

SAXTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 28 February 2013 at Saxtead School of Dance at 19:30 hours

Present

Councillors George Cullingford (Chairman), Kevin Davis, Barry Mallion, Graham Ward, Kate Hoare (until 8.56pm), Anita Beamish, Lisa Handley (from 7.46pm). Also in attendance: Tony Hutt (Clerk), PCSO 3034 Christian Hassler. Three representatives of the Framlingham and District Development Trust were present (Mr J Speight, Mr D Griffith, Ms A Pickup). The meeting started at 7.40pm.

1 Apologies

ACTION

Cllr Colin Walker (SCDC); Cllr Handley (lateness), Cllr Hoare (leaving early).

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest or changes to the Register of Interests.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

Councillors confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2012 with no amendments.

Minute 21/2/12 Item 12c Asset Register: land at Little Green, Cllr Cullingford will enquire of nearby residents. Continued.

4 Public forum

a. **Suffolk County Council:** no report received.

b. **Suffolk Coastal District Council:** A report was received from Cllr Walker (email 25/2/13, forwarded to Cllrs 27/2/13) about the third Belles on Bikes Ladies Cycle Ride, to take place on Sunday 22nd September 2013 starting and finishing at the Castle Meadow, Framlingham, raising funds for an Ovarian Cancer Charity.

c. **Police:** written report received from PCSO 3034 Christian Hassler, filed with the minutes. PC Hassler drew attention to three crimes since the last report: a burglary in a barn or shed and two vehicle crimes (driving with excess alcohol) in Saxtead. Topical crime advice concerned catalytic converters, which are often silently removed from 4x4 and commercial vehicles, especially Toyotas, sometimes several in one night. Police ask the public to inform them of anything suspicious.

Cllr Cullingford asked about traffic speeding: a few months ago SID (Speed Indicator Display) was on the Green; was there a possibility of more frequent monitoring? PC Hassler said monitored data does not identify vehicles but goes into the database and can be requested by the Parish Council. If statistics show higher speeds than expected, the police may undertake speed monitoring or enforcement. Speed enforcement is not carried out in wet or icy conditions.

d. **Comments or questions from the public:** none.

5 **Framlingham Community Centre Project:** Cllr Cullingford introduced the representatives from the Framlingham and District Development Trust, whose chairman is Ms Pickup. Mr Speight described the project proposals and status. Following the failure of the previous scheme at St Michael's Rooms, the new project is being led by FDDT who wish to make it relevant and available to surrounding parishes. Two and a half years ago the Police announced their move to new premises and planning permission was obtained for four houses on the site, whose neighbours include the Scout/Guides, Pageant Field and the Sports and Social Club. However the Mills Charity bought the site and offered it for community facilities if a viable scheme could be prepared by 24/12/13. A working group from the three neighbours and the Town Council, chaired by MP Dr Dan Poulter, asked the Town Council to endorse a scheme in mid-2012. Ms Pickup explained that in July 2012 it was adopted by FDDT, formed originally to bid for the Drill Hall, after the St Michael's Rooms project failed, and obtained funding but failed to buy the Drill Hall and couldn't find an alternative venue for FAYAP; the new proposal fitted well into FDDT's broad objectives. The Sports Club gave extra land around the site for parking, and one-way traffic is possible. Concept plans were drawn up in December 2012 and are published at <http://fddt.onesuffolk.net>. The centre will complement existing halls at Dennington, Brandeston and Hacheston and will be about 35m square, possibly including business starter units. Costs will be £2.5m for both floors. About £1m funding is obtained so far. Questions followed. Cllr Hoare: what might prevent the project from succeeding. Mr Speight: the previous scheme did not manage to get full support. Funding bodies (ERDF, Sports Council and Lottery Fund) all have different criteria. Archery looks feasible.

Cllr Handley: what happens if there isn't enough money? Ms Pickup: there must be a sports facility

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included. We might be able to do all but the first floor, perhaps for £1.7m. A lift is included with the second floor. Mr Speight: some corners are already being cut.

Cllr Hoare: how can we support the project? Mr Griffith: the Lottery Fund are keen to see feedback from villages. We are not expecting answers now but a letter of support will be useful later, and positive endorsement. Views on what is needed would be appreciated now. We are going around groups now, such as WI and big organisations.

Cllr Cullingford: Village halls are struggling and some have spent a lot of money in building and refurbishment. Will this be bad for them? Ms Pickup: We are not trying to compete but to integrate. Lettings need the first floor.

Cllr Cullingford: The dental surgery and doctors' surgery in Framlingham are too small; will this centre be big enough? Ms Pickup: it would be nice to have a medical centre as well but the other bodies are not cooperating with this idea. We cannot get more land easily. However it could be used for physiotherapy, a baby clinic, blood donating (no suitable venue in Framlingham currently) and so on. Smart metering will be included.

Cllr Hoare: it would be nice to spend Section 106 money on it. Mr Speight: this is under discussion. Hopkins will not be building housing for another three years however.

Cllr Cullingford: What about the old fire station (Scout and Guide Hut)? Mr Speight: It's best to leave it as it is. SCDC have been told in outline. We need to agree plans with the Mills Charity before applying for planning permission.

Cllr Cullingford said the Parish Council will discuss it further at the next meeting. He has invited FDDT to the Annual Parish Meeting (Thursday 25 April).

Cllr Handley: what initial reaction have you had? Mr Speight: So far, so good. Some still say there are enough halls in Framlingham, however (Framlingham College, Athlone Hall, Thomas Mills, etc)—but they are only available at certain times.

Ms Pickup: A small note to Framlingham Town Council expressing support would help too.

Cllr Cullingford: What about a cinema? Mr Speight: Possibly. *(Cllr Handley left at this point)*

Cllr Cullingford thought it was too small. Mr Speight said it is in the right place and the last site left.

- 6 **Saxtead Toilets:** The Clerk wrote to David Gallagher, Head of Commercial Partnerships and Strategic Commissioning SCDC, on 31/1/13 (circulated to Cllrs) asking for the toilets to be opened every day as before, or failing that for the sign to be altered and for suitable security fencing to prevent misuse when closed. Mr Gallagher replied (25-2-13, circulated to Cllrs) to say the defective doors will be repaired, SCS attended the site on 24 October 2012 and the toilets were cleaned, and "I'm happy to arrange for a sign to be installed, advising the toilets are closed, as you've requested." This did not make it clear whether the toilets were going to be reopened after Easter or not. The Clerk tried to telephone Mr Gallagher to seek clarification but could not contact him. He will try again and ask about the fencing, and what exactly the signs will say. GW had a look recently: they seemed to be in pretty good condition.

Clerk

7 **Saxtead Green management:**

The Clerk wrote to Peter Ross, SCDC on 8/2/13 (circulated to Cllrs) seeking action on the flooded ditch, overgrowth and the ice cream van layby, and requesting a meeting with the relevant parties about the future management. Cllr Cullingford had telephoned him on 12/2/13 and Mr Ross replied to the Clerk (email 12/2/13) that as the drains are not part of the green, but affect the green, he needed to contact Roland Bull (Bidwells) and see what his view is on behalf of the landowner. The Clerk supplied him with contact details so he could arrange a site visit.

Regarding the proposed bench on Saxtead Green, Mr Bull had emailed the Clerk (5/2/13) with a map of the Green for him to indicate the proposed position of the bench. He also required some details as to the specification of the proposed concrete pad for the bench, and the Parish Council will be required to indemnify the College against any liabilities associated with the bench.

The Clerk had written to Framlingham College and Brandeston Hall on 2/2/13 about their advertising signs. A sign for the Framlingham College open day was still there; AB will email them.

AB

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The Clerk had established that both greens are registered as village greens and should be on the Common and Village Green Register at SCC offices in Ipswich. He would look at it if he could. This was not to do with ownership, but Cllr Cullingford said Mr Bull should have more information.

- 8 **Saxtead Green management:** Cllr Cullingford said Peter Ross (SCDC) had organised cutting hay on The Green for this year with the contractor used last year. SWT needed a wider time window to do it so it might be cut in June.

WAS had a walk planned for June provisionally with Stephen Massey (see newsletter Winter 2012-2013).

Cllr Cullingford will speak to Louise Yorke about including information in a letter to parishioners for the Annual Parish Meeting. However Cllr Davis thought a letter was unnecessary, and it was agreed instead to advertise in the Parish Magazine, Framfare, the noticeboards and the website. Other information considered was the launch of the *Little Book of Saxtead* (third week in March) and the FDDT project. It was decided not to arrange a litter pick this year owing to the poor support last year (only four people).

GC

Minute 20/9/11 5c Louisa to give a list of WAS members to Cllr Cullingford. Still outstanding

LY

- 9 **Highways and Footpaths:** Cllr Cullingford reported that repaired on Hollow Lane had been completed. He had also reported flooding near Foxearth Lodge, but nothing was likely to happen. Chapel Lane had been resurfaced, but a patch was missed; Cllr Cullingford would report it.

GC

10 **Clerk's Report** (a copy is filed with the minutes)

- a. Urgent decisions/actions since the last meeting: none.
- b. 2013 SALC area meeting dates: 18/3, 17/6, 16/9, 9/12 All at Riverside Centre main hall
- c. Bank Accounts There was no reply or even acknowledgement to the Clerk's letter to Barclays 18/1/13 complaining about stopping cheques without instruction and asking for an apology. The next step might be a formal complaint. No statements had been received on SAF Bus saver account since 16/7/12 (missing Oct 12, Jan 13), and no statements on SAF Community account since 11/1/12 (missing Jan 13). Barclays wanted to close these two accounts owing to inactivity. The Clerk to check that these accounts, and after some trouble I believe I stopped it, but I need to chase that up to see what's happened.
- d. Unity Trust Bank Rendlesham PC are now using them and another PC, and Debenham PC who currently use Barclays have also had a lot of trouble and might change.
- e. Recycling The Clerk is trying to get information on recycling "bring site" at Foxearth updated; it seems to be SCC responsibility to update the websites (email to SCC 7/2/13). No reply yet.
- f. Website: Saxtead Green Management Recommendations (Sep 11) is added for public access. Planning information is kept up to date.
- g. www.bealocalhero.co.uk A new website from SCC promoting volunteering, being a councillor and community activism.
- h. Genealogy query 12/2/13 from Bryant Everard from Buffalo, New York: the Clerk sent him details of the Suffolk Records Office, church contacts, etc. and useful genealogy links. He is visiting in September 2013 and had ancestors from Saxtead in 16th C.
- i. Cat assistance AB said the lady was to visit hospital on 4 January but had heard no more.

11 **Planning applications and notifications**

- a. New planning applications and tree works notifications: none received.
- b. The following determinations were noted:

C12/00148/TCA Tree Work Initial Consultation (TCA) Boundary Farm, Saxtead Road, Framlingham IP13 9PZ. Sycamore (TG1) - fell; Poplar (T4) - Fell. SCDC's decision was to **grant** the tree work (13/12/12).

C/12/1669 and **C/12/1670** Little Green Farm, Worlds End Road IP13 9QY: Alterations and additions to include demolition of existing 1970s extension, the erection of a replacement extension, entrance porch and the conversion of an existing barn for residential use ancillary to the existing Grade II Listed farmhouse. **Permission and LBC granted** by SCDC on 16 January 2013.
- c. Any other planning matters:

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- Core Strategy & Development Management Policies - Modifications (Dec 2012) to the Pre-Submission Suffolk Coastal Core strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (The Core Strategy). This is open for public consultation until 05/04/2013 04:45 PM. See <http://suffolkcoastal.jdi-consult.net/ldf/> for the consultation documents and online comment facility.

12 Correspondence

A list of correspondence is filed with the minutes. No items were specifically mentioned.

13 Financial matters

a. Report: The Council's financial position was reported as follows:-

The Council's financial position was reported as follows:-

- After adjustments for unrepresented cheques and the approval of invoices received, the Council had a balance of **£1,229.01** in its current account
- The Council's deposit account had a balance of £294.59, making a total of Parish Funds of **£1,523.60** (44% of total 2012/13 precept).
- No statements received since July for the Saxtead Amenities Fund accounts (not part of Parish Council funds), when they stood at **£1,100.91**.

b. Receipts: none. The second half of the precept would be paid in April.

c. Payments: The council **approved** payment of the following invoices:-

- £ 248.26 Clerk's Salary (Dec 2012 - Jan 2013) less tax/NI
- £ 62.00 Post Office Ltd: HMRC Tax/NI (paid quarterly, Q4 2012/13)
- £ 31.77 Clerk's expenses (mileage, postage)
- £ 24.00 Saxtead School of Dance for 13/12/12 and 28/2/13

d. Donation requests: Disability advice service, 27/2/13. The PC donated £39 last year 27-Mar-12. They estimate £178 for this area now, with 34 enquiries from Saxtead PC area in the last year. A donation of £50 was agreed.

Clerk

e. Banking: The Clerk said a resolution will be needed at a meeting if the PC decided to change to Unity Trust Bank, but it was agreed to wait until the year end and see how Framsdon got on.

14 Urgent matters and matters for information: none.

15 Date of next meeting: confirmed as **Thursday 28 March 2013 (7.30pm)**. Provisional dates are: Thursday 25 April 2013 (Annual Parish Meeting), Thursday 23 May 2013 (Annual Parish Council Meeting). All at 7.30pm at Saxtead School of Dance IP13 9QP. The meeting closed at 9.28pm.