

BLYFORD AND SOTHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 8TH JANUARY 2018

MINUTES [approved by councillors on 05-03-18]

Public Forum – no members of the public attended.

1. The vice-chairman , John Beckett, welcomed councillors Myles Jackson, Barry Martin, Sally Macdonald and Gaina Dunsire. Apologies were received from Cllrs. Gerard Walker [chair] and Rosemary Parry. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance. Waveney District councillor Alison Cackett also attended.
2. Minutes of the meeting on 5th November 2017 - approved, all in favour. Signed as a true record.
3. Declarations of interest – none.
4. New clerk [Mrs. C. Cardwell] – position ratified, all in favour. She is to be employed for 4 hours per week at SCP 15 £8.873 per hr, starting in January 2018. The retiring clerk [Mrs. A. Cackett] was thanked by the chair for all her help and service to the parish council. She is to be paid for 1 week in Jan.
5. Regulations review – Standing Orders were reviewed and considered fit for purpose, all councillors in favour.
6. Councillor reports – Cllr. Beckett gave an update on Blyford village news – nothing new to report. The future of the phone box was raised and the clerk is to contact BT to see if the parish council can buy it, and also insurance implications. There was a general discussion on speeding measures taken by Spexhall. Speeding problems in Blyford were again raised and the speed watch camera in Blyford had run out of batteries. Software now available for VAS signs. Cllr. Beckett to get further information. Cllr. Cackett [WDC] also spoke about speeding and said that Wangford found VAS worked well. She also put in a plea for support for Blyford Church events
7. Update on road signage – Mark Kerridge had been contacted for a quote for road signs in Sotherton, but signs are now supplied by Waveney Norse. Clerk to contact.
8. Planning application – DC/17/3906: Cherry Tree House, Southwold Rd., Blyford – WDC permission granted. Wenhaston pits – briefly discussed.
9. Finances –
 - Budget for y/e March 2019 – final figures discussed and councillors agreed to raise the precept to £3822 – an increase due to forthcoming requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations and possible external audit costs.
 - RFO [responsible financial officer] – C. Cardwell is appointed; to be confirmed at next meeting.
 - Financial regulations discussed, reviewed and councillors agreed they were fit for purpose.
 - Balance in current acct [HSBC – Beccles} - £10,696
 - Halesworth car park – HTC support – councillors agreed to subsidise with 200.00 donation [not to be spent on sign]. Cheque to be approved at next meeting.

10. Cheques were approved as follows: no. 437 clerk's salary: 218.95; no.438 to HMRC for 54.80 [tax to Dec]; no. 439 to SALC for 48.00 [training]; no. 440 transfer Latitude money to savings acct 2,508.00. Clerk to pay cheque in to HSBC savings account .
11. Correspondence and documents – received and discussed. Further items considered were trees on road opposite Roy Hammond – landowner to trim. Grass cutting on highways: councillors considered more cuts were needed. Flooding also discussed.
12. To receive and note following reports – Alison Cackett [WD councillor] said the Waveney DC was very busy with forthcoming merger with Suffolk Coastal.
13. Next meeting – **5th March 2018 – Members of the public are welcome to attend.**

The meeting closed at 9.15pm