

**Minutes of Little Bealings Parish Council meeting held at Bealings Village Hall at 7.15pm on Monday 7 January 2019**

**Present:** Mrs M Wilson (Chairman), Ms D Head, Mr D Hunter, Mr I Ransome and Mr B Rufford

**Also Present:** District Councillor Colin Hedgley and seven residents for all/part of the meeting

**In attendance:** Mrs C Ramsden, Clerk to the Council

**1 Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests**

Apologies were received from Mrs T Cornish due to a family matter and Dr C Hopkins who had a prior commitment. It was **RESOLVED:**

- to accept the apologies for absence.

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

County Councillor Robin Vickery had also sent apologies that he was unable to attend.

**2 Public Participation Session**

A resident sought clarification that public speaking was only in relation to matters on the Agenda and was advised that this was so.

Two matters were raised:

**Grit Bins**

A local resident stated that he would be pleased to assist the local community where there was a lack of funding and to that end would be pleased to remove the broken grit bin at the Hall Road crossroads and, if the Council wished, to supply a new one.

**DC/18/5100/FUL: Erection of Detached Garage including Removal of Four Trees: The Chestnuts, Martlesham Road**

A neighbouring resident said that he fully supported the building of the garage, but was concerned about the felling of four mature trees. It was only necessary to fell two trees to carry out the development, and he was concerned that the 'shading problems' grounds given for felling the other two could set a precedent for the removal of many other trees in the area. He advised that the application contrarily stated that their removal would not affect the canopy, and therefore logically felling would not address a shading problem anyway.

He said that there had been a Tree Preservation Order protecting trees in the area for over 60 years, and their felling would be contrary to environmental considerations regarding loss of habitats and CO2 levels. He also challenged the accuracy of the arboricultural report describing a 'holly hedge' on the boundary, as he considered that there were mature holly and beech trees present which could not be described as forming a hedge (ie should therefore have the protection afforded by the TPO). He also drew attention to the names of many of the properties along Martlesham Road, and that trees and woodland were the defining characteristic of the area. He was concerned that the felling of the mature trees would be a threat to this character.

In response a relative of the applicant for the development said that one tree was proposed to be felled as it affected visibility onto the road. Others would improve the setting and visibility between the house and new garage. She advised that the trees had not been maintained for over thirty years, but the neighbour disagreed with this

and said that there had been regular maintenance on both his and this property, bearing in mind that pruning the trees would have encouraged strong regrowth.

### **3 Minutes of the Meetings held on 5 November and 17 December 2018**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5 November and to amend and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17 December as written.

### **4 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

### **5 Planning**

#### **5.1 DC/18/5100/FUL: Erection of Detached Garage including Removal of Four Trees: The Chestnuts, Martlesham Road**

The scope of the area Tree Preservation Order was noted and it was **RESOLVED**:

- that there was no objection to the erection of the garage but that the SCDC Landscape Officer be asked to undertake a site visit and exercise caution in determining whether it was necessary to fell all four trees to carry out the development.

#### **5.2 Previous Planning Applications Update**

##### **DC/18/4896/FUL: Creation of a New Access from the Highway: Bealings Holt, Martlesham Road**

SCDC had advised that objections to the application had triggered its consideration of whether the application should be put to the Planning Committee for determination, and asked if the Council wished to make a request for this, citing material planning reasons for its request.

District Councillor Colin Hedgley advised the Council that he had no grounds upon which to make representations against the application, given that the matter related to access to the highway and SCC, as highway authority, did not have any objection to it in principle.

It was considered that the applicant should have applied for the new access at the same time as seeking permission for the new dwelling at the property but **RESOLVED**:

- not to make any representations to SCDC.

##### **Sizewell C Consultation**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- not to consider the Stage 3 public consultation

##### **Sinks Pit**

It was noted that no reply had yet been received from SCC to date in respect of a meeting of all parties.

##### **SCDC Local Plan Review**

The Final Draft Local Plan had been approved for public consultation but no one was available to attend a SCDC presentation to parishes on 11 January.

## 6 Highways

### 6.1 SAVID

Ms Head advised that the AGM had taken place and elected a permanent chairman. A review of the constitution was underway and the group was likely to function in a more advisory capacity. Ms Head would circulate the AGM minutes to Councillors. The next meeting would be on 13 March and it was **RESOLVED**: DH

- that the Council would meet the cost of the hire of the Committee Room for the meeting, to a maximum of £15.

### 6.2 Grit Bin Removal

It was noted that SCC had agreed not to refill the grit bin at the Hall Road crossroads, but would not remove it. The Council was grateful to the resident who had offered to remove it. It was **RESOLVED**:

- that Mr Mark Ward be authorised by the Council to remove the grit bin and sand as a volunteer.

### 6.3 Martlesham Road

SCC had advised of works to Martlesham Road and The Street, which would include resurfacing. It was **RESOLVED**:

- to repeat the request to SCC that the previous hatching along Martlesham Road be replaced when the resurfacing was complete.

## 7 District and County Councillors' Reports

District Councillor Hedgley's report had been circulated to Councillors. He drew attention to the consultation on the Final Draft of the Local Plan. He expected to have funding from the Enabling Communities budget next year if there were projects for which the Council wished to ask for funding.

No report had been received from County Councillor Vickery, but Mr Hedgley commented on the proposed cuts by SCC to Citizen Advice Bureau budgets and advised the Council that it could make representations if it wished.

## 8 Police

### 8.1 First Tier Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 November had been circulated. The next meeting was on 10 January but it was not known if Mrs Cornish was able to attend.

### 8.2 School Parking

A meeting of SCDC and the School had taken place on 10 December. Both the School and SCDC had reported that the meeting had been positive and SCDC had advised that the School was doing all that it could to advise parents to park appropriately and to liaise with the Village Hall over use of the car park. The location meant that a 'green cone' system was not appropriate and it may be that there was no solution. SCDC would continue to liaise with the School.

District Councillor Hedgely advised that the lack of parking in the village had been discussed by the 'Save the Admiral's Head' group recently. He intended to ask County Councillors Mary Evans and Robin Vickery to visit and see the problem; he was advised that 3.10pm was the best time for this.

## 9 Finance

### 9.1 Bank Statement/Cheque Book Reconciliation for the Third Quarter

This had been undertaken by Mr Hunter and no issues had arisen.

### 9.2 Authorisation of Expenditure

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a replacement cheque be signed for PAYE for December
- the following expenditure be incurred:
  - Clerk's Salary for January and February
  - PAYE for January and February

A schedule of the above payments was signed by the Chairman and cheques were signed by Ms Head and the Chairman.

### 9.3 Income Received

£171 had been received from SCC, payment for P3 cutting of footpaths in 2018. VAT paid on expenditure during 2018 and totalling £325.58 had been claimed from HMRC.

## 10 Matters Arising from Circulated Items

It was noted that Mr Hopkins had circulated a report on his attendance at the East Suffolk Forum.

### 10.1 Any Raised by Councillors

There were no matters arising from circulated items.

## 11 Correspondence

### Clerks and Councils Direct

It was **RESOLVED**:

- that the editions for November 2018 and January 2019 be circulated to Councillors.

### Editorial for the Fynn-Lark News

The Chairman had been advised that the parish was due to write the editorial for the next edition, but no topic was proposed by Councillors.

**DC/19/0009/TPO: T2 – 3 sycamore to be felled, heavy shading and restricting garden use. T3 – 5 sycamore to be felled, heavy shading and restricting garden use. T4 – Oak; to be crown reduced by 2-3m to allow building works: Sunfield Cottage, Playford Road**

This application had just been received and comments to SCDC were due by 24 January. It was **RESOLVED**:

- that Councillors would view the application on line and advise if they wished the matter to be considered at a Council meeting to be arranged before 24 January.

## 12 Dates of Council Meetings Until March 2020

It was **RESOLVED**:

- that the Council would meet on:13 May (Annual Parish Council meeting), 1 July, 9 September and 4 November 2019 and on 6 January and 2 March 2020 (Annual Parish Meeting).

**13 Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council Meeting on 4 March 2019**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to ask local groups if they wished to speak, including the 'Save the Admiral's Head' group.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.