

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 14 May at the Methodist Church Hall

05.18.00 **PRESENT:** Mr A Newman in the chair, Mrs M Hinton, Mr G Hinton, Mr S Coram, Mr J Sones and Mr A Woodgate, County Councillor R Lindsay, the Clerk, village hall reps and 1 member of the public.

05.18.01 **APOLOGIES:** Nick Bird

05.18.02 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:** There being no other nominations – Alan Newman was unanimously elected as Chairman. **Election of Vice Chairman** – there being no further nominations – Nick Bird was unanimously elected. **Village Hall Rep** – John Sones to continue as rep and Stan Coram will be attending for discussions regarding the new build. **SALC Rep** – Nick Bird/Alan Newman

05.18.03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No declarations

05.18.04 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 April were signed as an accurate record.

05.18.05 **5.1 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT: Potholes** - It was recently reported that Suffolk County Council had repaired 6500 potholes since the start of the year. However, there are still a number of issues with the way Highways carry out their repairs. They have recently introduced a more expensive temporary material that is supposed to last slightly longer, but the temporary material deteriorates. Suffolk Highways have also stated that they are “blitzing” whole areas of the road at once, rather than making multiple trips to the same area. However, it is important to note that they will only repair potholes that meet their intervention criteria. **Unitaries looked at again** In April Colin Noble hired consultants to look at creating a single or several unitaries across Suffolk. This caused some controversy because it was without reference to his cabinet. **New Suffolk leader** Since then there has been a challenge to his leadership from within the Conservative group and Cllr Hicks has been voted as the new Conservative leader. He will appoint Mary Evans as his deputy. Mary Evans is currently chair of the scrutiny committee. **School Travel Cuts** The cabinet will decide whether to implement this mid June.

5.2 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT: Not in attendance

05.18.06 **RECESS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Representatives from the village hall attended the meeting and reported on the progress made with regard to their plans for a new hall. They also asked the council to consider a joint venture with the school to provide fitness equipment alongside the play equipment on the Meadow. The school has a grant which would fund about 50% and

asked the parish to consider funding the remainder. The clerk to put this item on the next agenda.

05.18.07 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE:** The Chairman updated the meeting stating that a further grant had been secured up to March 2019 to carry on with the production of the Plan. There had been a 65% return of the questionnaire. Work is being done to produce a report for the newsletter. A further meeting of the steering group had been arranged to start the process of writing the Plan . The services of Aecom had been secured to carry out site assessment work.

05.18.08 **REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS Adoption of Policies relating to GDPR.** The council discussed the policies and as there is no longer a requirement for councils to employ a Data Protection Officer this should be deleted from standing Orders. Also reference to faxes. Approved policies attached to minutes.

05.18.09 **FINANCE:** Accounts Due – As the cheque book was still with internal auditor cheques could not be signed but were approved for the hiring of the hall, grasscutting and a contribution to the village hall towards the cutting of the meadow.

Approval of Annual Governance Statement and Approval of Section 2 of Annual Governance Accounting Statement – As all the books were still with the internal auditor this item to be carried forward to an additional meeting to be arranged in order to meet the deadline of the external auditor.

The clerk to arrange an extra meeting in order to approve the accounts to meet the deadline for external audit.

05.18.10 **PLANNING: BDC – Appcn DC/18/02005** Renovation and erection of extension to existing barn, Rookery Farm, Manor Road, Elmsett – there were no comments on this application.

05.18.11 **DATES FOR NEXT MEETINGS:** 11 June, 23 July
The meeting closed

Signed:-.....

Chairman

Dated:-.....