**BADINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Thursday 26th January 2017 at 7.30pm**

**at Badingham Village Hall**

Reports from District & County Councillors, and questions from members of public: -

**1 PRESENT APOLOGIES**

Cllr S Frost - Chair

Cllr L McQuade- Vice Chair

Cllr R Welham

Cllr T Barber

Cllr S Osborne

Mrs Sue Piggott – Clerk

**2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Cllr R.Welham – Village Hall Committee

**3 MINUTES OF MEETING – Approve & Sign**

Council approved and signed the Minutes for 17.11.16, 23.11.16 & 7.12.17

**4 MATTERS TO REPORT FROM ACTIONS OF LAST MEETING**

The Clerk submitted Planning responses following the meeting on 17th November, these were Objection as agreed for the revised plans for Part Side Garden, Longlea House dwelling also the agreed response of Support for the new access for Longlea House.

The Clerk submitted Planning responses following the meeting of 7th December, these were Support as agreed for the two storey and part single storey extension to Bridge Cottage, also the re-design to the Part Side Garden, Longlea House dwelling as agreed that in principal this re-design was acceptable.

The Clerk has submitted pages for the Echo, which includes the explanation regarding the increase to the Precept for next financial year.

The Clerk arranged for a meeting with Highways to consider all the issues within the village, Cllr Frost, Cllr Barber and the Clerk met with Mike Ling SCC Highways Engineer all the issues agreed were discussed and will be reported on under item 10 Highways.

The Clerk constructed an instruction letter to outline the requirements for legal assessment of the Village Hall constitution, this was forwarded to all councillors.

Following agreement of the Council the Clerk confirmed with Ashton’s Solicitors of Ipswich their instruction.

The Clerk contacted Debbie Adams, Suffolk County Council Footpaths officer and reported the problems concerning the footpath running along the perimeter of the field behind the Church, the details will be reported under item 14 Footpaths.

**5 FINANCE –** To Approve Financial Statement

**5.1** Council members approved the Financial Statement.

**5.2** Following consideration of the depleted reserves and the expenditure incurred should the Council decide to install more dog bins for the village, Cllr Frost put forward the Proposal to purchase one dog bin Seconded by Cllr McQuade, the Council voted on the Proposal with the majority not agreeing to purchase and install an extra dog bin. It was resolved not to purchase a dog bin.

It was agreed that the Parish Council explain the responsibility of owners to bag and carry and that dog fouling is a result of dog owners not understanding their responsibility. A piece will be published in the ‘Echo’ to explain. **SP**

**6 TO RATIFY: STANDING ORDERS, RISK ASSESSMENT, FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND INTERNAL AUDITOR APPOINTMENT.**

Council members agreed to ratify the Standing Orders, Risk Assessment and Financial Regulations. It was agreed that Heallis and Lodge continue as Internal Auditor. **SP**

**7 COUNCILLOR VACANCIES FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS**

Council considered recognition letters to the two Councillors who resigned without notice. The Clerk was requested to send letters thanking Mr M Bedson and Mrs G Upton for their time whilst serving as Parish Councillors.

**SP**

**8** **POCKET PARK**

Cllr Welham explained that all was under control and that the management programme was working well**.**

**9 PLANNING -** None

**10 HIGHWAYS**

Following the meeting with SCC to discuss all the issues within the Parish. The sharp bend signs for Stone Bend have been re-instated. SCC are happy to work with the Parish Council to put into place double yellow lines to prevent road parking at the junction and alongside the pub frontage to enable clear access to the junction, but they would need the Parish Council to fund this project due to lack of funds at County Council level. SCC Highways are investigating the drainage causing flooding problems in the road alongside the Pub. SCC Highways would consider installing gating with 30 signs along Mill Road where the problems have been highlighted but would need this funded by the Parish Council due to lack of funds at County Council level. The tree boughs that overhang the A1120 opposite the Pub are the responsibility of the Parish Council. Cllr Welham will contact contractors to discuss an assessment to decided on what actions need to be taken.

**11 VILLAGE HALL**

**11.1** Cllr Welham explained that the trustees for the Village Hall are M.Cole, S.Donavan and himself. Cllr Welham explained that due to work commitments that he could not continue for much longer**.**

**11.2** The Parish Council is waiting to hear from Ashtons solicitor and to receive a report and advice regarding their legal positon in relation to the Village Hall ownership and constitution. Cllr Frost agreed to contact the Solicitor and ascertain when the concluding report will be available. **SF**

**12 SET DATE FOR 2017 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING/EVENT**

Council members considered dates for the Parish Meeting and agreed that they were available for April 21st, and that the Queen’s Birthday could help theme the evening.

**13 BENCH SITE –TREE SAFETY**

The tree safety and actions are covered under Item 10-Highways.

**14 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS**

Following a report giving concerns regarding the public access to the Footpaths that lead from behind the Church, the Clerk contacted Suffolk County Council Footpaths Officer Debbie Adams. Debbie Adams walked the Footways and confirmed that there has been no new planting that would be a problem to accessing the path. The path in question is a ‘Permissible pathway’ the County Council has no powers when a footway is made available by the landowner as a voluntary gesture. Debbie Adams confirmed that the official footpaths were clear and in good order.

**15 EMERGENCY PLAN**

Cllr Barber explained that he will be contacting Keith Falkner the Official County Emergency Plan Co-ordinator to discuss how to further improve the preparation of the Emergency Plan to cover helping those who could be vulnerable**. TB**

**16 CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter from Mr N Morgan had been received and was read out to Council members

**17 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

**18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Extra-Ordinary – 23rd February 2017 - **TBC**