

Minutes of Kettleburgh Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13 January 2010

Present: Cllrs J Bater, T Chase, R Durbin, D Harris (chair), P Garland, T Jessop, V Neilson.

The Parish Clerk was in attendance. Peter Bellfield (SCC) and four members of the public were present.

The Chairman noted the adverse weather conditions and warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting. As there were no comments for the Open session, the Parish Council meeting began.

ACTION

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Chase declared an interest in agenda item 5: planning application C09/1879.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr. G Weeks, SCDC Cllr Bob Snell, PCSO Christian Hassler.
3. **MINUTES** of the meetings held on 11 and 25 November 2009 were approved and signed.

4. **REPORTS FROM SUFFOLK COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILS AND SUFFOLK POLICE**

SCC Cllr Peter Bellfield:

- Gritting: the recent spell of snowy weather and icy roads has challenged the provision of adequate salt and grit on our roads. Two occasions when gritting did not take place on the A12 (a priority 1 route) were noted, but the problem is now with a national shortage of salt. Even with a delivery of 1700 tonnes of salt, only priority 1 roads will be gritted. There will be no reduction in Council Tax rates to compensate for this reduced service to priority 2 and other roads. Concern was expressed by a parishioner about the treacherous state of pavements in Framlingham: there is a need to lobby Central Government to override the current fears of being sued if a pavement has been treated and an accident occurs. SCC has discussed the possibility of donating gritting bins to parishes, so that named volunteers can spread grit. Any grit heaps that need replacing should be notified to SCC.
- Local Government reorganisation (see item 7)
- Audit Commission assessment: Suffolk is a 3* council (this new category is in fact higher than the previous 4*). Suffolk is the only County to be awarded three Green Flags and has been shortlisted for an award for creating the greenest county.
- Pension fund: the current deficit on the SCC pension fund would need a 31% employer contribution to maintain levels, but with new criteria for assessment, there should be little or no change in the SCC's contribution.
- Council tax: the SCC portion of council tax will show an increase of less than 3%

JC

SCDC Cllr Bob Snell: *(read out by the Clerk)*

- Local Government reorganisation (see item 7)
- Local Development Framework: the draft Core Strategy is to be submitted to the Council's Community, Customer and Partners Scrutiny Committee on 21 January 2010, to examine the proposals as part of the Council's wider policy framework. The special meetings of Cabinet and Full Council will take place on 10 February and 8 March 2010 at Trinity Park Showground at 7:00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend.
- Three bin roll out: The final phase of Suffolk Coastal's greener waste collection services is set to be rolled out to remaining homes this March, so every household in the district will now benefit from improved recycling and waste collection services.
- Refuse collections: SCDC contractors spent the first part of this week catching up with all the bin collections that were missed last Thursday and Friday because of the severe weather conditions as well as doing this week's scheduled collections.
Brown bin collections have been suspended, as their contents are frozen into the bins and they will now be emptied on their next scheduled collection date, weather permitting.
Residents who were due a collection and haven't had one yet should leave their rubbish and recycling out, as all scheduled collections, including brown bins, should be back to normal from tomorrow.

PCSO Christian Hassler: *(read out by the Clerk)*

- From 11 November to 12 January there were three reported crimes in the Kettleburgh area:
 1. Distraction burglary on 15 December
 2. Criminal damage to a hedge on 15 December
 3. Further damage to same hedge on 28 December
- Speeding and Parking concerns: during speed checks conducted in The Street on 10 December between 12:55 and 13:55, two verbal warnings and one fixed penalty notice were issued.
- Crime Prevention Advice: Check and verify the identification of unknown callers. If someone wants to gain access, ask for ID and verify before allowing them to enter. Close the door and call 999 if you suspect them to have fraudulent intent. A large sum of money was recently stolen by a man posing as a police officer checking for counterfeit bank notes.

5. PLANNING DECISIONS FROM SCDC

C09/1719: Kettleburgh Village Hall – insertion of new external kitchen door. **APPROVED**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

C09/1879 - 3 Lings Field – Erection of first floor extension and single storey rear extension and new façade to existing dwelling. **SUPPORTED**

Plans were studied and Councillors expressed no objections to the proposed extension, stating that the design was sympathetic to the dwelling and improved the overall appearance of the building.

C09/1842 - Red House Farm – Erection of conservatory to rear/side of property. **SUPPORTED**

The new owner, Mike Brett, was welcomed to the meeting and invited to speak. The proposed conservatory will be of timber construction, replacing a lean-to; it will not be in view of any other property and will improve the internal layout, by linking the kitchen and dining room. Councillors were happy to support this application. The Clerk will inform SCDC of these decisions.

JC

6. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Cllr Jessop reported that the 'Pre-submission consultation on Waste Core Strategy Submission Draft and accompanying Final Sustainability Appraisal Report' received by the Parish Council seeks comments on the legal compliance and soundness of the document and forms the last round of consultation. It is not of direct relevance to Kettleburgh.

7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The legal challenge to the Boundary Committee (BC) made by SCDC has been defeated. An appeal would be extremely costly, but this process may be set in motion with the intent of delaying the implementation of any decision made by the Secretary of State (S of S). The S of S now has to take a decision on whether:

1. To implement the original (2006/7) Ipswich proposal, with or without modification.
2. To implement either of the two alternative BC proposals (a county unitary authority or a two-unitary pattern comprising Ipswich & Felixstowe and Rural Suffolk), with or without modification.
3. To take no action – maintaining the status quo.

The Parish Council's response to the BC's final recommendations will revisit our original submission, expressing our preference for no change and restating our concerns over:

- The devolving of power to town and parish councils.
- The lack of elected representatives on 'Community Boards'.
- The potential disproportionate levels of service between Felixstowe/Ipswich and rural Suffolk if that option were to be chosen.
- The lack of detail in the implementation of a unitary council (only to be confirmed when such a council exists).

Cllr Jessop will produce a response to meet the 19 January deadline and circulate it for comment before sending it.

TJ

8. TRAFFIC CALMING

Councillors studied the proposals prepared by Luke Barber at SCC Highways for specific traffic calming measures in Kettleburgh. (Copy attached to these minutes.) Although queries about safety of dog walkers along Brandeston Road and the fact that the proposed measures do not directly address concerns expressed in Parish Questionnaire responses about traffic in The Street, it was agreed that these proposals be accepted: Cllr Durbin will report back to Luke Barber. He will also ask if measures to highlight traffic speed along The Street (buff road surface on either side of 30m.p.h. roundels) and a further 'gate' on the Framlingham Road can be included in this proposal. The SID speeding checks will be reinstated on 15 February, with more sophisticated measuring equipment in use.

RD

9. THE POUND

With regard to maintenance of the hedge adjacent to the road and drive, Cllr Bater wished to establish its agreed height and appearance. After a lengthy discussion, during which the meeting was opened to ask the views of parishioners, and the overall maintenance and use, past and present, of the Pound was debated, it was agreed that the hedge should be kept sufficiently low to ensure visibility over it and that pruning should be such as to encourage maximum width. It was generally agreed that in the last few years far too much Parish Council time had been spent on this subject: in future controversy should be avoided through dialogue between interested parties.

10. PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE

With reference to the 'Parish Questionnaire Actions' document he had circulated to all Councillors, Cllr

Garland posited that 'communication' seemed to be the main issue of concern for the Parish Council. As previously agreed, a presentation of the questionnaire results will be made at the Annual Parish Meeting in May. A more comprehensive newsletter could be produced. In order to defray costs, Cllr Jessop thought that he might be able to use printing facilities from his workplace, making use of their community budget. Being mindful of the lateness of the hour, the Chairman suggested making this topic the main item on the agenda at the next Council meeting. The Clerk agreed to keep the March agenda free to allow sufficient time to decide how to present the questionnaire results. Cllr Garland will start an email correspondence to try and determine areas of responsibilities emanating from the questionnaire. Before the March meeting, the Chairman will circulate views previously elicited from Councillors on the rôle of the Parish Council, including his own views, and asking for further comment.

PG

DH

11. VILLAGE GREEN

a) **Village Green Report:** nothing to report

b) **Provision of lease to KGT:** KGT is awaiting a response from Marshall Hatchick (solicitors).

12. COMMUNITY NEWS

4 February – mobile police van

4-6 February – Jack & the Beanstalk Pantomime

7 March – Village breakfast. IAO Kettleburgh Green Trust

26 March – Film Evening: Travels in South Africa. IAO St Andrew's Church

New residents in the village – Beech Cottage and The Old Rectory.

13. FINANCE

a) **The Financial Statement was received and approved.**

b) **Invoices for payment were approved and signed.**

c) **Budget 2010-11. A revised budget, maintaining a slightly lowered reserve, was unanimously agreed.**

It accompanies these minutes.

d) **The precept for 2010/11 was set at £2,800**, a decrease of £400 from the current year. The Band D equivalent tax base for Kettleburgh will decrease from £30.69 in 2009-10 to £26.41 for 2010-11.

The Clerk will inform SCDC of this decision.

JC

14. CLERKS REPORT

a) Reinstatement of footpath in The Street update: Paperwork detailing revised costings for the shorter footpath from Lings Field to Honeysuckle Cottage show a cost in the region of £50,000. The priority listing is 160th, which means a wait of at around 25 years for its implementation.

b) Phone box: the glass in the lower front panel of the public telephone kiosk has been smashed. The matter has been reported to BT. The broken glass has been cleared away, but no repair has been made yet. As there is poor mobile reception in Kettleburgh, it was felt that the phone box still serves a useful purpose.

c) Gritting Bins: once grit heaps are replaced, a list of volunteers for spreading grit should be compiled.

d) Sale of 7 Church Road: Councillors agreed that a similar licence to the present one on the land to the rear of 7 Church Road could be granted to new owners of the property. The Clerk will relay this information to the present owners.

JC

e) Open Weekend to celebrate the 2012 London Olympics: paperwork for a grant application for a community event on the weekend of 23-25 July 2010 will be circulated to Councillors.

f) The Clerk passed the complete set of Parish Council minutes for 2009 to Cllr Chase for binding and thanked him in advance for his assistance.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was circulated amongst Councillors

16. REVIEW OF ACTIONS REGISTER

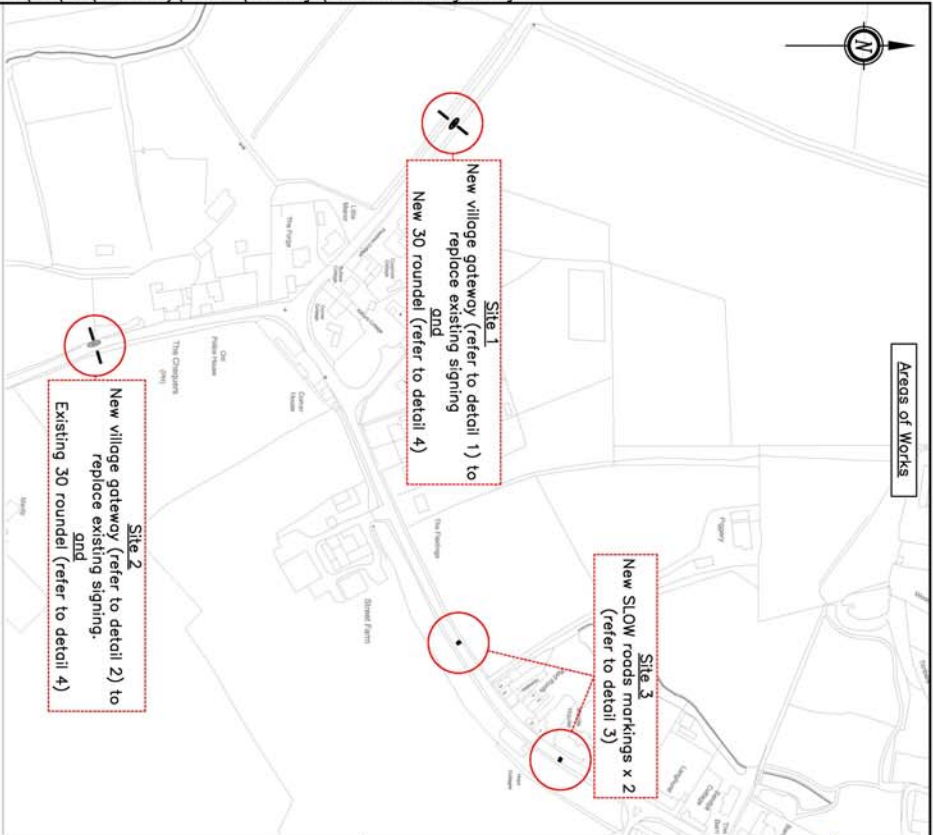
The Actions Register was reviewed to bring it up to date. The Clerk will circulate the updated list.

17. **A.O.B** Cllr Bater suggested that wind power should be considered as a means of raising income.

18. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

To be confirmed.

19. The meeting closed at 9:43p.m.



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REVISIONS	DESCRIPTION	REV.	DATE	INTL.	PROJECT TITLE	ORGANISER	CHECKER	DESIGNER	REVISOR
					Village Gateways The Street (C235) Kettleburgh, Woodbridge	JS	BC	JS	LB
					Consultation Drawing	N.I.S.			November 2009
						ET02235/C235/01			

