

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NEWBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Held on 1st December 2014

Present: Peter Waller (Chair), Jim Wicks, Michael Frost, Jan Carlton, Carrie Risdale, Sue Pollard, Lionel Scott, Peter Smyth

In attendance: Paul Smith (Pc) Stephen Baddeley (Cso) - Suffolk Constabulary

Public question time. There being no members of the public in attendance the Chair duly opened the meeting at 19.30 hrs.

1. **Apologies for absence:**, Colin Moore (Clerk), Cllr Patricia O'Brien
2. **Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest:** None
3. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 3rd November 2014.** The minutes were **approved** without amendment and signed by the Chair.
4. **Suffolk Police update.** - The officer present informed the council that there were no reported crimes during November.
5. **County and District councillor's reports - Patricia O'Brien** (County Councillor) had forwarded her written reports which outlined a meeting at SCC with the Roads Minister, Claire Perry who indicated that funding had been made available for new rolling stock on Eastern Region. She also reported making £1,000 available from the Community Enabling Budget for the Revelry.
6. **Action points - None outstanding**
7. **Planning - None received**
8. **Finance**
 - a) Clearance of cheques for payment. Payment of all pending expenditure transactions (list attached to these minutes) **agreed** and cheques signed.
 - b) Budget update. The chairman reported that there had been a national agreement to increase Clerk's pay scales by 2.2% which equated to 19p.p.h which would add £45 p.a to the budget. The matter was discussed and - **Adopted**
 - c) Review of current (2014/15) budget – The Chair presented two updated quotes one for trimming the front hedge and verge the other for cutting the hedge to the right of the play area. Both had costings one for the village hall the other for the Revelry. After discussion it was agreed to proceed – **Agreed**

There was detailed discussion from which the following points emerged

- To investigate if village hall rebuild costs could be reduced to save the overall insurance premium Peter S agreed to do some on line research in this area It was agreed to continue support of the village hall with a payment of £400 towards insurance costs – **Agreed**.
- Whilst the parish council had been advised of the £1,000 grant from the Community Enabling Budget this was a one off payment and future maintenance would need to be incorporated in the Council budget.
- The possibility of the Play Area being administered by a management body which could possibly obtain further funding by applying for charitable status.

- The difficulties encountered by smaller villages and the impacted on funds of the council, the village hall and the Revelry. Each needed to maintain some reserves and any major action by one group could impact on the others.
- Reserves, to be subject to review when deciding the precept level which could allow for stepped precept increases rather than one large increase.

The clerk would be asked to prepare options for councillor consideration at the January meeting when the precept would be decided in order to meet SCDC deadlines.

9. Clerks report and correspondence

- a) **Bus Services 174 & 179 – L.S.** will investigate if SCC have any other options for rural area transport, such as Dial-a-Ride for those who do not have access to a car. - **Response noted.**
- b) **Sustainability Appraisal Scoping** – The **report** from SCDC was very detailed and complex and any reply would require considerable commitment therefore - **Noted.**

10. Revelry

- a) Update provided on maintenance issues - Zip wire ride and Sand Pit.
- b) Peter S has agreed to carry out inspections and reported that he had completed one earlier that day with photographic records.
- c) The chairman thanked Carrie R and Peter S for their work in submission of the application which achieved the £1,000 grant from SCDC.

11. Web Site Update. Peter Smyth reported further updates and additional material now on the web site. He also outlined budgetary savings that could be achieved in relation to the current £360 printing cost of the Newbourne Newsletter if this was placed on the website as a PDF file. It was agreed that this would be investigated further with the Newsletter editor's views being sought. The chairman thanked Peter S for his work in relation to the web site which was ongoing. **Noted**

12. Village Hall report – Noted. Sue Pollard agreed to provide an estimate of likely expenditure for next year. **Noted.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.10.

Chair, 5th January 2015