

Minutes of Sible Hedingham Parish Council Meeting Held at the Village Hall, Parkfields, Sible Hedingham on Monday 12th August 2019 at 7.30pm

In the chair: Cllr G Jefferson

Present: Cllrs S Metson, T Nash, J Fennelly, K Hamilton, B Gardener, L Heywood, J Stopher, F Ranson, B Young, County Cllr D Finch, Mrs. G McCoyd (clerk) and 4 members of public.

Public Comment

The bench near Reflection Corner was used by 4 boys to stand on; they then broke the fence and went into the garden which is a wildlife garden. They also broke a branch on the poplar tree.

Has the Parish Council removed the dead tree covered in ivy from Capes Chase?
Cllr G Jefferson said yes as it was leaning over and dangerous.

54. Apologies for Absence

Cllr M Lee (business), District Cllr H Johnson (business), District Cllr J Beavis (another meeting)

55. Members declarations

There were no declarations

56. To confirm the minutes of meeting held 8th July 2019

The minutes of 8th July having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

57. Matters arising from those minutes

There were no matters arising.

58. Chairman's Report

Cllr G Jefferson said the Guides were unable to help with the litter pick and the Scouts had declined which was unfortunate but she hoped for support from St Peters PTA. She congratulated Cllr T Nash who has raised £12500 for St Helena Hospice from his cycle ride. Unscheduled repairs had been carried out to various trees due to the wind. She wished Mrs C Hoadley (who looks after the toilets) well as she had fallen and fractured her wrist. She stated that there were increasing concerns in the village regarding traffic problems and this will be an agenda item for next month, she has spoken to Cllr Finch and he will be at the meeting to help with any proposals. She has enjoyed seeing the wildlife sections along the A131 and would like to see these areas extended. She noted that the Riverside Walk is now open.

59. County Councillor's Report

Cllr D Finch stated that the budget in the first quarter showed a slight increase due to special education needs and schools but ECC could manage that. He said that there was now a new speedwatch scheme where tickets could be issued to speeding drivers who would then be fined; he had noted that in the past the previous Parish Council had refused to be engaged with speedwatch. He stated that all libraries would stay open and ECC were investing 3 million pounds in the library service, there have been 80 expressions of interest in community run libraries. Highways drive to reduce the number of potholes has been reasonably successful.

Cllr B Young asked if the library in Sible Hedingham would only be open until the next review. Cllr D Finch replied that it depends on what happens but there would be a review in 5 years time, he stated that although book issues are dropping there were more social groups using the library.

Cllr T Nash said there were lots of problems regarding Anglian Water constantly having traffic lights and causing pothole issues. Cllr D Finch said that contractors were required to leave the road as found. Cllr F Ranson said the problems were more structural than cosmetic, he said it had taken Anglian Water 3 times to deal with one issue by the Sugar Loaves and he asked what the timescale was to call the contractors back if there were later defects? Cllr D Finch said all contractors were given a licence and the highway was inspected after the work had been carried out. He said to email him (cllrdavid.finch@essex.gov.uk) if issues subsequently arise regarding any work carried out by contractors. Cllr T Nash said the problem with Anglian Water was ongoing as one leak would be repaired and then another would appear. Cllr Finch said he would check the situation regarding Anglian Water.

A member of the public asked how visitors were recorded in the library. Cllr Finch said all libraries had devices to count visitors.

60. To consider where to position a defibrillator within the village

Cllr G Jefferson said it was not possible to install one by the BT phone box as it was live but a form has been sent to The Community Heartbeat Trust asking them to adopt it. Cllr K Hamilton suggested it be installed outside the Parish Office; Cllr G Jefferson said that could be investigated depending on what happens with the Trust. Cllr J Stopher said he had spoken to the Yellow House and they were making enquiries. Cllr G Jefferson said the Co-op one was live, readings are taken every Wednesday, the staff are not allowed to give out the code as this will be given out by the iel a seMde vb se we do thly ere th" nco .

Cllr B Young said the play area at Bloor Homes had a sign saying closed but it was being used. Cllr K Hamilton said the locks were cut to enter it. Cllr G Jefferson said the play area will be transferred to the Parish when all the work was finished but at the moment it was the responsibility of Bloor Homes.

62. To consider using the Recreation Ground for the Heditude Festival

Cllr G Jefferson reminded all Cllrs that they act as trustees of the Recreation Ground and there cannot be a charge to enter. Cllr B Gardener said the festival in the last 2 years had been held at the Football Ground but this year they were not keen to hold it there. So the committee is looking at holding it on the Recreation Ground as a free festival with the aim of making it more family friendly. The licences would all have to be changed and they are hoping to get sponsorship. Cllr K Hamilton said if it was free more people may attend. Cllr B Gardener said they may have a bucket on the gate for donations. Cllr S Metson suggested having a charity wrist band which people donate money for. Cllr J Fennelly said there may be a problem with local residents but festivals have been held on the Recreation Ground in the past, he said

19/01362/HH | Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey side extension. Conversion of roof space to provide additional bedrooms including addition of dormer windows and roof windows | The Oaks Lamb Lane Sible Hedingham Essex CO9 3RT. No objection

65. To receive the Accounts for payment. Appendix 1

Cllr B Young proposed the accounts be approved and paid, Cllr L Heywood seconded, the motion was carried

66. Any other business

Cllr B Young said that when discussing crossings and road safety next month could the junction at the end of Alexandra Road with Swan Street be taken into consideration.

Cllr K Hamilton said the hedge at no. 1 Station Road was very overgrown so residents had to walk in the road. Cllr S Metson said he had spoken to the owner who was waiting for contactors to start work.

Cllr J Fennelly asked to revisit Speedwatch again, Cllr G Jefferson agreed. Cllr J Stopher said the scheme had some issues but it was worth looking at.

Cllr S Metson asked if it was possible for the Heditude Committee to put pressure on the Football Committee to use the Football Ground.

Cllr L Heywood said she was concerned that mopeds may use the Riverside Walk as a short cut between Station Road and Alderford Street so a barrier may be required.

The meeting closed at 8.39pm