

**POLSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011 in Polstead Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Nick Brandt (Chairman), Anne MacWillson, Nick Palmer and William Shadbolt.

**Attending:** David Yorke-Edwards (Suffolk County Councillor) and Dave Crimmin (Clerk).

**11/134 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Cllrs Baxter, Flather and Patrick, who are away on holiday, Sue Wigglesworth (Babergh District Councillor) and PCSO Coleman.

**11/135 Declaration of Interests**

None were declared.

The Chairman reported the passing of Elsie Braybrooke and agreed the wording of the council's article for the newsletter.

**11/136 Minutes of Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2011**

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

**11/137 Reports from County and District Councillors and Suffolk Constabulary**

The reports are contained in Appendix A.

**11/138 Reports and Question from Councillors**

No issues were raised.

**11/139 Reports and Questions from Parishioners**

No issues were raised.

**11/140 Planning**

- a. No planning applications had been received since the agenda was posted.
- b. Cllr Brandt reported on the meeting with BDC Enforcement that he and the Clerk had attended regarding Scotland Place Farm. Following the meeting BDC and the farmer have met and agreed a way forward to resolve the issues.
- c. The status of planning applications, enforcement referrals and appeals previously reviewed by PPC were as follows:

Application Reference	Address	Planning Details	PPC Minute	Parish Council Comments	Babergh DC Comments
B/11/00210/FUL	Bower House Farm, Bower House Tye	Erection of agricultural workers dwelling, farm office and wash area.	11/044 a	No Objections.	
B/11/00210/FUL	Bower House Farm, Bower House Tye	Additional information in relation to Planning Application	11/061 b	No impact on previous resolution.	
APP/D3505//A/1 1/2153501/NWF	Brendacot, Heath Road	Appeal against refusal of B/11/00095/FUL for the erection of two-storey dwelling and garage/workshop building (following demolition of existing single-storey dwelling).	11/102 b	No further points and requested copy of decision.	
B/11/00755/FHA	Mayflower, Stackwood Road	Erection of garage and store room including associated landscaping.	11/120 a	No Objections.	Permission Granted 11/08/2011
B/11/00750/FHA	The Ride, Straight Road	Erection of single-storey front and rear extensions.	11/120 b	No Objections.	Permission Granted 24/08/2011
B/11/00770/CEU	Four Acres, Stackwood Road	Application for a Certificate of an Existing Use - Occupation of residential dwelling in non-compliance with condition 3 of approved planning permission S/66/646/C	11/120 c	No Objections.	
B/11/00827/FHA	Woodfield, Stackwood Road	Erection of detached double garage (amended scheme to that approved under planning permission B/10/01027/FHA).	11/120 c	No Objections.	Permission Granted 19/08/2011

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#### 11/141 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 and reviewed the Statement of Accounts against the budget and the Bank Statements against the reconciliation
- b. The councillors resolved to authorise the additional grass cutting in the churchyard at an additional cost of £199.50. **LGA 1972 s 214**

#### 11/142 Highways and Footpaths

- a. The councillors resolved to authorise Cllr Baxter to apply for a Public Sector Mapping Agreement on behalf of the council.
- b. The councillors resolved to hire D. Coulson at a cost of £25 to clear two fallen trees on the footpath at Dollops Wood and FP35 **Highways Act 1980 ss 43, 50**. The councillors are to prepare a list of stiles that require attention for review at the next meeting. Cllr MacWillson to discuss issue of ploughing footpaths with a local landowner. The footpath between Mill Lane and Stone Street has been cleared.

#### 11/143 Diamond Jubilee

Cllr Brandt reported that it has been agreed that PPC will run the Diamond Jubilee events on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. PPC will hold a Village v Richard Davey's Invitation XI cricket match on the Sunday afternoon followed by a hog roast, both events being held at Rockalls Hall. Portable toilets have now been booked and a second field, alongside the cricket field, is to be made available for children's games, pastimes etc.

The councillors resolved to employ the services of Beany for the evening at a cost of £250. **LGA 1972 s 144**. The councillors will look at providing a beacon to mark the Jubilee celebrations.

#### 11/144 Local Housing Needs Survey

The councillors reviewed the plan (Appendix C) for the distribution and collection of the local housing needs survey to be undertaken in November and resolved to its adoption. The covering letter, newsletter article and publicity leaflet were agreed by the councillors.

#### 11/145 National Grid

The councillors resolved that Cllr Palmer represent PPC at the Community Forum being created by National Grid.

#### 11/146 BDC's Budget Challenge consultation

The councillors reviewed the report submitted by Sue Wigglesworth on the issues relating to BDC's Budget for the next 3 years. The councillors agreed to the following response being sent in reply.

"Before filling vacancies caused by retirement or otherwise consider whether the person's function was necessary or merely desirable. Again consider whether the person's function could not be spread among others, without causing undue stress or overload. Recruit or not accordingly.

Likewise in relation to any project or item of expenditure, consider whether it is necessary or merely desirable. If the latter, bin it at least for the time being. For example when lending out litter picking equipment is a 4 page essay on how to pick up litter really necessary?

Avoid where possible navel gazing more politely known as bureaucratic activity. The recent fiascos, at great cost in time, energy and resources, of unitary councils and council amalgamations, provide excellent examples of this genre.

If the budget does not balance then have the courage to put up the council tax. It is the least unfair and least discriminatory method of raising revenue."

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### **11/147 SCC's Mobile Libraries**

The councillors agreed that the mobile library service still appears to be used by Polstead residents. It is hoped that SCC can continue the service as frequently as possible despite its budgetary constraints.

### **11/148 BDC's meeting with Town & Parish Councils**

The councillors resolved that Cllrs Brandt and Patrick represent PPC at Babergh's meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

### **11/149 Correspondence Received (Appendix D)**

Following a review of the correspondence the councillors resolved to let Hadleigh High School use the playing field for their sponsored walk on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

### **11/150 Chairman and Clerk's Reports (Appendix E)**

The Chairman did not have anything else to report. Following a review of the Clerk's report the councillors requested the Clerk to see if Boxford Parish Council is aware of the missing dog bin in White Street Green. If the dog bin cannot be located the councillors resolved that the Clerk arrange a replacement with a budget of £150 set. *Litter Act 1983 ss 5, 6*

### **11/151 Future Agenda Items**

- Stiles requiring attention
- 2012 Diamond Jubilee
- Standing Orders
- Local Housing Needs Survey
- Christmas Carols.

### **11/152 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on the Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in Polstead Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

**The meeting closed at 9.00pm.**

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

David Yorke-Edwards reported that SCC had secured the future of libraries within the county with a 30% reduction in running costs; the recruitment process now being underway for a new Chief Executive; the "Energy from Waste" site is now being developed; the opening of the new Fire Services training facility.

In the absence of the Police the Clerk read their report "There have been no reported crimes since your last meeting on the 21st July."

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**Appendix B RFO Report  
Receipts & Payments**

Date	Details	Ref	Power	Receipts	Payments
22/07/11	B Patrick - Footpath maint	101561	Highways Act 1980 ss 43, 50	0.00	85.00
22/07/11	DM Witt - Footpath maint	101562	Highways Act 1980 ss 43, 50	0.00	60.00
12/08/11	SCC - P3 Grant			97.26	0.00
18/08/11	M Davies - Footpath maint	101563	Highways Act 1980 ss 43, 50	0.00	50.00
23/08/11	BDC - Recycling			30.00	0.00
15/09/11	DF Crimmin - Salary July to Sept	101564	LGA 1972 s 112	0.00	775.44
15/09/11	DF Crimmin - WFHA	101564	LGA 1972 s 112	0.00	39.00
15/09/11	HMRC - Clerk Tax	101565	LGA 1972 s 112	0.00	193.80
15/09/11	SLCC - Clerk's Annual Sub	101566	LGA 1972 s 143	0.00	38.84
15/09/11	DF Crimmin - Expenses Mar to August	101567	LGA 1972 s 112	0.00	270.00

Signed .....

Date.....