

## **RINGSHALL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of Ringshall Parish Council held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.30pm in Ringshall Village Hall.

### Public Forum:

County Councillor Anne Whybrow circulated her report prior to the meeting and stressed the importance of the school travel consultation which closes on February 28<sup>th</sup>. The report also included details of the fully funded first time central heating systems for Suffolk residents, Suffolk as one of the 10 pilot areas for 100% business rates and the additional £21 million found for road repairs throughout the county. Cllr Whybrow confirmed to Mr Kemp that she will forward the necessary documentation to Peter Watson for funding new Speedwatch signs and reflective waistcoats.

District Councillor David Whybrow reported on the future of Mid Suffolk and Babergh councils, Mid Suffolk's support for plans to curb plastic bottles and packaging waste and Mid Suffolk's signing up to the Woodland Trust's tree charter. Cllr Whybrow concluded his report with a reminder about the availability of the Locality funding.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from James Phoenix.

Mr Nigel Last did not attend the meeting and no apologies were received.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

#### 3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on November 16<sup>th</sup> 2017

The minutes were approved as a true copy and duly signed and dated by the Chairman.

#### 4. To receive a financial report, review the budget and set the precept for financial year 2018/19

The Clerk reported the following balances:

Community Account: £ 763.48

Business Saver Account: £ 9434.54

Since the last meeting the invoice for £21.60 in respect of six months payroll service from SALC was paid together with the clerk's salary and expenses to 30 November 2017 totalling £608.30. Expenses included printing costs, postage and contribution to telephone calls and totalled £8.30. Payment was approved.

The Clerk had circulated the budget proposals for the financial year 2018/19 and explained that the audit fee is as yet unknown as the external audit will now be undertaken by PKF Little John. The clerk will be attending a briefing at the SALC offices on January 30<sup>th</sup> with regard to the new External Audit requirements where further information should be available. After some discussion regarding the possibility of extra expenditure the budget was approved and Mrs Jones proposed that the precept be set at £7000, seconded by Mrs Benton and unanimously agreed. This figure is an increase of £400 on the last financial year and gives the parish a Council Tax Band D amount of £28.67, an increase of 6.15% on 2017/18. The precept form was duly completed and signed by the Chairman, two councillors and the parish clerk.

5. To discuss a speed reduction scheme at Ringshall School

Nothing further had been heard regarding this. The clerk will remind Highways.

6. To discuss any village hall management committee matters

Mr Kemp advised councillors that Martin Snowling had stood down as chairman at the AGM in November and this role has been taken by Brian Robertson with Mrs Liz Hitchcock as vice-chairman. Two new committee members have been appointed, Rob Stainer and Peter Watson. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr Snowling thanking him for all the time and effort he put in during his term of office.

7. To discuss planning matters

A meeting of Development Control B Committee will take place at Endeavour House on 31 January to discuss planning application DC/17/05561 The Old Rectory, Ringshall.

8. To discuss the Speedwatch Scheme

Mr Kemp reported that since the last meeting, two sessions have taken place on Lower Farm Road, one of which was on a Saturday morning and resulted in sixteen vehicles recorded above 35mph with one recorded at 46mph. Nothing further had been heard regarding the meetings between Peter Watson Ringshall School and Wattisham Airfield.

9. To discuss Highways matters

The Clerk had received a complaint regarding the parking of a vehicle on the footway outside Coromandel, Lower Farm Road, resulting in pedestrian having to walk into the road to get past. County Councillor Anne Whybrow offered to call at the property to discuss the matter. This was approved.

10. To discuss a residents' survey

Mrs Free will re-send her email with the proposed survey attached for councillors to approve or amend as appropriate.

11. To discuss the appointment of a Data Protection Officer

After some discussion as to the requirements of the role, it was agreed to put a piece in the parish magazine advertising the position. The clerk will also endeavour to find out what neighbouring parishes are doing to fill the role.

12. To discuss the litter pick

This will take place on Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 9.30am from the village hall. Mr Kemp volunteered to contact Wattisham Airfield asking for support in clearing Carters Lane and Ware Road. The clerk will obtain refuse sacks from MSDC.

13. Items for the next meeting

There were none.

14. To confirm the date of the next meeting

The clerk advised councillors that the village hall booking clerk had given the parish council dates for meetings for the coming year, some of which involve sharing the hall with Craft Club. It was agreed that this was not appropriate due to confidentiality issues, the clerk will find out if other dates are available.

**Post-minute note: March 20<sup>th</sup> is the only Tuesday available in March and will be shared with Craft Club.**