



Rushmere St. Andrew Parish Council

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"Seek The Common Good"



**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th March 2016 at
THE VILLAGE HALL at 7.30pm**

CHAIRMAN: P Richings Esq.

PRESENT: Mrs J Clarke, Miss A Cracknell, Ms C Evans, Mr D Francis, Mrs C Gower, Mr M Newton, Mrs B Richardson-Todd, Mr P Richings, Mr M Sones, Mr B Ward, Mr J Westrup, Mr J Withey, Mr J Wright

APOLOGIES: Mrs M Brown (unwell), Mr R Whiting (urgent domestic matter)

District Cllr D Dean, PCSO M Sarbutts

CLERK: Mr M R Bentley

ABSENT (no apologies) None

ALSO PRESENT: Member of the public = 6 (including 2 Pigeon Investment representatives); Mrs J Potter (Assistant Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES, APPROVAL OF ABSENCE, PROTOCOL & CONDUCT REMINDERS

The Chairman read out a statement on the Code of Conduct, protocol for debate and statutory rights to film, record, photograph or otherwise report on the proceedings of the meeting.

Apologies were noted as detailed above. Mr Wright proposed acceptance of reasons for councillor absence, seconded by Mr Ward, with all in favour.

2. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th January 2016

Mr Richings reminded Councillors to note the list of cheques issued. Mrs Clarke proposed acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Ms Evans, with ALL in favour. The minutes were duly signed as a correct record with no alterations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS INTEREST

Mr Newton declared a local non-pecuniary interest as a member of Suffolk Coastal District Council and also stated that he may be asked to reconsider any matter from this meeting at District Council and at any relevant Committee/Sub Committee and in so doing, shall take into account all relevant evidence and representations made at the District level before coming to a decision.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a. To Identify Public Participation with Respect to Items on this Agenda

Barbara Robinson and Ron Spoor from SORRI (Save Our Rushmere Rural Identity) were in attendance to listen and speak if necessary regarding the Pigeon Investment presentation.

The Chairman agreed to bring item 5di forward to this point to save delaying Mr Simon Butler-Finbow Briefing by PIGEON Investment Management on Potential Development Land

Mr Simon Butler-Finbow spoke about changes to the proposals for the site bordering Humber Doucy Lane and The Street which would now include elements of self-build, affordable and open market housing along with three categories of open space, - some assigned to the football club, some amenity space and some managed space to retain coalescence. Pigeon were keen to go forward with housing that meets local needs with an approximate number of 73 mixed dwelling types.

Comments from Councillors and SORRI included:-

At the last presentation it had been stated that they would not build in front of the church but now self-build was being proposed.

The concept is OK but location is not. The PLB had been redrawn to encompass land adjacent to 155 The Street and now it was proposed to move it again.

Cutting into hedgerows near the church will have a significant impact on the amenity near the church. Offering as self-build is a con.

In favour of self build, but not here as this area is to be maintained as open space to maintain coalescence.

IBC also have a policy of using this land as coalescence. The area is protected under the SCDC Local plan and is still protected under the Issues and Options extensions.

Is Humber Doucy Lane going to be widened to cope with the traffic as the only entrance to the development appeared to be from that Lane? Pigeon - No plan to widen it as that would increase speeds.

The Street was recently shut for a week for roadworks and it gave an insight on what would happen if traffic increased in Humber Doucy Lane. Pigeon – Their projections had shown there would be an additional vehicle movement on average every 1.5 to 2 minutes and that the whole concept was a balancing exercise.

The plan would actually require two thirds affordable homes as it would be classed as an 'exceptional development site'.

There were also discussion over the District Council was able to meet the 10 year housing supply target – Opinions differed on this point.

Mr Simon Butler was asked if Pigeon had consulted with the SCDC Planning Policy Officers but the question appeared to be evaded. Mr Butler-Finbow had it appeared, wrongly assumed from his previous presentation that the PC were broadly supporting his proposals and were keen to work with Pigeon to come up with a design proposal which satisfied all parties.

The Chairman thanked Mr Butler-Finbow for attending and presenting the update on their proposals for the land adjacent to Humber Doucy Lane and The Street.

At 8.20pm following a long discussion, the Pigeon representatives and members of the public left the meeting.

b. County Councillor Report

A written report from County Cllrs Whiting and Hudson was distributed via email (paper copy to A Cracknell and D Francis).

There were a number of queries still outstanding regarding roadworks in the parish which would have been raised had a County Councillor been in attendance at this meeting.

c. District Councillor Report

A written report from District Cllrs Whiting and Newton had been distributed with the agenda. Cllr Dean had belatedly endorsed this report.

Mrs Clarke commented that it would be nice to see District Cllr Mrs Dean attend a parish council meeting along with County Cllr Mr C Hudson.

There followed some discussions regarding the proposed SCDC increases in Council Tax plus discussions regarding the potential merger of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils.

d. Public Forum – Members of Public/Parish Councillors May Speak on Any Matter.

Mr Wright reported on the road works recently carried out in The Street near Chestnut Pond and the white lining carried out in the same area. He noted that the lining had not been carried out to define the limit of the rough lay-by opposite No.89 The Street. The workmen on-site had explained that it was because there was insufficient width of carriageway at that point.

Mr Wright also reported on the woodland area at Ipswich School and the grant of new saplings from the *Woodland Trust*. Ipswich School had pledged to carry out the maintenance on the new trees so there would be no burden on the Parish Council.

Mrs Gower queried if the Parish Council used the on-line '*Streetlife*' social media application. The response was 'no, with no plans to do so in the future'.

5. POLICE MATTERS AND REPORT FROM SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

There was no Police attendance

a. Monthly Report

The Match funded PCSO report was distributed with the agenda and the monthly Kesgrave SNT report was distributed at this meeting.

b. Current SNT Tasking Priorities

Priorities remain unchanged as set in October 2015 owing to the pending rearrangement of police services.

- Tackling anti-social use of motor vehicles at Martlesham Heath Business Park.
- Promote safe cycling throughout the Kesgrave SNT area.
- Monitoring the speeding of vehicles on roads within the Kesgrave Safer Neighbourhood Team area, including villages within the district.

c. Match Funded PCSO – To Consider Proposed Revisions to the SLA until March 31st 2017

Following a reply to questions asked at the meeting held with Leigh Jenkins on 9th February it had become apparent that the Police were not going to compromise on the hours to be worked by PCSOs with effect from 1st April 2016. Instead of a flexible rota between 0800 and midnight it would now be 0800 and 1800 with regular Police Constables filling the evening gap. It would of course leave the parish with more daytime PCSO cover.

The Clerk also reported that it had now been confirmed that PCSO Sarbutts and PCSO Moss would be moving to the Ipswich East SNT. The rest of the Kesgrave SNT would be spread around other offices.

A draft SLA for a one year contract to end March 2017 for a match funded PCSO working to the new policing model had been receive this afternoon.

The Clerk explained the differences between old and new SLA and stressed that the police were waiting on a decision so they could implement if necessary at the end of this month. Any decision made by this PC would also be conditional on Kesgrave Town Council (KTC) agreeing to the same terms.

The Clerk suggested that if this Council was minded to agree to the one year term it should be conditional on a 3 monthly review of effectiveness of working under the new policing model with respect to the funded PCSO role. It would also be dependent on KTC agreeing to sign the new SLA as this parish could not afford to fund the whole scheme.

There were several comments as to why should we pay for something that has been very effective in the evening but is not available any more. It was also stressed that we did not want to see all the hard work put in by PCSO Sarbutts go to waste over the coming months.

Mr Wright proposed we accept the new SLA for one year to March 31st 2017 subject to the conditions as outlined by the Clerk. This was seconded by Mr Ward, Resolved: In favour on a majority decision which included 2 abstentions.

The agreed resolution: To support the modified Match Funded PCSO SLA for a period of one year with effect 1st April 2016 subject to the following conditions:-

A) There shall be a 3 monthly review of effectiveness of working under the new policing model with respect to the match funded PCSO role.

B) Signing of the SLA will be dependent on Kesgrave Town Council also agreeing to partake in the modified SLA on the previous basis of 2/3 of the annual fee payable by Kesgrave with 1/3 payable by Rushmere St Andrew.

Clarification from the Clerk:

[With respect to A): the review should be by a joint meeting of representatives of all 3 parties (Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew and the SNT) and will include analysis of local crime figures as well as a study in particular of the cross SNT boundary working of the Match Funded PCSO – This is to analyse the effectiveness of the Match Funded PCSO working in both North (Woodbridge SNT) and South (Ipswich East SNT) Rushmere

St Andrew. It would be desirable if the above condition was actually written into the SLA at section 4.9.2 to avoid any doubt as to the meaning of that section.]

Matters arising from SNT Reports

A letter had been received by the Chairman from PCSO Sarbutts marking the end of the Kesgrave SNT Office and offering thanks to the Council for its support over the ten years the SNT Office had been in operation. In particular it thanked the Clerk, Mel Bentley and the Assistant Clerk, Jean Potter for their help. It had been a 'Vision is collaborative working, professionalism and dedication'

6. FINANCE

a. TO NOTE THE RECORD OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The UNAPPROVED Minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2016 had been issued to all Councillors. Noted by councillors.

b. To Approve and Adopt Revised Financial Regulations 2016

Revised model Financial Regulations had been received from NALC. The revised Regulations took account of the new *Public Contracts Regulation 2015* and clarified several other statements in the document. The Clerk had integrated our own existing items and including Appendix One which now reflected the latest dates and values.

Mr Withey proposed approval and adoption of the 2016 Financial Regulations, seconded by Miss Cracknell with all in favour.

A note of thanks to the Clerk was expressed for the work entailed in integrating the old and new Financial Regulations.

c. To Approve the Revised Asset Register and Insurance Schedule March 2016

The asset register had been brought up to date with the addition of the new adult exercise equipment in the play areas. Total valuation was now £142,681 and increase of £58,140 on the previous year.

Mr Wright proposed acceptance of the March 2016 revised asset register, seconded by Mrs Clarke with all in favour. It was noted, however, that 3 new grit bins required adding to the list plus the recently acquired land at the Ipswich School Sports Centre. These would be added to the new draft version of the register to be created shortly.

d. To Consider Response from Greene King Re Strip of Land off The Street and Ipswich School Sports Club

The Assistant Clerk had written to Greene King as owners of the strip of land asking if they would be willing to transfer ownership of the land to the PC

Mr Sones enquired as to why we wanted the land? – Mrs Potter stated it was an overgrown mess and the aim was to manage it into a wild-life area as an extension to wild-life area in the Ipswich School Sports Centre. It would also stop any piecemeal acquisition by individual residents backing onto the land. The School had already indicated they would be happy to look after it in conjunction with their own wild-life area.

i. Conditions for Transfer

Greene King had indicated they were willing to transfer the land to the Parish Council at no charge on condition that the PC paid all legal costs and that the land remained as a natural wildlife area.

ii. Legal costs

Birketts expected the legal fees for the Parish Council end of the paperwork would be about £500 plus £50 for searches. The costs for Greene King legal fees were unknown at this stage, but were thought to be about the same.

Miss Cracknell proposed that the PC proceeded with the acquisition of the land subject to a maximum limit of £1,500 for total legal fees. This was seconded by Mr Withey with all in favour.

e. OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk had received the following notification from SALC:-

The Department for Communities and Local Government has confirmed that the appropriate sum for parish councils for the purposes of **section 137 (4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the 1972 Act") for 2016-2017 is £7.42.**

This is the amount that results from increasing the amount for 2015-2016 (£7.36) by 0.8% - the percentage increase in the retail index between September 2014 and September 2015, in accordance with Schedule 12B to the 1972 Act.

Noted by Councillors.

Matters arising from GP&F Report

There were no matters arising from the GP&F report and minutes. Councillors noted the GP&F report.

7. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

a. TO NOTE THE RECORD OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mr Richings reported on two meetings (28/01/16 & 25/02/16) held since the last PC meeting. Copies of the P&D minutes of those dates had been issued to all Councillors.

Matters arising from P&D Report

There were no matters arising from the P&D report and minutes. Councillors noted the report.

b. Neighbourhood Plan – To Accept Terms of Reference and Consider Working Party Membership

Mrs Richardson-Todd was concerned that Rushmere village could get swallowed up as it only gets a small mention in the current Parish Plan. Mr Ward who was chairman of the original Parish Plan working party thought that the Plan gave a lot of thought to the older part of the parish but stated that by the nature of the size of the parish more mention would have been given to the larger and developing southern side.

Mr Sones proposed that the Terms of Reference be accepted, seconded by Mr Newton. Acceptance agreed with one abstention.

It was agreed that the initial working party membership would be Mr Wright and Mrs Richardson-Todd until additional members could be recruited from the electorate/parishioners.

c. Any Other Planning Matters

A public exhibition from Crest regarding Henley Gate development scheme as part of the Ipswich Garden Suburb project would take place on Sat 12th March 10.30 to 1.30 and 14th March from 4pm to 7.30pm at the function room Ipswich Sports Club, Henley Road IP1 4NJ

Mr Wright agreed to attend and report back to the P&D.

8. PARISH AMENITIES AND SERVICES

a. TO NOTE THE RECORD OF THE PARISH AMENITIES AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

Mr Wright reported on the meeting held on 21st January 2016 A copy of the unapproved minutes of that date had been issued to all Councillors.

Matters arising from PA&S Report

There were no matters arising from the PA&S report and minutes. Councillors noted Mr Wright's report.

b. Other PA&S Matters

Speedwatch – Mr Wright reported that 13 sites had been identified and approved by the Police. Mr Wright had also attended the police review of the sites in Playford as well as our own Parish.

The PA&S would take a decision next week on whether to proceed to the implementation stage.

The Clerk reported that a Locality Budget grant from County Cllr Whiting for £700 had been approved for both Playford and this PC for the purchase of Speedwatch equipment (Total grant of (£1,400)

9. GENERAL PARISH MATTERS & CORRESPONDENCE

a. To Note Matters Arising Since Publication of Agenda

None.

b. Dates to Note

Mon, 14th March 2016, 7pm, SALC Area Meeting, Stratford St Andrew

Tues, 15th March 2016, 7.30pm, P&D Meeting, Village Hall

Wed, 16th March 2016, 7.30pm, Newsletter Editorial Panel Meeting, Tower Hall, Committee Room

Thurs, 17th March, 7.30pm, PA&S Meeting, Tower Hall

Tues, 29th March, 10am, 12PT Tasking Group Meeting, Kesgrave Town Council Chamber

Thurs, 14th April, 7.30pm GP&F Meeting, Tower Hall

Mon, 18th April, 6.15pm, Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting, Kesgrave Town Council Chamber

10. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

None identified

11. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:54pm

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---COUNCILLORS to note items BELOW ---

The following expenditure had been incurred and income received since the items listed in the Minutes of the GP&F committee meeting of 11th February 2016.

GENERAL EXPENDITURE

Paid Date	Supplier	Item	Cheque No.	Cost inc. VAT	Cost exc. VAT	VAT	Category
02-02-16	J L Hart	Rebuild wall at Kelvedon Gardens	567	£ -	£ 200.00	£ -	PF&POS
05-02-16	Robert Potter	Noticeboard servicing & letter delivery-Jan	568	£ -	£ 84.00	£ -	S142
05-02-16	Robert Potter	Litter Clearance - January	569	£ -	£ 25.00	£ -	Litter
11-02-16	Suffolk Coastal No	Pest control ponds/allotments - 2014/15	570	£ 397.20	£ 331.00	£ 66.20	Pond
11-02-16	Parish Halls RSA	Storage room rent 2016	571	£ -	£ 250.00	£ -	Hire
11-02-16	UK Servers Ltd	via M Bentley renewal of basic hosting se	572	£ 24.00	£ 20.00	£ 4.00	Admin/clerk
12-02-16	BT	Parish phone bill - 4th Feb to 3rd May 16	S.O	£ 102.86	£ 85.72	£ 17.14	Admin
25-02-16	Ipswich Borough C	Greenways Annnual Mtce of LNRS	573	£ 3,690.00	£ 3,075.00	£ 615.00	PF&POS
25-02-16	Staples UK Ltd	Stationery items	574	£ 172.60	£ 143.83	£ 28.77	Admin
25-02-16	Suffolk Coastal No	Grass cutting/pruning of play areas 2015	575	£ 315.90	£ 263.25	£ 52.65	PF&POS
25-02-16	Headway Suffolk	Charity Donation	576	£ -	£ 150.00	£ -	S137
25-02-16		Net Salaries paid after PAYE & NI - February 2016	577/S.O	£ -	£ 2,021.84	£ -	Salary

CEMETERY EXPENDITURE

Paid Date	Supplier	Item	Cheque No.	Cost inc. VAT	Cost exc. VAT	VAT	Category
11-02-16	A Duncan	Cemetery Admin	1083	£ -	£ 20.00	£ -	Admin
25-02-16	A Duncan	Cemetery Admin	1084	£ -	£ 20.00	£ -	Admin
25-02-16	SCL L/S Mgt Ltd	Cemetery Mtce Jan2016	1085	£ 476.40	£ 397.00	£ 79.40	Maintenance
25-02-16	Cooks Waste Kare Ltd	Cemetery Mtce 15-02-16	1086	£ 138.00	£ 115.00	£ 23.00	Maintenance

INCOME RECEIVED During February 2016

SCDC Play/Sports Space Funding £3,083

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS AT 29th February 2016

General Account	£79,529
Business Base Rate Tracker	£54,205
Cemetery Account	£4,362