

POLSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19th November 2009 in Polstead Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Nick Brandt (Chairman), Amanda Flather, Michael Hackford, Richard Kilshaw, Anne Macwilson and Theresa Ravensdale.

Attending: Dave Crimmin (Clerk), Sue Wigglesworth (Babergh District Councillor), David Yorke-Edwards (Suffolk County Councillor) and one member of the public - Richard Sandford.

09/023 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr John Baxter who is away on business and from PCSO Colman.

09/024 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Brandt declared a personal and prejudicial in item 09/029 a as he owned the property and Cllr Hackford declared a personal and prejudicial in item 09/029 b a as he adjoined the property. Both councillors left the meeting while their item was discussed

09/025 Minutes of Meeting held on 15th October 2009

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

09/026 Reports from County and District Councillors and Suffolk Constabulary

The reports are contained in Appendix A.

09/027 Reports and Question from Councillors

- Cllr Hackford raised his concern at the scale of the Hadleigh bus station redevelopment. David Yorke-Edwards explained that the costs were not as high as had been suggested.

09/028 Reports and Questions from Parishioners

There were no questions raised.

09/029 Planning

- a. The councillors reviewed Planning Application **B/09/01201 Spring Lodge, Mill Street** - remove 10 no. Cypress/ Conifer tree and agreed that they had no objections.
- b. The councillors reviewed the appeal against the refusal of Planning Application **B/09/0567 D'Arcy Cottage, Rockalls Road** and agreed that no further comments were required and the Clerk to request a copy of the decision from the Planning Inspectorate.
- c. A further planning application had been received after the Agenda was posted. The councillors reviewed Planning Application **B/09/01333 Sprotts Farm, Holt Road** - request for an extension to the time limit condition attached to OPP B/08/00319 and agreed that they had no objections.
- d. The status of previous applications, reviewed by PPC were as follows:

Application Reference	Address	Planning Details	PPC Minute	Parish Council Comments	Babergh DC Comments
B/08/01928/FUL	Boxford (Suffolk) Farms including Areas 1-12 Hill Farm Brick Kiln Hill Polstead	Retention and erection of polytunnels for horticultural use on a rotational basis (polytunnels to be assembled and disassembled as required by crop rotations.) Maximum of 10 hectares of erected polytunnels at any one time on land occupied by Boxford (Suffolk) Farms Ltd (as indicated in the application)		Difficult to find a technical planning objection but PPC has the greatest reservations of the spread of this kind of industrialised agriculture in Suffolk & its impact on the landscape	
B/09/01100	Corders House Polstead Hill	Reduction in size by 25% to 1 no. Chestnut Tree	09/007 a	No Objections	Permission Granted 19/10/2009
B/08/01928/FUL	Boxford (Suffolk) Farms including Areas 1-12 Hill Farm Brick Kiln Hill Polstead	Retention and erection of polytunnels for horticultural use on a rotational basis (polytunnels to be assembled and disassembled as required by crop rotations.) Maximum of 10 hectares of erected polytunnels at any one time on land occupied by Boxford (Suffolk) Farms Ltd (as indicated in the application)	09/007 b	Difficult to find a technical planning objection but PPC has the greatest reservations of the spread of this kind of industrialised agriculture in Suffolk and its impact on the landscape	
B/09/01139/FUL	Polstead Touring Park Holt Road Polstead CO6 5BZ	Erection of single storey extension to existing shower and toilet block.	09/007 c	No Objections	
B/09/01121/FUL	Land east of The Garden Cottage Hadleigh Road Polstead	Change of use of agricultural land to menage.	09/007 c	No Objections	

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09/030 Finance

- a. All cheques signed and due for signing, as itemised in Appendix B, were authorised by the councillors. The councillors also noted the income received since the last meeting.
- b. The councillors reviewed the budget proposed for 2010 / 11 (Appendix C) and resolved by a majority to set the Precept for 2010 / 11 to £11,770 which will be an increase of 6%.

09/031 Highways and Footpaths

The Permitted Footpath Agreement for the footpath between Rockalls Road and FP35 has now been executed by Suffolk County Council (SCC). The Chairman updated the councillors on the meeting he held with Kevin Verlander of SCC and Mrs LeVoi in late October which agreed the line of the new footpath as well as the repositioning of the kissing-gate and the removal of the stock gate. SCC agreed to pay for the clearance work of the site, which they requested PPC to arrange, and the kissing gate repositioning which SCC will arrange.

It was discovered after the completion of the clearance work that the wrong boundary line had been defined but a subsequent meeting between the Chairman and Mr & Mrs LeVoi had redressed this issue. The Chairman has agreed with Mr & Mrs LeVoi to make good and damage to their boundary. A communication from Mrs LeVoi dated 17th November confirmed her agreement to the Chairman's offer and she requested that Cllr Kilshaw develop the plans for the replacement scheme.

Cllr Kilshaw outlined the issues caused during the site clearance and proposed the remedial actions required. The councillors resolved the following:

- a. Steps be taken to protect the holly tree and to plant saplings in the southern area of the path where appropriate
- b. That wire be fixed to delimit the boundary between the parish and Mr & Mrs LeVoi's property at the southern end of the new path
- c. That Cllr Kilshaw take charge of the project in liaison with Mr & Mrs LeVoi
- d.** That a budget not exceeding £250 be set for the work **Highways Act 1980 ss 43, 50**
- e. That the north-west and south-east ends of the "diagonal path" be closed by Cllr Kilshaw.

The councillors resolved that a dog bin coloured green be installed at the entrance to the allotments, by the gate, at a cost of £125 via Babergh District Council. **Litter Act 1982 ss 5, 6**
The councillors resolved to settle the invoice for £270 for the clearance work undertaken by Mr Coulson, and to write to Kevin Verlander at SCC to have this payment reimbursed.

09/032 Hog Roast 2010

The councillors agreed that the date for next year's Hog Roast should be Sunday 29th August 2010 subject to all the suppliers be able to meet the date. The Chairman will check with suppliers and report back to next meeting.

09/033 Bus Shelter

The councillors reviewed the report from Simon Barnett on the options for a bus shelter. The councillors agreed to review the option for installing a shelter on the triangular piece of land by the Cock Inn which would service the school bus users. The Clerk was requested to establish from SCC if the parish council can undertake this work via an agreement.

09/034 Carse Pond

After reviewing the report from Cllr Baxter on a proposal for the work at Carse Pond, which was estimated to be in the region of £5,000, the councillors agreed to adjourn this project until the resolution of the Bus Shelter project. The Clerk to write to Richard Cottee, Area Contracts Director for J Breheny Contractors, to thank him for the advice.

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09/035 National Grid proposals for a power line between Bramford and Twinstead

National Grid have agreed to PPC's request to hold a public exhibition at Polstead Village Hall on 5th February 2010 from 12pm to 9pm. The Clerk to confirm with National Grid that the Chairman's request for the last hour of the exhibition to be in a Q&A format is agreed. The councillors noted the correspondence from Mrs Helen Parker on the proposals. The councillors resolved to circulate to every household in January with details relating to the exhibition and ways in which residents can let PPC know their views on the proposals ahead of the PPC meeting in February where the council will agree its response.

09/036 BT proposal for PPC to adopt red telephone kiosks

After reviewing that the telephony would be removed from the kiosks if PPC adopted a kiosk, the councillors agreed that they did not wish to adopt under this condition. Whilst the councillors did not support the retention of all kiosks in the village, it would help to analyse the usage figures provided by BT for Hadleigh Heath and Polstead Heath if the telephones were functioning, which they are not.

The Clerk to write to BDC requesting that the retention of the Polstead Hill kiosk be supported on the grounds of distance to other public call boxes, poor mobile coverage in the village, social housing requirements and the emergency use for playing field, playground, picnic area and vicinity to pond. The Clerk will also request that the usage of the other 2 kiosks be measured when the telephony is working.

09/037 BDC Community Achievement Awards

The councillors did not have a nomination for this year's awards but felt that Richard Sandford should be thanked for his excellent work on the development of the Polstead website.

09/038 Correspondence Received (Appendix D)

There were no actions required after reviewing the correspondence.

09/039 Chairman and Clerk's Reports (Appendix E)

The Chairman met the Police to discuss the issues surrounding this year's Polstice. The Police plan to be present at the 2010 event, if held, and will meet organisers ahead of the day to review plans. Following a review of the Clerk's Report there were no further actions required.

09/040 Future Agenda Items and Date of next meeting

- Bus Shelter
- National Grid
- Rockalls Road to FP35
- Re-adoption of playing field by PPC
- PPC process for non-routine maintenance projects.

The next meeting will be on the 21st January 2010 in Polstead Village Hall starting at 7.45pm.

The meeting closed at 10.40pm.

Appendix A County, District and Suffolk Constabulary reports and Public Forum

Sue Wigglesworth reported that BDC are working with other local authorities to try to resolve the budget deficits' predicted over the next 3 years. For BDC alone this will exceed £1 million per year. It is a possibility that a number of local authorities across Suffolk will merge services such as refuse collection and benefits at an operational level. David Yorke-Edwards has spoken at the SCC cabinet meeting against the proposal to put incinerator waste in the pits at Layham but the proposal is still part of SCC Waste strategy. The police report showed two incidents in the village in the last month, the possession of cannabis and the theft of a trailer.