyland and Richardson would add this point to their response.

Cllr Miller suggested that in principle there were positive aspects of the Sizewell C proposals, such as the commitment to improved sea and rail connections, and that this could be acknowledged in the parish council's response.

Other issues raised during discussion included the already established access at Wickham Market, the drainage problems at the Potash Corner site, and the gas main underneath some of the identified land.

There was a need for a speedy response after the meeting. Cllrs Richardson and Leyland would amend the response document and would send this to the clerk. She would put it on to headed notepaper and would send it by recorded delivery to EDF, and would also send copies to other key recipients (SCDC, SCC, MPs, Boyer Planning). In addition, she would send everyone on the list copies by email. **AP12/29**

## **9.0 Jubilee Field project**

### **9.1 Land purchase: solicitors, finance and response to diocese**

Councillors agreed that Prettys solicitors should be engaged to conduct the purchase. The clerk will proceed with this. Money was allocated in the parish council budget, although the estimate of £1500 for legal fees was likely to be exceeded, as the land might not be registered and there were inevitably going to be additional costs. Prettys had asked for £500 in order to begin their searches. There was some anxiety expressed about the financial implications of the land purchase and its long term development. However it was unanimously decided to proceed with the project and to send a cheque to Prettys as requested.

#### 9.2 Designated bank account

The clerk had made an initial investigation of an instant access deposit account at Barclays. Councillors asked her to go ahead with this, using the same three signatories as the current account. Funds raised for the Jubilee Field would be placed in this account.

#### 9.3 Fundraising plans

The fundraising group had met several times and had another meeting planned. The village shop had contributed £500, the Christmas bazaar raised £250, the Ladies' group have pledged a contribution, and Cllr Bellfield was contributing £1683 from the Locality Budget. Cllr Bellfield reminded the group that this money could not be recouped between March and May, due to SCC elections. It was hoped to request the money before March.

#### 9.4 News following volunteer group meeting, 21.1.13

Councillors were concerned that the volunteer group was not sufficiently committed in its support of this project. Numbers at a recent meeting were reduced, and no one had grasped the opportunity to lead this group (Helen Young did generously volunteer, but would prefer not to do this alone). It was felt that the parish council should now hand over to the volunteer group, and it would be essential to have either one person or a small group to steer this project. They requested that the group should now be formally constituted and a spokesperson should report back to the parish council. **AP11/26**

### **10.0 Finance**

#### 10.1 Financial statement

The financial statement to 31st October had been circulated prior to the meeting. This was agreed and was signed by the chair.

#### 10.2 Income and payments

Cheques were drawn for Prettys solicitors and the clerk's salary.

#### 10.3 Precept decision and budget setting for 2013

It was unanimously agreed to maintain the precept at £4500 for 2013-14. It was agreed to accept the government grant funding of £37.46, to be included in the overall amount. The budget for 2013-14 was examined and approved and the chair signed this accordingly. The clerk would send the precept decision to SCDC, and the cheque (and requisite paperwork) to Prettys solicitors. **AP12/25**

### **11.0 Highways**

- The Ufford Road potholes issue has been addressed above (matters arising).
- The clerk has contacted David Chenery and Tony Buckingham with regard to the A12/C309 junction (see matters arising above)
- The clerk had received formal notification of the consultation period for a proposed Traffic Regulation Order on the A12 at Seckford Hall Road, following a significant number of accidents at the junction.
- It was noted that private companies are bidding for SCC's highways work, and that Balfour Beatty are no longer the preferred bidder. There may therefore be some consequent delays. Cllr Leyland will liaise with SCC over this **AP11/28**

## **Item 12.0 would now be placed after item 14.0**

### **13.0 War memorial**

The PCC had agreed that the parish council should be asked to retain responsibility for the war memorial. The major work was to be postponed, but it was agreed that the lettering should be corrected. In order to renovate the lettering on the memorial and add the extra name the Parish Council will need the approval of the Diocesan Registrar, James Hall. The Parish Council will need to write a letter giving details of exactly what is intended. Current photographs of the memorial would also help.

The suggestion was made that Mr Haste should complete the lettering, and Cllr Miller would give his contact details to the clerk, so that she could request an estimate. The clerk was reminded that Bredfield Charities had agreed to contribute towards the costs of the repairs. Mrs Pilgrim will inform the clerk and chair about the precise details of the necessary corrections. **AP11/16**

### **14.0 Parish councillors' duties: information sharing in Bredfield**

Communication with village residents was discussed. It was suggested that an email list, which people could subscribe to, could be used to inform interested parties about the factual business of the parish council. The administrator of the village website, Tony Bence, was included in the discussion. It was agreed that the parish council should explore ways to improve their service to the community and that councillors would return to this subject at a later date. **AP13/04**

### **12.0 Planning**

#### **12.1 Neighbourhood planning – developments**

As had been discussed at a previous meeting, an approach has been made to Bredfield to join a group of small parishes in order to create a joint neighbourhood plan. This would carry more weight than the current parish plan. It was unanimously agreed that this opportunity was worth further investigation, and Cllr Richardson was happy to take this on. **AP12/26**

### **Cllr Taylor left the meeting at 8.55pm**

#### **12.2 Update on land between Tudor Cottage and the community shop, with particular reference to correspondence from village residents**

The history of the 2009 public meeting about the LDF was revisited, and, following Cllr Bellfield's comments about the delay in publication of the LDF, some councillors and members of the public were anxious that developers might begin to look at potential building sites, especially as it seems that SCDC has failed to identify enough available land in this area.

The chair read out a letter from Miss Lindsay Marriott, which expressed concerns shared by some local residents. Most of these had been discussed at some length during a previous meeting. It was pointed out that another public meeting might be necessary in the future, in order to examine all site specific locations in Bredfield, as concentration on one particular piece of land could be construed as bias.

There was a question from a member of the public about a recent survey of the land in question, but the parish council was not privy to information about this.

It was stressed that at this stage there had been no applications, and the land was not currently on the market. The parish council would always strive to be fair and unbiased and would respond to all concerns if and when firm proposals were made.

There was discussion as to whether the parish council or local residents could or should contact SCDC with regard to this matter. The clerk was asked to contact SCDC and request an updated list of all site specific sites in Bredfield. **AP 11/40**

It was noted that the creation of a neighbourhood plan could help to protect the village from unwanted development in the future.

#### **15.0 Matters from the public**

There were no matters from the public.

#### **16.0 Other matters arising**

The clerk had received a planning application after this agenda had been set. This was for Wayside, The Street (C/13/0102). A date was agreed for a short planning meeting on Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

#### **17.0 Date of next full meeting**

The next full parish council meeting would be on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

Meeting ended 10pm

KB 6.2.13