

# BADWELL ASH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
BADWELL ASH VILLAGE HALL  
THURSDAY 13 OCTOBER 2016  
7.30 PM

## PRESENT:

Councillors Clive Hawkins (Chairman) (CH), Bim Patel (BP), Stephen Rose (SR), David Smith (DS), Melanie Bignell (MB), Julie Evans (JE)

## IN ATTENDANCE:

Christopher Garman (Parish Clerk) (CG), Councillor Roy Barker (Mid Suffolk District Council) (RB) and 11 members of public.

## PUBLIC FORUM

Sarah Brown made comments about the village website going forward following changes by the current website provider. These were considered under item 4.2.

Pat Monk from the History Group gave background of the planned history trail that was being developed and a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. In due course the History Group will be asking Council for permission to erect signage.

Sylvia Balham expressed concerns about how the war memorial was being used by people sitting on it and eating food. She felt this was disrespectful and this would not have been possible if the original design had been followed. Also, concern was expressed about the weeds growing on pavements and roads.

Angela Smith commented upon the lack of maintenance to the triangle at Tites Corner.

Helen Flack questioned the timings for the Remembrance Sunday services at the church and the war memorial. It was suggested the church postpone their start to 11.20 am.

Colin Largent suggested that the hedge by The Old Vicarage needs cutting as it is obstructing the walk way. Also, there are potholes in Back Lane that need attention.

Dudley Whittaker complained at the way the Council had handled the consultation in respect of the recent planning application for houses in Dovedale Close and found communication with the Parish Council unsatisfactory. CG considered that the Council had done all it should. However, Mr Whittaker considered that the Council should have done more and that he did not have an opportunity to submit his opinion on the application. Mr Whittaker advised that the residents felt upset on how the application was handled. CG suggested that residents should contact Mid Suffolk District Council with their concerns. RB said he would check with Mid Suffolk District Council on the process from their angle.

## MEETING COMMENCED

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Louise Boucher (LB) due to work commitment.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

BP and CH declared an interest in item 7.2.

### 3. MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 1 September 2016 had been circulated previously.

**It was resolved that these minutes were an accurate record of these meetings.**

### 4. CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

#### 4.1 Email concerning rubbish in alley way between The Street and Orchard Way.

It was considered that the situation should improve once the street cleaner role is active and to defer the provision of a waste bin.

#### 4.2 Web sites and proposed changes.

CG advised on the changes to the hosting of the website. In future, it will be hosted by CAS at a cost of £50 pa. Other providers were considered. The need for two sites – one for the village and one for the Council – was considered as unnecessary and could merged. Sarah Brown has kindly agreed to manage the one site.

**It was resolved to close the Council website and use pages on the village website and that the Council will cover the annual hosting cost of £50 pa.**

4.3 Displaying draft minutes

**It was resolved that these would be displayed soon after each meeting on both noticeboards and the website.**

ACTION: CG

4.4 Precept consultation from SALC

CG had circulated various emails inviting Council to partake in the consultation process.

**It was resolved that the Council would take no action.**

4.5 Emails from History Group re signage

Further to Pat Monk's comments above, before agreeing to give permission, ownership of any land needs to established. Mrs Monk will be asked to identify locations so research can be undertaken.

5. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

5.1 REPORT FROM SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCILLOR

No report received. Mrs Storey was invited.

5.2 REPORT FROM MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

5.2.1 A police representative will now only attend the annual Council meeting. The Safe Neighbourhood team now work from Stowmarket.

5.2.2 Reported on completion of tree work following public comments at the last meeting. Also, will, following comments during the public forum, contact SCC to undertake work at Tites Corner.

5.2.3 MSDC are moving offices from Needham Market to Endeavor House in Ipswich. RB explained his concerns about this move.

5.2.3 A review is in process in respect of planning enforcement at Westside stable and caravan.

5.2.4 RB confirmed he will follow up cleaning of river with Jo Churchill MP.

6. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

6.1 Permissive Footpath

No report and LB had asked to defer until next meeting.

6.2 Move forward with the employment of Village Handyman/Street Cleaner.

Reviewed the draft job descriptions for an employed street cleaner. Considered the option of contracting the role. Going out to tender was a favoured option.

**It was resolved to create a specification of work including a street cleaning schedule and then go out to tender.**

ACTION: BP and CH

6.3 Speeding in the village

CG had contacted Walsham le Willows and Hunston who both expressed interest in working in partnership. Various options were considered. The favoured approach was a team working with a speed gun.

**It was resolved to move forward with this option and seek advice from the police.**

ACTION: CG

At 20.53 Councillor Evans left the meeting without apology.

6.4 Progress with street lighting in Back Lane.

Discussed the quotation from SCC for a new light in Back Lane. Approx. cost £2,182 plus VAT. The budget would allow this to proceed.

**It was resolved to proceed with the installation of a new street light in Back Lane at its junction with Birch Gardens and obtain a fixed price from SCC for approval at next meeting.**

6.5 Condition of noticeboards

CG was concerned at the condition of the noticeboards and suggested that they be replaced.

**It was resolved to consider this as a project and included in the budget for 2017/2018.**

6.6 Buses – timetable and late running.

BP mentioned there were issues with the timings of buses and late running. It was suggested that late running was probably due to roadworks along the route. However, it was considered beneficial to have the bus timetable displayed in an appropriate location. CG is to investigate further.

ACTION: CG

6.7 Advertising in the village.

BP was concerned about the volume of unauthorised commercial and community advertising some of which is long past being

relevant. It was decided to add the removal of such advertising to the job specification of the street cleaner.

#### 6.8 Planning applications.

6.8.1 No 3564/16: Tree work at The Boltons, The Street, Badwell Ash

Decided and approved.

6.8.2 No 3781/16: Erection of garage at Plot 1, Land adjacent to The Bailey, Richer Road, Badwell Ash

The application was considered and appears to be a retrospective planning application.

**It was resolved to advise MSDC that there is no objection but this is considered a substantial variation.**

6.8.3 No 3812/16: Variation of conditions at Land adjacent to The Bailey, Plot 2, Richer Road, Badwell Ash –

The application was considered and appears to be a retrospective planning application

**It was resolved to advise MSDC that there is no objection but this is considered a substantial variation.**

6.8.4 No 4070/16: Variation of conditions at Land at Donard, Back Lane, Badwell Ash

The application was considered.

**It was resolved to advise MSDC that there is no objection.**

### 7. FINANCE AND POLICIES

7.1 Elect a Vice Chairman.

**It was resolved to appoint Melanie Bignell as Vice Chairman.**

7.2 Consider transfer of reserve funds for Village Hall and play equipment.

BP asked for the funds held in reserve to be transferred to Badwell Ash Playing Field and Recreation Ground. The charity wish to apply for grants and it was considered that having these funds in the bank would help with applications. However, some were concerned about the transfer of funds until a project was ready to commence.

**It was resolved not to transfer funds now but to issue a letter from the Parish Council when needed confirming the funds are available to support grant applications.**

7.3 Issue of the following payments

£168.12 Vertas – grounds maintenance

£291.80 Business Services at CAS Ltd – insurance

£139.40 C Garman - Clerk's salary

£34.80 HMRC – PAYE/NI

£45.10 Sarah Brown – Badwell Broadsheet

£25.00 Ladywell Accountancy Services – payroll

**It was resolved to issue cheques in respect of these payments.**

A donation request was received from the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in respect of the wreath for Remembrance Sunday.

**It was resolved to issue a cheque for £25.**

7.4 Agree bank reconciliation.

CG had previously circulated income and expenditure for year to 29 September 2016 and bank reconciliation. The statement was discussed.

**It was resolved that MB would sign the reconciliation and bank statements in accordance with the Financial Regulations.**

### 8. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm

Christopher Garman

Parish Clerk

20/10/16