

Informal notes of the Trimley St Martin Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 5th December 2006 in the Memorial Hall

Present: Chairman John Barker, Vice Chairman Joe Smith, Councillors Nigel Smith, Heather Rodwell, Carol Garrett, David Beale, Keith Slaughter, Berridge Eve, Julie Pither-Jones, Dave Pither, Ian Cowan.

Apologies: Suffolk County Councillor John Goodwin, Pc Dave Gledhill

Declarations of Interest:

- Councillor Ian Cowan - Personal interest under item (i) of Matters Arising from the November Meeting - Local Development Framework as a member of STAG.
- Chairman J. Barker declared a family connection to Orwell Housing. - See item d under AOB.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th November 2006.

Draft minutes of the parish council meeting held on the 7th November 2006, which had been duly circulated to members, were amended to show the following item under Matters Arising.

- **POF Transport and Works Order** - The Clerk advised councillors that following the informal meeting held with Andrew Cann as detailed in the minutes of the parish council meeting on the 3rd October, the council had received a verbal offer of a payment of £5000 from HPUK if the parish council were to withdraw their objections from the Transport and Works Order. However, councillors were unanimous in their agreement that the offer should be declined and the Clerk had advised HPUK of their decision.

Matters arising from the November Meeting

- i. **Latest update on Local Development Framework** - The Clerk advised councillors that following information received that there had been changes to the way the LDF Core Strategy was to be presented for consultation, the Clerk and three councillors along with DC Mary Dixon had attended the meeting of the LDF Task Group on the 15th November. They learnt that in order for the Core Strategy document to meet the government's test of 'soundness', that an additional round of consultation should be carried out whereby the initial Core Strategy document would be free from recommending any 'preferred options' as to the way forward with regard to housing and growth. A consultation period of eight weeks likely to commence in early January was put forward and then once responses had been received, the LDF Task Group would then put forward a further Core Strategy document, which would include the preferred options in respect of all the issues involved. Parish councillors then debated the implications of the new information and the general census of opinion was felt that the LDF Task Group were likely to be merely 'shelving' the original 'preferred options' Core Strategy document which had been prepared and was about to be put to Cabinet, until such time as the responses had been received and would still revert back to their preference of Option 6 which details significant growth and housing numbers for Felixstowe and the Trimley Villages. Councillor Cowan formally suggested that the Chairman of the Task Group, Andy Smith be invited to a meeting with parish councillors once the Core Strategy document was out for consultation. Further discussion on this matter agreed that the meeting should in fact be held with both Trimley parish councils and that this be advertised as a public meeting, since the recommendations within the LDF would affect all residents. It was decided to ask Andy Smith to a meeting sometime in early February, once the parish council had held their GP and Finance meeting scheduled for the 30th January which was being held to discuss the Core Strategy document and compose it's response to the consultation document. The Clerk is to liaise with the booking secretary to book the Hall for early February.

Community Police Officers' Report

- The Clerk read the crime report for the month of November.
- Councillors also discussed the recent newspaper articles, which had reported that the Home Office had reduced the promised £105 million that was to be received by the 43 forces to £35million with £20million of which would be going to London forces. The commitment of providing 24,000 police community support officers had in turn been reduced to 16,000. Chief constables were being asked to review their neighbourhood policing proposals. The Clerk is to write to Inspector Gallant who had attended the November meeting to originally outline the new neighbourhood policing for his response to the recent newspaper reports.
- The Clerk reported that the notice board had been vandalised yet again and the incident had been reported to the local police. The glass had again been replaced.

Public Question Time

- ii. **County Councillor Report:** In John Goodwin's absence, the Clerk read his report.
- iii. **Suffolk District Councillors Report:** Mary Dixon advised that she was now on the task group of the Green Issues Committee and that 140 councils countrywide had committed to the policy of endeavouring to reduce greenhouse gases. This would also include sourcing savings in energy, transport, goods and services. Mary also advised councillors that funds from the Crime and Disorder Partnership had been directed towards running a mobile CCTV unit and this would initially be used in the Felixstowe seafront area.
- iv. There were no questions from members of the public.

Correspondence

- a) HPUK Invite to meeting: The Clerk advised that she had received a letter from HPUK in respect of a consultation meeting that had been arranged with objectors to the Transport and Works Order and that the parish council had been invited merely as being the parish within which the matter related. The Chairman and Councillor Nigel Smith would be attending and Councillor Cowan advised that he had been invited as an individual objector and would also be attending in that capacity.
- b) Bidwells letter re: Improved access scheme - The Clerk read to Councillors the letter that she had received from Bidwells in respect of the improved circular footpath scheme which had been discussed informally with Tim Collins of Bidwells. However the letter stated that Trinity College had wished to suspend further discussions until such time as the position had become clearer with regard to the LDF. Councillors expressed their disappointment with the content of the letter and the Clerk was requested to write back to Tim Collins at Bidwells in this vein and also to forward a copy of the letter that the parish council had also received from Suffolk Coasts and Heaths. (See next item)
- c) Suffolk Coasts and Heaths - The Clerk had received a letter from SC&H advising of a locally funded scheme that supports conservation, access and awareness projects, called Connect. It appeared that the parish council's proposed circular footpath scheme would have fitted the criteria but in view of the response from Bidwells (see d) above), it was agreed that at the present time, matters could not be taken further.
- d) Disability Advice Service - The Clerk read to councillors the letter she had received in respect of a donation request and an amount of £50.00 was agreed.

Planning Applications

- **CO6/2200/ful** Proposal: Erection of single-storey side extension - Location: 19 Meadow Close, Trimley St Martin - no objections.
- **CO6/2189/ful** Proposal: Erection of two-storey extension, porch, detached garage and conservatory - location: 56 Old Kirton Road, Trimley St Martin It was felt that this was over-development and that it would have an impact on the adjacent neighbour.

Planning Decisions

- **CO6/12045** Proposal: Erection of single storey side extension.
Location: 85 St Martins Green, Trimley St Martin - **granted**

Street Lighting

It was noted that not all of the street lighting on the A14 Trimley Flyover and its associated slip roads were still not working - The clerk would report this again.

Highways and Footpaths

- a) **Hand in Hand Bus Shelter** - The Clerk, thanked John Goodwin, in his absence, for fixing the broken seat in the bus shelter and the Clerk also advised that Mr Dunningham had cleaned the bus shelter with a commercial cleaning agent. He has also washed out the others and will do this on a fortnightly basis or as and when required. The Clerk read to councillors an email she had received from John Goodwin about anti-graffiti paint at a cost of about £100. It was decided that this should be purchased and the Clerk is to contact John Goodwin in respect of this. Councillor Nigel Smith advised that following inspection of the construction of the shelter, it would be too expensive to widen the front of the shelter but that the cost of putting in a window space would be in the region of £100 and it was agreed to proceed with this also as well as adjusting some of the tiles on the roof which had moved slightly and had created a gap in the roof.
- b) **SCC notification of temporary closure of public right of way** - The Clerk reported to councillors that a temporary closure had been put on the bridleway 45 due to the surface track having been damaged by contractor's vehicles that were accessing the seawall for maintenance work. The order stated the bridleway would be closed until May 07 to allow the track to return to its former condition. An email had been received from Rachael Jackson of HPUK who stated that due to environmental restrictions being placed upon them to carry out repairs in a time frame which was governed by migratory birds, the work was being done in the Autumn when ground conditions may have already begun to deteriorate although initial talks were being carried out with the relevant authorities to allow works to be carried out earlier in the year. Councillors asked the Clerk to write to the Rights of Way Officer to support the idea of works being carried out earlier.
- c) **Footpath alongside Mill Close** from High Road: The Clerk reported that this footpath has been cleared and covered in shingle, by a local resident who has carried out work at this footpath before. Councillors agreed that a gift be purchased from petty cash funds for the resident in recognition of his kind spirited work.
- d) **Capel Hall Lane picnic area** - The Clerk reported that the request for new trees under the SCDC parish tree scheme had been successful and local resident Doug Hart had kindly arranged collection of these from a local nursery, had planted them and also cleared a lot of overgrown bramble growth from the picnic area. An account for £30 had been submitted which Councillors accepted and the Clerk duly arranged for the cheque to be written and signed at this meeting.
- e) **New footpaths map** - The Chairman advised that he also been contacted by Doug Hart in respect of the footpath map at the picnic site which required replacing. Discussion took place regarding this along with the footpath map on the front of the Memorial Hall and it was decided that this matter should be placed in the hands of the Footpath Committee to discuss further and a suggestion was made that perhaps the Connect Scheme may be approached for funding.
- f) **Howlett Way roundabout** - The Clerk advised councillors that the SCDC workers, which were seen on the Howlett Way roundabout, were in fact litter pickers and not landscape maintenance workers. (See November minutes - item 63a)
- g) **Miscellaneous Matters** - Councillors reported that the lock on the gate down to the foreshore is to be replaced since a number of vehicles have been using the track down to the river. There is substantial overgrowth outside number 19 Old Kirton Road and the overgrown hedge outside Owl Cottage prevents walkers from using the

path at this point. There is a rut in the road at the junction of Mill Close and Mill Lane and the path near to the Sausage Shop is uneven. The Clerk is to contact the relevant authorities in all these matters.

Any Other Business

- a) **Memorial Hall** - The Clerk advised that she had attended a meeting with the Memorial Hall committee members and that they had advised that they had obtained quotations for a new water heater and supply for the new kitchen at a cost of £4000 inclusive of VAT which would be paid for from Memorial Hall funds. The next phase would be to install radiators and a quotation of £3638 Inc Vat had been obtained for this and the Hall committee were presently sourcing funding for this including a request to CC John Goodwin for locality budget funding.
- b) **Parish Pump** - The Clerk advised that the Parish Pump copies were delivered to the Town Crier offices ready for distribution from the 1st December onwards, although some councillors advised that they had not yet received their copies of either the Town Crier or Parish Pump and the Clerk was to contact the new owner to see if there was a problem with distribution. The Clerk advised that the Town Crier business had in fact been sold to new owners and that she would be contacting them in the New Year with regard to future distribution of the Parish Pump.
- c) **Reeve Lodge Carols** - The Clerk reminded councillors of the carols evening on the 14th December and she took details of the food that would be provided for the buffet.
- d) **Orwell Housing** - Councillor Beale gave councillors a brief resume of the meeting that he had attended of the Orwell Housing Seminar.
- e) Councillor Nigel Smith confirmed he would be attending the next meeting of the Haven Gateway Committee along with Vice Chairman Joe Smith. They had been asked to go to the meeting equipped with any suggestions of ways which the village could benefit from funding and suggestions including Memorial Hall extra items list (supplied by Councillor Rodwell), access to the AONB, cycle routes to Felixstowe and community woodland were all to be put forward.
- f) Councillor Slaughter had asked if any progress had been made in obtaining a quotation for cleaning the war memorial and the Clerk advised that quotes were in the process of being requested.
- g) The next parish council meeting is to be held on the 2nd January with a Finance and General Purpose meeting being held just prior to this meeting at a likely time of 7pm in order to discuss the precept.
- h) The Chairman wished all those present the compliments of the season.