



**GISLINGHAM
PARISH COUNCIL**

Working for our Community

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT GISLINGHAM VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.30PM**

Present: Cllr J Bell, Cllr C Tranter, Cllr C Saunders, Cllr J Pitt, Cllr T Holder, Cllr F Oliver,
Cllr I Urwin, Cllr J Malone.
DC Cllr R Warboys, CC Cllr J Fleming
Members of the Public

Apologies: Cllr E Sheehan,

1 To consider and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Sheehan and these were accepted.

2 To receive declarations of interest on agenda items

Item 7. Cllr Saunders declared an interest as Chairman of the Six Bells Steering Group.

3 To approve the draft minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 11th September

Proposed Cllr Urwin

Seconded Cllr Tranter

All agreed

4 Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting

4.1 Date of the first Outdoor Sports and Recreation (OSR) sub-Committee meeting is to be held on Friday 20th September 2019 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

4.2 Cllr Saunders proposed that the Chair did NOT attend a meeting with a member of the public regarding the OS&R provision. At the request of the Chair a named vote was taken.

Those voting For Cllr Bell meeting with the member of the public: Cllr Tranter, Cllr Malone, Cllr Urwin

Those voting Against Cllr Bell meeting with the member of the public: Cllr Oliver, Cllr Saunders, Cllr Pitt, Cllr Holder

With 3 votes For and 4 votes Against this was carried.

5 Public participation session - To hear reports from the County Cllr, District Cllr and Comments from the Public

5.1 Cllr J Fleming had forwarded a report which can be found in the addendum at the end of the minutes.

5.2 Cllr R Warboys had forwarded a report which can be found in the addendum at the end of the minutes.

5.3 A member of the public stated that since the previous meeting, further members of the public had signed the petition regarding the Skatepark and that numbers now stood at over 200. He stated that he was appalled that an ex-Councillor had suggested that the petition was flawed and should be ignored.

5.4 This statement was noted but the member of public was reminded that the ex-Councillor was now a member of the public and entitled to voice their own opinion.

6 Buses (357/456 number correction)

6.1 It was noted that an incorrect bus number had been quoted and this had now been corrected.

6.2 Cllr Urwin shared his concerns about the lack of buses and volunteered to co-ordinate gathering information from residents who use the facility and other Villages.

ACTION: Cllr Bell to note correction in the October edition of The Messenger.

J Bell

7 Six Bells Public House AVC and funding application

7.1 Cllr Saunders reported that the proposed funders required a formal evaluation produced by one of the companies approved by themselves. The amount required for this initial work was deemed to be £1,675. A letter from the Chairman of the Six Bells Steering Group to the Parish Council itemised requested funds as part of the initial process the steering group need to implement the following:

- To obtain a professional commercial valuation of the premises (c£775)
- To obtain full structural survey as to the condition of the building (c£750)
- Printing/collation and distribution of survey to canvass the village further as to desires/wishes/expectations for their pub (c£150)

7.2 Cllr Warboys asked whether there was other funding in place, Cllr Bell agreed to send further information to him to see if an application could be made from the Six Bells Steering Group to his Locality Budget.

7.3 Cllr Saunders had checked with SALC to ascertain whether it was proper to seek and receive support from the Parish Council and had been advised that this was the case.

7.4 Cllr Bell advised that the Parish Council would need to action the ACV for the pub and the shop

7.5 It was proposed that the Parish Council 'holds available' the sum of £1,675 to be drawn down for the valuation and the questionnaire going out to residents in the Village. The Chair replied that at each stage when money needed to be released the Parish Council would need to discuss and agree at a Parish Council Meeting. All expenditure would be noted.

Proposed Cllr Holder

Seconded Cllr Urwin,

All voted – 6 for and 2 abstentions

8 Finance

No report was available as the Clerk is absent on sick leave.

9 Finance working party (any response to request for residents to join)

No response had yet been received.

ACTION: Cllr Bell will put another request in the Messenger.

10 3 Year Budget Working Party

Cllr Malone agreed that she would join this working group.

11 Planning

11.1 Planning application DC/19/04145

ACTION: Cllr Bell stated that she would contact MSDC to advise the speed sign was now too close to the entrance of the development and consideration should be given to resiting it for safety reasons.

11.2 A comment was made by a member of the public that Lovells had shown a lack of interest in providing affordable housing.

ACTION: Cllr Bell said that a representative of Lovells would be contacted and invited to attend a future Parish Council meeting to answer questions from residents.

11.3 All Councillors were encouraged to go online to make any comments on Planning Applications in the absence of the Clerk.

11.4 A comment was made by a member of the public who felt that a Neighbourhood Plan would help the Village. Cllr Bell replied that this would be something that Gillingham Parish Council are considering and stated that assistance from residents would be sought if it was taken forward.

11.5 Planning application DC/19/04019. Anyone who wishes to comment should please go online to do this.

12 Chair's report (Cllr Bell)

The Parish Council is currently considering disability access to the website, which we will need to conform to.

13 Clerk's report

Nothing has been received.

14 Neighbourhood watch

Residents were warned that a online scam has been reported. Details will be in the Messenger.

15 Footpath Warden

15.1 The footpath warden had forwarded a report which can be found in the addendum at the end of the minutes.

J Bell

- 15.2 A member of the public reported that a field had been ploughed up and the footpath not reinstated.
15.3 Cllr Bell said that this information would be passed to the footpath warden.
15.4 Cllr Oliver raised concerns about the amount of dog poo that was still being left on footpaths and public areas.

ACTION: Cllr Oliver to write an article for the Messenger.

16 Grass Cutting Contract

It was noted that this contract is due for renewal.

17 Policy Working Party Report

Work is in progress. All Policies are being reviewed.

18 Helpdesk (7th September)

18.1 Asked about the toddler swings. This was being dealt with by the Clerk but had been delayed as she is presently on sick leave.

18.2 A resident was interested in the outcome of the skatepark, advised this was an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting.

18.3 Cllr Pitt will be in attendance on the October Help Desk.

19 Speed Indicator Report

The Speed Indicator Lead had forwarded a report which was discussed.

20 Signage Audit

This has been completed but each sign that needs to be dealt with has to be input on the County Council website.

ACTION: Cllr Bell will action this and report back to the Parish Council at a later meeting.

21 Emails

None have been received from the Parish Clerk.

22 Training

Cllr Bell attending 3 half-days courses

Cllr Pitt to attend Routine Playground and Inspection Course

Cllr Oliver to attend Councillor Training in September/November

Proposed Cllr Urwin,

Seconded Cllr Tranter

All agreed

23 Councillors Responsibilities

ACTION: Cllr Bell will be contacting all Councillors to seek their areas of interest.

24 Website and Councillors Emails Update (Cllr Sheehan)

Carried over.

25 Playground Equipment - update on replacement swings (Clerk)

Carried over.

26 Gislingham Parish Council Photos

Carried over to a future date.

At this point the meeting was closed to the public for confidential discussions and it was decided that more time was needed. All agreed to an extension

27 Date of next meeting – Monday 21st October at 7:30pm

Meeting Closed at 10.30 pm. Cllr Jo Pitt was thanked for taking the minutes.

bell

Parish Report September 2019

Gilsingham Parish Council

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk Tel: 07714-597980 Twitter: @jesstfleming

A14 Night Closures - J43 to J47a Eastbound will close from Thurs 3rd – Fri.11th Oct. 8pm to 6am weekdays only, the diversion route is via the A143 and A140.

The A14 will also close between J38 and J43 from Mon.23 Sept – Tues. 1st Oct. 8pm to 6am weekdays only. The diversion route is via the A11 and A134.

Update on A140 Eye Airfield junction improvements and link road

Construction works proposed to improve journey time, road safety and access to the Eye Airfield development area on the A140 is due to start week commencing 9 September.

A140 Roundabout preparation works to start September 2019:

- Erection of acoustic fencing around Four Oaks
- Diversions of electric and BT apparatus
- Archaeology investigation

Main improvements works will take place between March 2020 and September 2020:

- Construction of roundabout and link road from the B1077
- Construction of roundabout at Yaxley crossroads
- Removal of right turns from existing B1077 /A140 junction
- Closure of A140/Rectory Road junction

District Councillor Report: Gislingham Ward

Mellis, Gislingham, Thornham, Wickham Skeith, Wortham and Burgate Parish Councils

September 2019

Draft Joint Local Plan	The Draft Joint Local Plan consultation period ends at 4.00 pm on 30 th September. A further programme of public consultation events have now been arranged. The last one is at: The Mix in Stowmarket 19 th September 12.30 - 4.30 pm. More details about the Joint Local Plan can be found on the MSDC website. Paper copies of the draft document are available in Eye Libraries https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/new-joint-local-plan/joint-local-plan-preferred-options-july-2019/
Community Infrastructure Levy	The Government has abolished the CIL 123 list regulation and replaced it with new CIL regulations which come into force from 1 st September. MSDC is adopting a new position statement to comply with the new regulations, but there is practically no difference from the 123 list.
Performance monitoring	The Quarter 1 performance report has been published as part of the Cabinet papers. Planning applications determined within deadlines has improved. One of the major areas of concern is the Council House repairs performance where there are several overdue jobs which the team are working hard to complete which affect the % of jobs completed in the agreed timescale. Performance management is taking place to enhance service delivery.
Waste collection	It has become apparent that there were issues with the new Waste Collection rounds which were introduced in July (Why? - 6,240 new properties had been added 2010-2019). Hopefully things will settle down again now, once the crews have found all the properties they need to collect from. If there are any further cases of missed bins, please get in touch with us. Information about what to put in your recycling bin can be found on the MSDC website here: https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Waste-Services-Bins/Documents/guide-to-recycling-2019.pdf
Locality Budget	I have received some bids for locality funding. Please could any group wishing to apply for funding get in touch with me. The application deadline is December, but it would be helpful if I received all bids by the beginning of November.
Five Year Land Supply annual position statement/	A four-week consultation period for the annual position statement on the 5-year housing land supply ran from 19 th July to 16 th August. MSDC has a 5.6-year land supply.
Climate Emergency and Biodiversity	At the July Council meeting MSDC acknowledged a 'Climate emergency', and agreed to set up a cross party task panel to explore way to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. The Green group is proposing a biodiversity motion so that the task panel also explores ways to promote biodiversity.
CIFCO annual statement and 2019/20 business plan	The Council noted the annual report from CIFCO which stated a £3.1M loss, which includes the one-off costs of acquiring the assets and an adjustment in valuation following the year-end revaluation. 6 properties have been purchased during this year and the total rental income is now the total annual rent to £3,119,558 (for both Councils). The 2019/20 business plan for the second tranche of £50 M is slightly different to the original plan, accepting a slightly lower return and less risky investments due to changes in the market. There will be less emphasis on High Street investments. Concerns have been raised in council challenging where and what the investments are.
Equality and Diversity policy	The council adopted an Equality and Diversity Policy to ensure that MSDC complies with the Equality Act 2010.
Planning	Meetings are being held between the Planning Department and a cross party group of councillors and were pushing hard on higher energy efficiency standards , There was a Suffolk design project under way but this would have influence rather than force. Developers still did not perceive any advantage in selling high efficiency homes with low fuel bills. Government was again consulting on improving building regulations

Councillor Rowland Warboys

Rowland.warboys@[midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Rowland.warboys@midsuffolk.gov.uk) Phone number 01379 783412

Footpath Warden Report 11/09/2019

Following on from my report at the last PC meeting, please see the updates and new information.

Footpath Issues

I have attached the latest report and updates.

The fly tipping of cut branches that were left behind the church have now been collected by the DC.

The developers are now putting a hard base to the footpaths that cross the building site.

Path Clearing

Met with Anthony who has cut the paths in previous years to show which paths require cutting. He was submitting a quote to Teresa and planned to do the cut on the 30th August, however, upon inspection today, they have not been cut. I have called him and he has said he is waiting authority following a decision to be taken at the next PC meeting. The Bowling Alley has been cut by someone else, as they probably felt that it needs to be clear for when the school restarted. It is not a brilliant job, so it will still need clearing.

Footpath Recognition

Following your approval to mark the waymarkers, I have completed approx 50 posts. I have used a stencil and black permanent marker and they appear to be clear. I will be continuing to mark the remainder of the posts over the next few weeks. There were no costs incurred.

I will be writing a report for the Messenger to explain to the walkers to identify any issues by referring to the FP number. Hopefully this will make the job easier to identify.

Meeting with the SCC Footpath Officer

I held a meeting with Charlotte Ditchburn on the 22nd August.

I discussed the SCC cutting list regarding amending the list. However, Charlotte stated that probably around October, the SCC will be approaching PC's to outline the reduction in the number of paths that will be cut by SCC in 2020.

Charlotte was attending a meeting with Mendlesham PC regarding 'Green Access Volunteers'. The outcome was very productive. I need to contact Sharon Jones the Parish Clerk, who I know, to find out more.

I asked about a map of the footpaths. Although the OS maps are not official, I am investigating this. There is a possibility of getting a definitive map from SCC. Charlotte has given me the contact details, so I am awaiting a reply.