

**MINUTES OF STEEPLE BUMPSTEAD PARISH
COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE MOOT HALL AT
7.30PM ON THURSDAY 12 JANUARY 2017**

Present: Messrs: Chris Cadman (in the chair), Kerry Barnes, Frank Aldred,
Ted Bloxham, Kim Cresswell, John Fellows, Ian Westrope
Mrs Alex Rolph.
Clerk: Mrs June Argent.

Members of the Public: 2

5126

Apologies: Sophia Girvan - work
District Councillor Diana Garrod - work

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Declarations of Interest: No declarations of interest were made.

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Minutes of the last Meeting – previously circulated

John Fellows asked that Minute 5119 e/f should read as follows:

“Kim Cresswell proposed that the Parish Council donates £100 to the Dedham Vale & Stour Valley Countryside Project. This Proposal was seconded by Frank Aldred. Agreed. The Chairman said he would personally add another £25 to this sum. Andy Kenning kindly contacted EDF regarding topping the trees on Humphrey’s Meadow which were in the overhead wires”.

Otherwise acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting was agreed.

5129

Question Time

The Chairman welcomed Nigel Chapman to speak about the closed churchyard wall. Nigel reported there was no further advance on funding this work. The structural consultants say they have specified and unspecified works which will provide 25 years of life. The offer made by Lodge and the contractors will give no guarantee but consider 20-30 years of life of the wall would be possible. Two other quotes will be necessary and a further £30,000 contingency should be added for unknowns. District Council have written to say as no formal application was made to them to take over the closed churchyard then they are not responsible for any costs. Additional papers will have to be sent to the Parish Council’s Solicitors. Kerry Barnes asked whether legally we could rebuild rather than repair the wall.

Nigel Chapman has spoken to the Listed Buildings Officer who confirmed that because the wall is part of the church and perimeter so it is listed even though the repairs in the past were not good. The Listed Buildings Officer has not been asked about a rebuild instead of a repair. Also alder trees are damaging the wall. The structural engineer did not know what problems were beneath the wall on the church side.

It was agreed that Nigel would obtain quotations for a rebuild and also a repair of the wall and further correspondence with District Council should go our Solicitors.

NC/Clerk to action

5130

County Councillor's report

David Finch was not in attendance

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District Councillor's report

Diana Garrod was not in attendance.

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Open Spaces, Highways and Lighting

a Boxing Day Walk – Kerry Barnes said 50/60 people took part in this walk and it was enjoyed by everyone.

b Play area – Kerry Barnes was due to have a meeting with Playdale but they cancelled and the meeting will have to be rescheduled. **KB to action**

c Closed churchyard – see Question Time

d The Church Street/Finchingfield Road drainage works have been completed and a letter of thanks to be sent to the contractors. **Clerk to action**

e Since there is much work needed on the Camping Close, the question of how to spend the Section 106 money was once more discussed. It had been previously agreed to purchase 40 oak bollards since some of those already installed were beginning to rot.

Quotes have been received for removal of all existing bark in the two children's play areas and replace with new play bark. The total cost here would be £10,000. This sum is beyond our budget so we could either rework the existing bark and top up or simply top up as usual. It was agreed to top up as usual and look at other options for the future.

Another necessity on the Camping Close is the state of the area in front of the children's goal mouth.

Kerry Barnes proposed the purchase of 40 oak bollards with the Section 106 monies and this proposal was seconded by Ted Bloxham. All agreed.

f Wildlife Group Activities.

Bellropes hedgerow between the two accesses onto Churchfields estate has been cut back by the Scouts. Many thanks.

The preparation of the hedge on Humphrey's Meadow for hedge laying in January/February has been carried out since the hedge was too dense and had to be cut out.

JF/Clerk to action

5133

Planning

Planning applications/decisions

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|-----------------|---|----------------------|
| 16/01525/OUT | Mark Weatherhead Ltd – 4 Helions Road Application for outline planning permission with all matters reserved – Redevelopment of an agricultural machinery depot to residential development of 9no three bedroom dwellings with associated works. | No Objection |
| 16/01665/OUT | Gladman Developments Ltd – Land west of Finchingfield Road – resubmission of application 16/00410/OUT - Outline planning permission for up to 65 residential dwellings (including up to 40% affordable housing), introduction of structural planting and landscaping informal public open space and children’s play area, surface water flood mitigation and attenuation, vehicular access point from Finchingfield Road, pedestrian access from George Gent Close and associated ancillary works. All matters to be reserved with the exception of the main vehicular site access. | Recommend Refusal |
| 16/00298/TPOCON | Bartlett. 12 Church Street – tree work | |
| 16/00304/TPO | Hood, 4 Blois Road – tree work | GRANTED |
| 16/01746/FUL | Sullivan, 9 Churchfields Drive Erection of single storey front extension | GRANTED |
| 16/01703/FUL | Hood, Colnebrook, Blois Road Internal alterations to dwelling house, together with demolition of existing mono-pitch roofed single garage and existing detached garage block and replacement with detached garage block and greenhouse. | GRANTED |
| 16/01770/FUL | Argent, Site of Old Builders Yard, Church Street - erection of dwelling and garage | GRANTED |
| 16/00320.TPOCON | Webb, The Red Lion, Church Street Tree work | |
| 16/02026/FUL | Knivett, land next to 7 Chapel Street Erection of 1 three bedroom dwelling | No Objection |
| 16/00382/TPOCON | Kinsey, Pegson House, Chapel Street Tree work | |
| 16/02149/FUL | Parkes, Wakelands Farm, Finchingfield Road | No |
| 16/02150/LBC | Refurbishment and erection of extension to | Objection |

existing domestic annexe, insertion of dormer window to front elevation and internal alterations to main farmhouse

16/02163/FUL Brown, 1 The Endway – Removal of log store and erection of single storey extension and conversion of outbuildings

16/00386/TPOCON Kinsey, 25 Chapel Street – tree work

16/02168/FUL Jennings, 15 The Endway – demolition of existing single storey rear extension and erection of two storey side/rear extension

The Chairman stated that since printing the agenda, Planning Application 16/01525/OUT has been granted. Local objections have been received by District Council concerning 16/02026/FUL.

5134

Finance and Administration

a Clerk's report from 3 December 2016 to 6 January 2017

Receipts

C Cadman - £ 25.00
Riverside Walk
R. Argent £100.00
Street light bulb

£125.00

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Payments

Eon – street lighting £115.89
Country Gardens & Landscaping £927.00
R Thorn – bins/litter £200.00
Administration £684.74
Essex Community Foundation £125.00
Country Gardens & Landscapes £264.00
Abate Ltd – pest control £ 72.00

£2,388.63

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Balances as at 06.01.2017

Current Account: £ 1,778.60
Savings Account: £23,014.62
Earmarked Reserves: £ 6,529.24

(this includes £2,082.18 for the Queens celebrations group)

Acceptance of the Clerk's report was proposed by John Fellows and seconded by Kim Cresswell. All agreed.

b Budget

The Chairman and the Clerk had agreed the Parish Council's budget for 2017/18 would be as follows:

Total Spend £43,042
Less Localism Grant (BDC) £ 2,734
£40,308
Less one-off payment (BDC) £ 709
PRECEPT 2017-2018 £39,599

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It was agreed that overall the Parish Council Budget would be held at the previous year's level in order to maintain the existing levels of maintenance and service. The effect of this will result in an increase in the Village element of Council Tax due to the amount received from Braintree District Council being reduced.

Acceptance of the budget for 2017-2018 was proposed by Kerry Barnes and seconded by Ian Westrope. All agreed.

5135

Miscellaneous Correspondence

- a Spam problems have been received concerning the comments@steplebumpstead-pc.gov.uk form. Fortunately, Steve Cheek has been looking into this for the Parish Council. Many thanks.
- b A television production company has been in contact with the Parish Council concerning a programme about 90 Year Old Drivers.
- c District Councillor Diana Garrod is able to award small grants to any Parish Council in her ward of Bumpstead totalling £1,500 per year.
- d Cloth nappies are being advocated by Essex County Council.
- e The Local Highways Panel is meeting on 19 January 2017.

5136

Information Sharing

- a Kerry Barnes said he had sited a new Fido Bin on the telegraph pole along Finchingfield Road.
- B John Fellows said there was a lot of overhanging vegetation along pavements in the village making it difficult for wheelchair users and buggy pushers. Could we please print some leaflets to be put through offenders doors. Chairman said, leave it to him. **CC to action**

5137 Next Meeting – Thursday 9 February 2017 at 7.30pm in the Moot Hall.

5138 There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.02pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

DRAFT