

Bawdsey Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council

Thursday 21st March 2019 at 7.00pm

Bawdsey Village Hall

<p>In Attendance –Chairman Andrew Block (AB), Clls Liz Mark (LM), Rawdon Saunders (RS), Richard Tricker (RT), Chris Mann, (CM) Brian Johnson (BJ) SCDC Cll Christine Block, (CB) Jenny Webb (Clerk)</p>	
<p><i>Meeting called to order by Chair AB at 7.00pm.</i></p>	
<p>1. Open Forum- Two parishioners were present and a concern was voiced over the charging of pensioners for the CATS on-demand bus service which is to come into force on 1 April. Before this date, bus passes have been accepted on these buses. The return charge to Woodbridge will be £7.40 for a nine mile journey each way. Chairman agreed that villages can't be sustainable if there is no public transport and suggested putting the item in the Bulletin with the email address of the relevant SCC officer in charge of public transport provision. Clerk will also write a letter on behalf of the council. Another concern was raised about the new planning application by PGL to build a recreational lake on marshland abutting Ferry Road. A new intake of students has arrived on site before any landscaping has been put in to mitigate noise, a pre-condition for building the activity structures. Chairman AB said he understood that SCDC were investigating noise complaints and that he would be willing to act as an intermediary between residents and PGL. A parishioner raised a concern about speeding down East Lane near the school and requested that Highways be asked whether a 20mph zone could be instated.</p>	
<p>2. Chairman's welcome and Apologies: Chairman AB welcomed councillors to the meeting. He drew attention to the fact that Cll Liz Mark would not be standing for re-election in May and conveyed the council's thanks to her for 16 years' service. Cll Johnson echoed this sentiment. Apologies received from Clls Andrew Rouse, (AR) Emma Aldous, SCC Cll Andrew Reid</p>	
<p>3. Councillor's Declaration of Interests: Clls AB, RT and SCDC Cll CB declared an interest in the Scottish Power Windfarm project; Clls AB, BJ for Bawdsey Coastal Partnership; Cll AB for CLT; Clls AB and BJ for Tin Chapel project</p>	
<p>4. Signing of Minutes:</p> <p>i. Minutes of 23rd January 2019 were signed as a true record. Proposed by Cll RT, seconded by LM.</p>	
<p>5. To receive report from SCC Cll Andrew Reid. Cll Reid was unable to attend but sent a report which can be read on the website. www.bawdsey.onesuffolk.net. There will be a rise of 2.99% in SCC's portion of the council tax. SCDC Councillor Christine Block: The Deben Estuary Partnership intends to review and update its five year old Deben Estuary Plan in the light of the Local Plan. It has hitherto focused on a river-based strategy and has not taken into account the impact the proposed build of almost 6,000 new houses on the Felixstowe side of the Deben will have. The Plan needs to be strong enough to be used in planning applications. A Water Management Plan is needed to help conserve water. It will be necessary to change the DEP agenda and to try to quantify the monetary value of the landscape to the local economy, lying as it does within the tranquillity of the AONB. With regard to Flood Cell 1, it is becoming hard to access monies from SCDC for flood defences.</p>	

6. Progress Reports: i. Clerk's report, incl. current finance report. The report of correspondence and actions can be read on the village website. Clerk drew attention to the fact that the council has received £500 from SCDC to help pay for a weather station. Match funding will be sought from SCC. There is a balance of **£3,002.32** in the current account; some of this is earmarked for highway works and £1,165 is money towards a new village sign. **£7,268.23** in the BQVC account and **£6,031.31** in the Savers Account after annual interest of **£10.52**.

ii. Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee update: Cll Saunders reported that he has replied to a solicitor's enquiry about the boundary of Old Bakery Cottage and the recreation ground which is incorrect following the removal of a hedge. The VHRGC will get in touch with the land registry if the relevant map does not show the correct boundary. Some of the grass around the war memorial will be removed and replaced with concrete at a cost of £5,500. Moss on the playground is still problematic and has been closed all winter. A spray which does not affect children is being sought to tackle the problem. A working party is taking place at the end of March. The fete is taking place on 27th May, the Whit Bank Holiday. Top raffle prize is £250. There is a lot of bric-a-brac left from the jumble sale which can be sold at the fete. £400 was made from the jumble sale, divided between St Mary's Church and the VHRGC. Cll Saunders told the meeting he will not be seeking re-election as parish councilor.

iii. Coastal Protection Updates: a) DEP: See Cll C Block's report **b) BCP update:** A presentation is taking place on Wednesday 10th April at 11am in the VH to showcase new materials for sea protection A new meeting between BCP and East Suffolk is forthcoming regarding the Shoreline Management Plan review.

iv. Emergency Committee: More Emergency leaflets will be needed in the coming year as well as a few sundry costs. Jason Horncastle will be standing down as Chair this year.

v. Scottish Power: Community Officer Edward Rees will attend the Annual Parish Meeting to update the village about the works currently being carried out and the timetable for remaining works. AB and RT will submit questions to Mr Rees. He will also answer questions from the floor. 70% of the work has already been completed. ER has given a short report about what is happening offshore which is on the village website under News. The reinstatement of hedges will form part of the clearing up process. Scottish Power will keep the landfall site until the completion of EA3.

vi. Speedwatch: The team was unable to use its allotted slot at Christmas and New Year. The next 2 week slot was unavailable due to the recalibration of the Speedgun. The team would also like to buy its own Speedgun to be able to monitor speeding more frequently. Clerk wanted to ascertain that the model chosen by the team was approved by the police who issue warning letters to offenders.

7. To a) receive update on Highways issues including parking at Bawdsey Quay and Shingle Street Chairman AB reported at the January meeting that there may be monies from SCDC for work to regularize parking at Bawdsey Quay. An assessment and costing have to be undertaken so AB has written to David Chenery of Highways with a suggested scheme of work. **(See docs on website)** Councillors BJ, AR and AB have visited the area and have suggested that three extra lay-bys could be made in addition to designated spaces on Bawdsey Quay to make parking bays clearer. **b) New signs** have been made for Shingle Street paid for by a grant from the AONB Coast and Heaths at the instigation of the Shingle Street Settlement Company. The intention is to remind visitors to respect this area of outstanding natural beauty and not to camp overnight. Catherine Lindsay-Davies has resigned as Chair of the Shingle Street Settlement Company. Clerk was asked to enquire about the under-spend for this project. Anne Page who was Chair for many years is

Clerk

Clerk

moving away from the area and Clerk was asked to send her a thank-you letter for her contribution to Bawdsey life.

8. To receive update on route of the National Coastal Path: Clerk has already written to Natural England to share concerns of the council about the proposed route and encourage the use of foot ferries. Cll Mann who is the main landowner in the area said that one option being considered was to take the path from the Quay up to the A site and from there along the cliff top to East Lane. Councillors thought this was unacceptable due to cliff-top erosion. Walking up Ferry Road was also thought to be dangerous. Using existing rights of way was thought to be a far safer option even if they diverged from sight of the sea in places. Clerk asked to write another letter to Natural England recommending the use of Beach Lane at Alderton and thence to Ramsholt as an alternative.

Clerk

9. To receive update on tin chapel: Following a steering group meeting made up of the East Suffolk Building Preservation Trust, SCDC officers, PGL and Clls BJ and AB, a bid to carry out a feasibility study for the restoration of the chapel was awarded to the Cultural Engine, a body which worked on the restoration of the radar Museum. The focus will be on what use can be made of the building by the stakeholders and how the chapel could be linked to the amenity site. Potential uses of the chapel are to display information about the local wildlife, local archaeological finds and a creative space for local arts and crafts. The next meeting of the steering group is April 16th.

10. Planning Issues: i. **To review outstanding application:** a) **DC/19/0780/FUL Demolition of small storage sheds and replacement with single building all coloured dark/black on plain single storey pitched roofs. Martello Tower, Shingle Street, Bawdsey.** This planning application was approved and councillors expressed their appreciation of the detailed flood risk assessment contained in the report. Clerk was asked to file this in the filing cabinet so that it can be referred to in future Shingle Street planning applications. Approval was proposed by RT and seconded by Cll LM b) **DC/17/4910/FUL Siting of activity structures including concrete ground fixings at Bawdsey Manor Estate** Councillors decided that noise enforcement action should be carried out by SCDC following complaints from residents about the noise from the activity structures which appear to have been erected nearer the perimeter fence than was shown on the original plans. Proposed by Cll Tricker and seconded by Cll Block. Clerk to contact relevant planning officer. (NB A new planning application **DC/19/1022/FUL** includes the repositioning of activity structures)

Clerk

ii. **To receive updates about School Meadow and Orwell Housing developments:** Chairman AB has received information about the proposed plans for landscaping and drainage for this site. An on-site pumping station is envisaged. Thirty two conditions have to be approved before the build can start. **The updates can be read on the website.** The archaeological investigations have almost finished and building should commence in the next month or so and take up to a year. Clerk asked to sign up for weekly planning alerts.

Clerk

iii. **To receive update about the Community Land Trust HNS:** The CLT has received £450,000 to buy 4 houses on School Meadow. These will be for rent for local people. The revised lay-out of these houses was as a result of pressure from the CLT. The results of the Housing Needs Survey are currently being put together. It was conceded that that it was a complicated

document which could have been laid out more clearly.

- iv. **To consider any new applications received after publication of agenda:**
None

11. Finance: a) To authorize payments as listed below and any new invoices.

- i. SCC Highways £560.40
- ii. SCDC Bulletin (Dec/Jan) £34.43
- iii. Archant (EADT advert) £151.54
- iv. Clerk's wages: £420.60
- v. HMRC PAYE £184.80
- vi. LCPAS membership (Clerks only) £60.00

The above payments were approved by the council. Proposed by Cll Saunders and seconded by Cll Tricker.

- b) **To agree spending on a new Speedgun and related costs:** Council agreed to sanction the spending of £300 on a new speed gun and related equipment such as high-viz jackets and sign. Proposed by Cll Tricker and seconded by Cll Mark. However Clerk was asked to ascertain whether the police would recognize the device before any purchase is made.
- c) **To decide on charitable donations for 2017-18: Clerk to supply requests already received (SARS, Citizens Advice, Headway)** The council agreed to donate £100 each to Citizen's Advice, Felixstowe branch, SARS, (Suffolk Accident Rescue Service), East Anglian Air Ambulance and Felixstowe Volunteer Coastal Patrol Service. £50 will be donated to SCAR (Suffolk Coast Against Retreat) Proposed by Cll Block and seconded by Cll Johnson.

Clerk

12. New Village Sign: To decide on actions to progress a new village sign: Cll AR shared design ideas for a village sign along traditional lines at the last meeting. . The ideas for images will be shared at the APM on April 4th to see if a consensus can be reached.

13. Sizewell C: To receive stage 3 consultation document: Local associations such as SCAR and the Alde/Ore Estuary Association have already put in submissions. Clerk asked to pen a similar letter to the authorities expressing concern about the effect of offshore constructions on the coast further south and at the mouth of the Deben. EDF have not taken into account the impact Sizewell C will have on the environment generally.

Clerk

14. To finalize topics for the Annual Parish Meeting in April: Chairman will give an overview of the key issues that the council has faced over the past year. Reports from SCDC and SCC will be given. Clerk will give a rundown on end of year finances. Edward Rees from Scottish Power will be present to give an update about the works and will answer any questions. There will be an opportunity for residents to share ideas for the new village sign.

15. To review actions for local elections: Clerk distributed nomination forms and explained the

rubric. Completed forms can be given to Clerk for delivery at East Suffolk offices on 2nd April.

16. Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council including any further reports: SCDC Cll Christine Block told the council she would not be standing again as a district councillor. However she will continue to be involved in the Deben Coastal Community Team which is a CIC aiming to aid economic development in the area and influence decision making. Since a number of trustees have left, she is the only remaining trustee and asked if any councillor would like to be part of this influential group which has been instrumental in obtaining money to carry out a feasibility study on the future of the tin chapel. It has already had a considerable effect on local government and tourism. Cll Tricker agreed to become a trustee.

17. To review key dates for 2019 The date of the Local Parish and District Council Elections is Thursday May 2nd. The Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday May 9th at 7pm. Hollesley PC is holding a get together of councillors from the parish councils joining the Deben Ward on Thursday 25th April at 7pm.

Date of next meeting: Thursday May 2nd at 7pm

Meeting ended 9.30pm

Signature:

Date:

Andrew Block - Chair of Bawdsey Parish Council