

Belstead Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 23rd March 2016 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: - David Cobbold (chair), Richard Clift, Trevor Beckett. Ken Stowe, Richard Clift, Christine Eade, Samantha Barber (clerk), Cllr Nick Ridley, Cllr Barry Gasper, Cllr David Busby and 2 members of the public.

55.15.16 – Apologies for Absence.

There were no apologies

56.15.16 – Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th January 2016.

The minutes from the meeting had been circulated to all councillors and were proposed as a true record by Trevor Beckett and seconded by David Cobbold. These were duly signed by David Cobbold.

57.15.16 – Declaration of Interest of any item on the agenda

Richard Clift declared an interest in the PCC Grass Cutting

58.15.16 - Matters arising from the minutes of 13th January 2016

Jimmy's Farm – Public Events Licencing had been looked into. An overall licence is now granted to the holder of the event with individual events being notified to Babergh Licencing. After some issues in 2015 at one particular large event at the farm there has been a review by the Police, Health & Safety and Fire Brigade which will hopefully mean there are no issues in 2016.

Church Grass Cutting – Quotes have been received and one has been accepted by St Mary's PCC. Belstead Parish Council discussed and decided to grant the PCC the full amount of £750.00 for the one year only which will then be reviewed and subject to a new grant application in the next financial year. Trevor Beckett proposed and Christine Eade seconded with 3 councillors in favour and 1 against. Richard Clift abstained from the vote.

59.15.16 – Adjournment for Reports.

County – Cllr Busby reported that at a recent Council meeting fire brigade cuts were discussed and are now subject to consultation. The Cabinet member for Health has resigned triggering a by-election. Devolution still a hot topic of discussion.

Highways – A resident had raised an issue about Blacksmiths Corner and issues with safety after an incident with a motorist and a pedestrian. This was discussed with Cllr Busby.

District – Cllr Ridley spoke about devolution. Planning continues to be a challenge. Plans for 140 plus houses at East Bergholt were passed at Committee on the 23rd March despite numerous objections from local residents. Sproughton continue to seek legal advice regarding pursuing a judicial review of the planning process at Wolsey Grange. The sugar beet site is still being discussed. A joint local plan is currently being prepared and will be subject to consultation.

LNR – There is very little progress regarding the LNR at the moment. A season long survey for dormice needs to take place and then an archaeological survey. The current owner is keen to sell but it looks as though it will be 2017 before any real progress is made. The chicken farm site also lacks any progress.

Village Hall – A reasonable level of bookings is being maintained. The store rooms have been redecorated. New tables are being bought.

60.15.16 - Finance

The following items were approved for payment

Chq No	Name	Expense	Amount
649	Belstead V Hall	Hall Hire	£25.00
BACS	S Barber	Clerk Salary	£258.44
BACS	Sharward Services	Newsletter	£25.00
BACS	Babergh	Bin Emptying	£99.10
BACS	SALC	Course	£24.00
BACS	St Mary's PCC	Grant – Grass Cutting	£750.00

Internal Audit – After discussion it was decided to use Heelis and Lodge once again for the Internal Audit.

61.15.16 – Correspondence

Clerks and Councils Direct

Local Councillor Magazine

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Dog Fouling leaflet

E-mail from East Bergholt – Councillors are invited to a meeting on the 9th of April.

62.15.16 – Any other business/Items for the next agenda.

Queens 90th Birthday

Holly Lane – A resident reported an issue with grass growing through the road which has been reported to Highways by the clerk

The damaged footpath signs have been chased up with Rights of Way.

The clerk will attempt to write a website for the Parish

A14 road noise – There are no updates and specifically no information regarding the noise barrier which had previously been mentioned at a meeting with MP James Cartilidge. Christine Eade will forward the details to David Cobbold who will pursue this.

The Friends of Belstead Brook Park had picked up 36 bags of litter at the lorry park on the A14 at a recent litter pick.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.23pm