

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 21 January 2019 at the Elmsett Methodist Church Hall.

**PRESENT:** Mr A Newman, Mr S Coram Mrs M Hinton, Mr G Hinton, Mr J Sones, Mr A Woodgate, District Councillor A Ferguson, the Clerk and 4 members of the public were in attendance.

01.19.01 **APOLOGIES:** Mr Nick Bird. County Councillor Lindsay not present

01.19.02 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** - The chairman declared an interest in item under finance – increase in clerk’s salary.

01.19.03 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 December were signed as an accurate record.

01.19.04 4.1 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT** not in attendance

4.2 **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:** Alan Ferguson’s report -. **Local Housing** – Alan congratulated all concerned for successfully defending refusal of the plans to build 40+ houses in the village, but it shows how important it is to get the Neighbourhood Plan approved and in place as soon as possible. **Joint Local Plan/Private Sector Housing** - Clearly of major interest to Elmsett.. The issue date for the new Joint Local Plan (this identifies potential sites for private housing in the Districts and carries weight) has slipped by about 6 months. A public consultation on the new draft Local Plan will take place after the 2019 elections in May. The delay has been caused by failures beyond our control to provide substantive information on funding for:

- Infrastructure requirements
- Education (school extension) requirements
- NHS surgery (extensions) requirements

The new implementation date is now early 2020.

**Disposal of Corks Lane Buildings** is now likely to go before committee in February and will be developed in partnership with another agency that’s experienced in these matters. **The Budget** Whilst still manageable, Babergh DC faces a particularly challenging period in 2020/21. This has been caused in the main by the failure of developers to build the houses that we have approved at the Planning Committee and a resultant loss of anticipated New Homes Bonus payable by Central Government.

Currently there really are no proposals to “fix”, other than the likelihood that Babergh will borrow more than the current £25M to invest in suitable infrastructure projects/opportunities. This is a risk area that will be monitored closely, particularly with the shrinking nature of high streets around the UK.

To enable Babergh to submit a balanced budget in 2019/20 you should not be surprised to see a 2+% increase in Council tax. By far the biggest

increase will be in the County (+care) and Crime & Police sectors. **Car Parking Charges** Please ignore any press cuttings (generated by the Labour Group) that tell you that the Administration in Babergh plans to introduce parking charges. Currently there are none. **Cancellation of Brown Bin Charges** . This will not happen.

- 01.19.05 **MATTERS ARISING:** The chairman reported that the purchase and siting of grit bins had been done and that they had been filled by the County Council..
- 01.19.06 **VILLAGE HALL UPDATE –** Unfortunately members of the village hall committee were unable to attend but submitted a report from the architect which was circulated to members of the parish council prior to the meeting. A village hall meeting is to be held on 26 February to discuss the new build to which the parish council rep Stan Coram and the Chairman have been invited.
- 01.19.07 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE:** The chairman confirmed that the draft pre-submission plan had been amended by the Steering Group as a result of the six-week consultation process taking into consideration all the comments received during that period. There followed discussion on the plan and the Chairman proposed that the plan as amended be approved by the parish council for submission to Babergh District Council and the following resolutions were unanimously agreed.
- 1 -Approve the submission of the Neighbourhood Plan, as amended following consultation, to Babergh District Council.  
2 – The Chair to agree any minor factual, grammatical and spelling corrections to the Plan or supporting documents ahead of submission.
- All of the documents to be on the Parish Council’s website at the commencement of Babergh’s consultation. They would also be on deposit at the Post Office which Geoff Hinton had kindly agreed to, during the whole consultation period. Residents could make arrangements to view and borrow a complete document pack from them. In addition residents could make arrangements with clerk during normal working hours for a pack.
- 01.19.08 **RECESS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There was a recession and discussion took place regarding planning and the new grit bins and further volunteers were recorded. It was also noted that parish council elections are due in May and a piece will be put in the next newsletter.
- 01.19.09 **PLANNING:** DC/18/02316 – 42 dwellings incorporating 35% affordable homes, Southside of Whatfield Road. – Refusal notice from BDC.  
DC/19/00011 - Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/18/02005 Condition 4 (Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy) | Rookery Farm Manor Road.- The parish council had no objections.

DC/18/04818 - Erection of two storey side extension to form additional office and sanitary facilities - Manor Farm Manor Road Elmsett  
The parish council had no objections.

01.19.10 **FINANCE: Accounts due** – Cheque previously signed for return of incorrect bins Kingfisher Direct - £319.98. Cheques were signed at the meeting in favour of Kingfisher Direct - £662.72 purchase of grit bins, Methodist Church - £15 (NP) hire of hall 10-9-18 Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, B Bone - £180 – installation of bench and paving slabs, B Bone - £320 – removal of damaged concrete floor and replacement with float finish. Methodist Church - £15 (NP) hire of hall 14-1-19.

Clerk’s salary – The chairman declared an interest and Stan Coram took the chair. It was agreed that the clerk’s salary should be increased from £9.45 to £9.77 per hour in line with the new NJC pay scale point 5 as from 1 April.

Internal Audit – the parish council agreed to accept the services of Suffolk Association of Local Council to carry out the internal audit in future.

---

01.19.12 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:–** 4 March, 2019.

The meeting closed

Signed:- .....

Dated:-.....

Chairman