

Minutes of Kettleburgh Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21 July 2010

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

The Parish Clerk was in attendance. Bob Snell (SCDC) and three members of the public were present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting which began in Open Session at 7:15p.m. The matter of unintended 'road widening' was raised, with particular reference to Mill Lane. Fast moving traffic, heavy vehicles and road repairs which extend beyond the existing road surface were all cited as reasons for this increasing problem. The Clerk will write to SCC Highways to express the Parish Council's concern. Open Session was closed and the meeting began.

ACTION

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were none
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr R Durbin, Cllr D Germain Cllr Peter Bellfield (SCC), PCSO Christian Hassler.
3. **MINUTES** of the annual meeting held on 19 May 2010 were approved and signed.
4. **REPORTS FROM SUFFOLK DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILS AND SUFFOLK POLICE**
SCDC Cllr Bob Snell

- Local Development Framework: the status of this document, published in June, has changed following the new government's plans for abolishing the Regional Spatial Strategy targets. This has particular relevance to predicted new housing numbers. Local councils will have the freedom to decide where and how many new houses should be built, but it is likely that locally the overall number required will remain largely similar. There will be no changes in the new classifications of towns and villages and the trend towards 'back garden development' has been addressed in Development Management Policies DM7 and DM8 which now provide strict rules regarding such development.
- Local planning: the revised application for 65 houses in Castle Brook, Framlingham has been approved and Hopkins Homes has indicated that they are ready to proceed.
- Review of the planning service: a second meeting of the scrutiny committee follows the first well attended event when some dissatisfaction with the way planning applications are processed was expressed. The cost of an appeal to SCDC (in the event of an application being turned down and challenged) should not influence the decision making process.
- Budget cuts: if central government proposes specific cuts in their funding, there will be a consequent reduction in services (e.g., free over 60s swimming). The announcement that Council Tax will be frozen for 3 years may have implications on SCDC's current position of not borrowing to finance spending. The District Council is continuing to make savings by joint working with Waveney, and potentially with other local authorities.
- Easton has won the 'local village of the year' competition. (The Clerk will write to Easton offering our congratulations.)

SCC Cllr Peter Bellfield (*read by the Clerk*):

- SCC has had its central government grant reduced by £6.4million, representing over 1% of expenditure. Savings will need to be found after the budget and Council Tax revenue were agreed. The Chief Executive has asked all departments to reduce costs by 30% in three years.

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

- Crime report: from the 12 May to 20 July there was one reported crime in the Parish of Kettleburgh: Harassment Warning
- Speeding and Parking concerns: some of you may have seen me conducting speed checks in and around the village during this time. Be aware that this will continue, so please be mindful to watch your speed.
- Crime Prevention Advice: Suffolk Police are urging residents to keep their property safe. As the weather is quite warm at the moment, criminals can/will take advantage of people spending more time outdoors and of people leaving windows and doors open. Please make sure that all windows and doors are secured when leaving your property.
- The Chairman added that there have been several instances of unauthorised hedge cutting in Kettleburgh and in other villages. Police regard this as criminal damage.

5. **PLANNING DECISIONS FROM SCDC**
C10/1066: Kettleburgh Hall – Removal of stud & plasterboard wall and reinstatement of ornamental beams
APPROVED

PLANNING APPLICATION

C10/1789: Kettleburgh Hall – Conversion of disused barn to holiday let/annexe

As the paperwork for this application was extensive, it had been circulated amongst Councillors before the meeting. However, there had not been sufficient time for all Councillors to view the application. All those who had studied the application had no objections to it. It was agreed that once all Councillors had seen the paperwork, a meeting would be called if further discussion was needed. When a decision is made, the Clerk will write to SCDC, informing them of our views and also noting that the boundaries shown are incorrect. It was pointed out that the SCDC 'Interim Planning Policy' - DM6 – "Residential Annexes" addresses the issue of long term residence in holiday lets

JC

6. KETTLEBURGH PUMPING STATION

Cllr Jessop reported on the outcome of the appeal by Anglia Water (AW) against the Environment Agency's (EA) refusal to allow discharge consent to the River Deben: this appeal was dismissed after the hearing on 20 May. The background to this matter is given in the July edition of the Parish Newsletter and is attached to these minutes. Among the suggestions made by the EA were:

- For Anglian Water to confirm, by measurement, the flow capacity of the pumping main between Kettleburgh and the Framlingham Treatment Works and
- For Anglian Water to confirm whether or not they had completed the sealing of the system they are responsible for against surface water ingress.

In addition, Cllr Jessop suggested that further action should be to monitor the maintenance regime operated by AW, to write to the EA, to write to AW asking whether they have responded to EA's suggestions and to keep our new MP, Dr Daniel Poulter, who made a recent site visit, informed of progress.

JC

7. PARISH TREE SCHEME

The article published in the July edition of the Parish Newsletter is attached to these minutes. Cllr Chase welcomes contact with anyone in the parish interested in making use of this scheme. He is in discussion with Heritage Housing and SCC to ascertain ownership of the small area of grass by the bus shelter, with a view to planting some trees there.

8. EMERGENCY PLANNING

Cllr Bater was pleased to report that there had been no emergencies

9. TRAFFIC CALMING

In the absence of Cllr Durbin, the Chairman reported that the design pack for our traffic calming measures is with the contractors, who have been asked to provide a schedule for completing the work. Peter Bellfield was able to reassure the Clerk that the grant of £5,000 from his Quality of Life budget was secure. Cllr Bellfield will contact Luke Barber at SCC to ensure that there are no more delays with this project.

10. VILLAGE GREEN

a) Transfer of licence –7 Church Road: Natural England's solicitors are still questioning the licences and whether or not they were aware of them at the time of their Grant. The Clerk will write to the new owner at 7 Church Road, explaining that the annual fee of £75 will be requested once the paperwork is sorted out.

JC

b) Vehicular Access to 11 Church Road: Susan Bates (solicitor at Marshall Hatchick) has recently chased Natural England's solicitors, having sent them further information they requested on 27 May.

c) Provision of lease to KGT: The draft lease document needs to be scrutinised by both parties to ensure soundness. Once a final draft is available it will be present at a Council meeting for approval. It was noted that recent KGT minutes are not available on the website. Cllr Harris will attend to the matter.

DH

11. COMMUNITY NEWS

25 July - Autojumble

26 July – 6 weeks - Salsa classes

6 August – Coffee morning

29 August – Family fun day – Village Green

4 September – Village Produce Show

18 September – Race Night IAO KGT

Weekly on Fridays 11:00a.m-12 noon - Village Grocer.

12. FINANCE

a) The Financial Statement was received and approved.

b) Invoices for payment were approved and signed.

13. CLERKS REPORT

a) Outdoor Playing Space/indoor provision update: the Clerk will return this year's paperwork to SCDC with an updated version of the 'Assessment of Play areas' paragraph, reflecting the developments on the

Village Green. The cleared balance for Kettleburgh's Play Space Scheme is £2119.24

- b) Allotment provision: The Clerk has responded to a query from SCDC about allotment provision in Kettleburgh: although there are several plots, they are private, not council plots and there is no waiting list for allotments.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was circulated amongst Councillors

The Clerk drew Councillor's attention to planning information in the folder:

1. There are two copies of the LDF document "Local Development Framework, Core Strategy & Development Management Policies, Development Plan Document, Interim Planning policy – June 2010", one is held by Cllr Jessop
2. There is a CDR containing the Local Plan which still underpins local policy.

15. REVIEW OF ACTIONS REGISTER

1. The Clerk now has the necessary paperwork confirming the revaluation of the Village Green: the new valuation will be stated in our annual review of the asset register in September.
2. Cllr Chase will obtain drawings from Cllr Durbin for a 'gateway' for the Framlingham Road.

TC

16. A.O.B: No matters were raised.

17. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

Wednesday 8 September at 7:15p.m (*agenda items by 28 August please*)

18. The meeting closed at 8:40p.m.

From the July 2010 Parish Council Newsletter:

Kettleburgh Terminal Pumping Station

Cretingham, Brandeston and Kettleburgh were put on 'main drainage' approximately 25 years ago. Sewage from Cretingham is collected and pumped to Brandeston, this along with the sewage from Brandeston is pumped on to Kettleburgh. From Kettleburgh the sewage is pumped to Framlingham Sewage Treatment Works for treatment.

The system is a foul only or 'separate' system. Such sewers cannot transport all flows in extreme weather events and the Cretingham, Brandeston and Kettleburgh pumping stations all have Environment Agency (EA) consents in place for 'sewage in an emergency', allowing an overflow discharge in the event of mechanical or electrical failure. Anglian Water (AW) obtained the first consent for Kettleburgh pumping station in June 1985 and another in June 1992 on the basis that the discharge was of sewage effluent from an 'Emergency Overflow' at an estimated frequency of 1 - 2 times per year. The discharge to be made from an identified outlet into the adjacent, unnamed, tributary of the River Deben, and be screened by a 15mm bar screen. This consent, which remains in force, also specifies that an alarm should be provided, and that AW should supply a yearly report to the EA of the operation of the overflow.

A formal caution for an unauthorised storm overflow discharge was issued by the EA to AW in February 2009 following a series of incidents of storm overflows from the pumping station. Since April 2008, AW have reported all overflow events thus the EA became aware of the frequency of such events. In February 2009 AW changed its response to overflow discharges from allowing them and tankering on occasions, to sealing the outlet and tankering away all storm sewage. Since then no overflows to the tributary have occurred**.

Throughout 2008/09 AW have been investigating why unusually high flows in the sewer are encountered during periods of wet weather. They have made some progress in eliminating surface water flowing direct to pumping station wet cells and relining and renovation of certain sewer stretches discovered to have deficiencies. To what extent this has been successful is unknown.

The EA received an application from AW for a discharge consent to regularise an existing unconsented storm overflow from the Kettleburgh pumping station in October 2008. The EA refused the application on the 9 February 2009. AW appealed against this decision and an appeal hearing was held on the 20 May 2010 by the Planning Inspectorate. On the 28 June 2010 it was confirmed that the Inspector had dismissed the appeal.

The current situation is unacceptable and the overflow outlet remains sealed.

(**Such 'tankering' causes local nuisance but usually, although not always, prevents discharges out of the pumping station's 'wet cell'. For example, there have been many incidents of discharges from manholes in the 'Chequers' garden adjacent to their letting rooms, the last occurrence taking place in the week commencing the 12 July 2010.)

A copy of all documents submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and the Inspector's decision is held by Kettleburgh Parish Council.

Parish Tree Scheme

The Parish Council would like to encourage residents to make use of this scheme, organised by SCDC, to plant trees or hedges within the village. Plants can be obtained at a discounted price for:

- Restoring gaps in hedgerows
- Planting new hedges on farmland or parish land
- Planting trees on private land if they will contribute to the landscape
- Copses, tree belts or small woodlands
- Churchyards
- Commemorative planting on village greens and public spaces

If you would more information, or would like to take part this year, please contact Cllr Tim Chase (685228) or the Parish Clerk (723623) by mid August