

Informal notes of the Trimley St Martin Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 6th March in the Memorial Hall

Present: Chairman John Barker, Vice Chairman Joe Smith, Councillors Nigel Smith, Heather Rodwell, Julie Pither-Jones, Dave Pither, Ian Cowan and Carol Garrett.

Clerk: Mrs Tracey Hunter

By Invitation: Suffolk County Councillor John Goodwin, Suffolk District Councillor Mary Dixon, Ps Neil Mckay, PcsO Liz Lake

Apologies: Berridge Eve, David Beale, and Keith Slaughter

Community Police Report

Ps Neil Mckay had attended the parish council meeting to explain to councillors the basis of the new Safer Neighbourhood Scheme which was due to be implemented for the area.

Declarations of Interest:

Councillor Ian Cowan - Personal interest as STAG member re: Item 98 -LDF

Councillor Nigel Smith - Personal Interest re: Item 12A - Contract for Howlett Way roundabout.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the February 2007 Parish Council meeting

Local Development Framework - It was agreed that John Barker and the Chairman of Trimley St Mary Parish council, Richard Kerry, would jointly chair the forthcoming public meeting. A brief summary of why the meeting was being held would be given followed by an invitation to Andy Smith, Leader of the Task Group to explain the purpose and an overview of the whole LDF process.

Discussion then took place with regard to the fact sheet that it had been proposed to give out at the meeting. The Clerk is to arrange for the fact sheets to be printed with some distributed around the village prior to the meeting and the rest given out at the meeting itself.

The agenda item of taking legal advice was then discussed. This had been brought forward from the previous GP and Fin meeting and was discussed by councillors. The idea was that legal advice should be sought to see if the Suffolk Coastal District Council LDF Task Group had failed in their duty and had put forward a consultation document which was misleading, especially in regard to the housing statistics that had been used within the document, and whether there were grounds to report their incompetence to the Standards Board. A number of councillors felt that it was too early to be going down this route and a District Councillor gave the view that she did not feel that the LDF Task Group would be permitted to put out a document without it being subject to rigorous scrutiny. A vote was then taken as to whether legal advice should be taken and this was decided against by a majority vote.

Public Question Time

1. **County Councillor Report** - John Goodwin gave a brief verbal report to councillors and this was followed by a vote of thanks from Councillor Rodwell in respect of the help and advice that CC Goodwin had been able to impart to the Memorial Hall committee which had resulted in their being able to secure funding for the replacement of the heating in the hall.
2. **District Councillors Report** - Mary Dixon gave a brief summary of the meeting she had attended where the Housing Needs Survey had been presented and all that it entailed. She also advised SCDC had implemented a 2.93% increase within the council tax, which compared with a 4.5% increase from SCC and a 5.0% increase imposed by the Suffolk Police Authority. SCDC had been able to keep their increase to a minimum due to their sharing various services with other local authorities.

3. **Public Questions** - A member of the public who is also a member of the Bowls Club advised councillors that the Bowls Club had been successful in obtaining full funding for the new car parking area to be properly surfaced, and thanks was again extended to John Goodwin for both an allocation of his locality money which had been received but also his invaluable help in sourcing other grant funding. Reports of a fallen tree over a footpath were reported as well as broken glass in a bus shelter. The Clerk is to contact the appropriate authorities in each case.

Planning applications

CO7/0322/ful Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension. - Location: 68 St Martins Green, Trimley St Martin. - Looked at by councillors, no objections made.

Planning Decisions

CO7/0025/ful Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension and conversion of garage to garden room. - Location: 45A Old Kirton Road, Trimley St Martin - **Granted**

Street Lighting

No faults reported.

Highways and Footpaths

- a) The Clerk advised that the landscaping maintenance contract for the roundabout in return for displaying advertising signage was due to expire on the 31st March and she proposed that this be extended to the existing holder, Goslings Farms. Councillors agreed this and a further 12month contract was signed by the Chairman John Barker and Nigel Smith, owner of Goslings Farms. The Clerk advised that she had contacted JMS Landscapes requesting a quotation for the next twelve months maintenance of the Howlett Way planted beds.
- b) Other highway matters raised were the reporting of a trailer being parked at the rear of a house which exited onto Howlett Way which is causing damage to the beds, the removal of highway fencing along the A14 and a section of close-boarding fencing which has been damaged. The Clerk is to report these to the various authorities.
- c) Councillor Cowan asked if the Clerk had heard back from Network Rail regarding the Thorpe Lane crossing and the problem of the 'phantom' barriers and the Clerk advised that she had not, merely a card noting correspondence had been received. The Clerk would send a reminder to Network Rail and it was also put forward that the Clerk write to the Health and Safety Executive regarding the current dangers of having half barriers at this crossing.
- d) It was also reported that a resident who lives at the gatehouse had noticed that the rails were currently under water following heavy rain and that they were 'bouncing' alarmingly every time a train travelled across them. The Clerk would also report this to Network Rail.

Any Other Business

- Port Meeting - The Clerk advised that she had attended this meeting with Chairman John Barker and that full minutes of the meeting would follow, once they had been received from Rachael Jackson at HPUK.
- Memorial Hall - Councillor Heather Rodwell advised that some funding had been received towards the heating but that they were still short on the final cost. Discussion took place with regard to the parish council providing funding for the replacement heating at an amount of £2000. This was then proposed by Councillor Pither and seconded by Councillor Cowan.
- Parish Pump - The Clerk advised that she had spoken to the new owners of the Town Crier and they would be advising the cost of delivery of the newsletter. It was agreed to put out an edition at the end of March.

- iv. Nomination Papers - The Clerk advised that she had contacted SCDC and was told that the nomination papers for the forthcoming elections would be out by the end of the week. The Clerk will distribute these accordingly once she has received these.
- v. Future meetings- The Clerk advised that the Annual Parish meeting would take place on the 3rd April at 7.00pm followed by the usual parish council meeting.