

RISBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd July 2015

Councillors present: D Abrey (Chairman), S Gray, C Sutton, S Smith and J Gray.

Also present Mrs J Ince (Clerk) and 4 members of the public

The following issues were raised during the Open Forum

- The need for parts of Woodland Close to be resurfaced
- Drainage problems at the top end of Woodland Close if it rains heavily
- Parking on Lower Green. Could the Parish Council remind people that this is not allowed?
- Poor visibility at the junction of South Street and School Road. Is there anything that can be done?
- Would it be possible to put *Beware of the Duck* signs up in School Road?

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies were received from J Read and I Turner.

2. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

No councillors declared an interest in any items on the agenda.

3. Approval of minutes of meeting held on Thursday 14th May 2015

It was resolved that the minutes were correct. The chairman then signed the minutes.

4. Report from Borough Councillor Susan Glossop

Susan Glossop spoke about the following:

- Concerns have been raised by a resident about the amount of rubbish on Newmarket. Susan Glossop said that there was a possibility of providing some funding to pay for someone to clear rubbish in the village. The Council said there is a group of volunteers who clear rubbish within the village but not in Newmarket Road or outside the village because of safety risks
- Susan Glossop asked if Risby had ever entered the Best Kept Village Competition. The Council said it had and would consider entering again if it can find a volunteer to deal with the application.
- West Stow Country Park - the planning application for 180 camping pitches has been withdrawn.

5. Report from the Safer Neighbourhood Team

There have been two crimes of interest in the Parish since the last meeting - a burglary other building and criminal damage to a dwelling.

Since 1st May 30 speed checks have been conducted resulting in 13 Traffic Offence Reports, 16 verbal warnings, one notice of impending prosecution and 41 warning letters.

6. Highways/rights of way matters/tree or transport issues:

a) Outcome of meeting between C Sutton and Suffolk County Council's Highways engineer, Hen Abbot

- **Vehicle Activated Signs**

The locations proposed by the Parish Council were not considered suitable. Highways has suggested some possible locations which the Parish Council will need to approve. It was resolved that C Sutton and S Smith would meet D Letley to review all the suggested locations and that the final decision would be delegated to them.

- **Woodland Close**

C Sutton showed Hen Abbott the driveways in Woodland Close and the pavement which is very uneven because of roots pushing up through the path. She felt this was unsafe.

- **The junction between South Street and School Road**

Hen Abbot said there is no possibility of putting up a mirror on this junction or changing the priority.

- **School Road**

She said the pavement along School Road is in poor condition and needs repairing.

- **Lackford Lane**

Hen Abbot agreed that something should be done about the poor condition of the road.

b) Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) in a 40mph zone

A Highways engineer from Suffolk County Council has confirmed that VAS cannot be installed in a 40mph area for health and safety reasons because traffic exceeding 40mph has a greater impact on health and safety as the signs are installed manually by volunteers. For the same reasons the Police and SCC's Road Safety Team will not put cameras in 40mph zones either. It was resolved that the clerk would write to the resident explaining this.

c) Speeding along Crematorium Road

The Parish Council has received an e-mail from a resident in Hyde Road raising concerns about how dangerous this road is with the current speed limit of 60mph as the road is very narrow in places and because of the bend coming up to the Crematorium where slow vehicles are often pulling in.

It was resolved that the clerk would contact Councillor Hopfsenberger to request a speed and safety survey and to ask that consideration be given to reducing the speed limit along the stretch of road from the Crematorium past Hyde Road to 40mph.

d) Request from a resident for a pavement to link up South St to School Road.

It was resolved that the Council would pass this request on to Councillor Hopfsenberger.

e) Resurfacing works in Aylmer Close

The clerk has spoken to Kier MG who have now received a works order for this. The work should be carried out during the school holidays.

f) Phone call from a resident about dog fouling and dogs running around off the lead in the Orchard area of Risby

It was resolved that the Parish Council would put a reminder about dog fouling in the newsletter, but that the Council cannot do anything about dogs running off the lead because it is private land. The clerk was also asked to investigate cost of providing and emptying a dog bin in Welham Lane.

g) E-mail from resident about the poor standard of verge cutting in Newmarket Road

D Abrey explained that the cutting of verges is the responsibility of Suffolk County Council. Sometimes the contractors will leave a gap if wild flowers are growing and this appears to be the case in Newmarket Road. It was resolved that the clerk would refer the resident to SCC as they are responsible for verge cutting.

f) Issues raised during the Open Forum

- Need for parts of Woodland Close to be resurfaced - this is an ongoing issue. The Council is awaiting a response from Suffolk County Council.
- Drainage problems at the top end of Woodland Close if it rains heavily - C Sutton agreed to check if there is a drain there which may be blocking.
- Parking on Lower Green. Could the Parish Council remind people that this is not allowed?
It was resolved that a reminder would be put in the next newsletter asking residents not to park on any of the greens in Risby. It was also resolved that the clerk would investigate if it is possible to purchase plastic posts.
- Poor visibility at the junction of South Street and School Road. Is there anything that can be done?
Highways has already confirmed that it would not install a mirror on this junction. It was resolved that the clerk would contact Councillor Hopfsenberger to request a visibility improvement scheme.
- Would it be possible to put *Beware of the Duck* signs up in School Road?
It was resolved that no signs would be provided as the issue is about encouraging residents not to feed the duck as this will help keep the numbers down.

7. Update on list of actions agreed at the last meeting

There were no outstanding councillor actions.

8. Finance

a) Approval of any payments and signing of Schedule of Payments

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- Mrs E Taylor - internal audit fee - LGA 1972, S111 - **£65.00**
- J P Ince expenses – LGA 1972, s111 - **£13.90**
- HMRC - PAYE - LGA 1972, s111 - **£46.40**

C Sutton and D Abrey signed the Schedule of Payments. The Chairman then countersigned it.

b) Approval of payments authorised between meetings

No payments were authorised between meetings.

c) Approval of the record of online payments made since the last meeting

It was resolved that the record of online payments would be approved. C Sutton then signed it.

d) Signatory to complete the checklist of Internal Controls

C Sutton completed and signed the checklist of internal controls.

e) Statement of receipts and payments made since the last meeting

It was resolved that the statement of receipts and payments was correct.

f) Internal audit report

No issues were raised by the Internal Auditor, Elaine Taylor.

9. Planning

a) DC/15/1199/HH - 11 The Avenue, Risby(i) Single storey rear extension (ii) first floor side extension (iii) insertion of dormer window on front elevation and (iv) front porch

It was resolved that no objections would be made to this application.

10. Allotment Rent

It was resolved that the allotment rent would be increased by £5 in spring 2016 bringing the cost to £20 for a full plot and £15 for a half plot.

11. Correspondence

- a) **E-mail from SEBC giving details of the next Parish Conference on Monday 12th October 2015 in Haverhill starting at 6pm - for information only**
- b) **Letter from Havebury asking if any councillors would like to join their Performance and Scrutiny Panel**
No councillors volunteered.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed (Chairman) Dated