

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 23 February 2015 at the Methodist Church Hall.

01.15.0 **PRESENT:** Mr A Newman in the chair, Mr Bird, Mr M Quinn,
0 Mrs Caron Garrity, County Councillor Jenny Antill, District Councillor Robert Lindsay and the Clerk.

01.15.0 **APOLOGIES:** Received by PCSO Amanda Coleman
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01.15.0 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Nick
2 Bird declared an interest in Planning Application at Church Farm and signed the interest book.

01.15.0 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the
3 meeting held on 24 November were signed as an accurate record.

01.15.0 4.1 **POLICE REPORT:** The report was read by the Clerk –
4 There has been one reported crime since the last meeting on
the 24th November. **BURGLARY – Dwelling.** Whatfield
Road, 09/12/14. Sometime during the day whilst owner was
at work unknown persons have gained entry via a rear
insecure patio door, jewellery and some Christmas presents
stolen. **On-going.**

Locally within Babergh we are seeing an increase of Burglary
– Dwellings, those properties targeted seem to be isolated
with no neighbours to see anyone acting suspiciously! Items
being stolen are cash and or jewellery. So please keep eyes
peeled for any vehicles or persons in the area and call it in on
101 (999 if you see anyone actually trying to break in to
someone's property!)

Also out buildings, sheds and garages are targets in some
areas with the usual items of power tools and lawn mowers
being stolen.

4.2 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT:** Jenny submitted a
report to the meeting - **Government Settlement** - Details of
the Settlement from Government for next year's budget have
been received. This was much as expected, but there has
been some additional funding to help with the responsibilities
imposed on local authorities for the implementation of the
Care Act which comes into force next year. Provided that
Business rates (which have not yet been calculated) are not
much lower than forecast it is likely that the budget can be
balanced without recourse to the reserves, which is a positive
outcome.

As soon as the budget is finalised in January they will be
looking forward to the next financial year. Regardless of the
outcome of the General Election in May, there is likely to be
no relaxation of the funding cuts from Government.

No new money for roads - The Government has recently
announced an additional £15bn for roadbuilding in the UK,
none of which is destined for Suffolk. This is a
disappointment since there is no need for major schemes
(although the route to the largest port in the country might be
worthy of motorway status), there are of smaller schemes that
might have relieved the pressure on our market towns, and
indeed on local villages such as Bildeston and Lavenham
which are on designated lorry routes. **Winter roads** - As a
result of the contract with Keir MG they have been able to
acquire nine new Econ gritters, and also to upgrade a further
29 The gritters have already been out several times this

01.15.0 **MATTERS ARISING:** Flooding – Village Hall. It was agreed
5 that the parish council would support the alleviation of
flooding on the meadow. Item for next agenda.

01.15.0 **CORRESPONDENCE:** John Sones, Neighbourhood Watch
6 Co-ordinator is still awaiting new neighbourhood watch signs
and is chasing them up.

01.15.0 **FINANCE:** A Cheque in the sum of £10 was signed for hire
7 of Methodist Church Hall.

Precept – The parish council agreed to request the same
precept as the previous three years of £9,500 and to request
the additional grant from Babergh.

01.15.0 **PLANNING:** Church Farm, Manor Road, Elmsett – Revised
8 plans - Conversion and alteration of part of barn to form 1 No
two-storey dwelling and 1 No. single storey dwelling (part of
barn to be retained for use by Church Farmhouse – Nick Bird
signed a declaration of interest and took no part in the
discussion. The parish council had no further comments to
add to their previous submission.

Application No B/14/01468/FHA – Elmsett Lodge – Erection of
single-storey rear extension to garage to link to planting shed
– No objections

Application No B/14/01579/PTO Village Hall – Reduce branch
length to London Plane tree under TPO BT36. – No
objections

Application No B/14/01475/FHA – 6 Manor Road – Erection of
annexe. The parish council would expect to see a condition or
agreement preventing the sale as a separate dwelling.

Application B/14/01517/FHA – 25 Windings Road – Erection
of single-storey side and rear extension - The application was
circulated to all councillors during the holiday period and no
objections were received. The council however did receive a
letter of objection from a neighbour which was forwarded to
the district council.

01.15.0 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:-** 23 February 2015
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The meeting closed

Signed:-.....Dated: