

DRINKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th March 2016 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Daphne Youngs
Cllr Gary Hembra
Cllr Christine Lambert
Cllr Sue Cousins

Cllr Lorna Thurlow
Cllr Haslett Schofield
Cllr Cora Munford

Parish Clerk - Paula Gladwell
7 members of the public

County and District Cllr Penny Otton (part)

2015/189 **Apologies for Absence** — None

2015/190 **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Lambert declared a pecuniary interest in Item 8.1 (min no. 2015/203)

2015/191 **Adjournment for:**

County and District Cllr Otton's Report – Cllr Otton gave her report which will be circulated.

Open Forum – Concerns were expressed regarding a blocked drain adjacent to The Rectory causing surface water to run across the road, the clerk will report to Highways.

Meeting resumed:

2015/192 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** – It was proposed by Cllr Youngs that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 1st February 2016 were signed as a true record.

2015/193 **Clerks report** – It was noted that the red phone box remains the property of BT and houses a working phone. BT have been asked to clean and check it. The stile on footpath at Hammond Hall has been reported as loose in its posts and slippery on the step, SCC Rights of Way will assess it. Overhanging posts in Rattlesden Road have been reported and the issue rectified. The clerks request to attend SALC workshop at cost of £15 split with other councils was agreed.

It was confirmed that Cllr Otton's locality grant towards the grit bins had been approved.

An additional grit pile has been requested for Green Close.

2015/194 **Finance** – The clerks Financial Report for March 2016 was noted.

2015/195 The following payments were approved. Prop by Cllr Youngs with all in favour.
Clerk's salary for February 2016

2015/196 Grass cutting £343.75

2015/197 Hall Hire £240.00

2015/198 It was resolved to grant give £100 towards the planned celebration for HM Queen's 90th birthday using Budget virements of £50 from CAB and £50 from reserves. Proposed Cllr Youngs with all in favour.

2015/200 It was resolved to purchase three salt grit bins up to value of £400. The clerk will place an order in consultation with Cllr Haslett. Proposed Cllr Youngs with all in favour.

2015/201 It was resolved to appoint Henry Riches to carry out the Internal Audit for 2015/16. The Terms of Engagement and Audit Plan were approved.

2015/202 **Review of Effectiveness of Internal Controls** – A review of the effectiveness of councils governing arrangements and systems of internal control was carried out. All controls in place were felt to be effective and no areas for development were identified.

Cllr Lambert left the room.

2015/203 **Planning** –It was resolved to send the following comments to MSDC Planning for Application no. 0494/16 Fell 1 Silver Maple, Fell 1 Yew Tree, Ambers, Drinkstone Park - *"Drinkstone Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available"* and

Cllr Lambert returned.

2015/204 Application no. 0586/16 Erection of double garage, Meadow Cottage, Rattlesden Road - *"Drinkstone Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available"*

2015/205 It was noted that application 0292/16 Erection of dwelling with alterations to form vehicular access into Cherry Tree Rise, Rear of Briar Cottage, Gedding Road had been withdrawn.

2015/206 The following MSDC decisions were noted: Application no. 0115/16 T1 Mature Willow Tree in front garden. Reduce to approx 2m below the old reduction points and reshape to create good framework of pollard heads, 4 School Meadow – GRANTED.

2015/207 **Councillor Portfolios –**

Allotments – Invoices are due to be sent out for 2016-17

2015/208 **Footpaths** – Nothing to report.

2015/209 **Playing Field** – Cllr Hembra's report had been circulated and it was noted that quotations to replace the rubber surfacing ranged between £1500 - £2500 it was agreed that this work was not financially viable for the parish council at this time. It was suggested that a working party of volunteers could be tasked with replacing the mats, it was agreed that quotes for the matting be sourced and insurance policy checked to ensure cover for volunteers carrying out this type of work.

2015/210 The Terms of Reference for the Playingfield Working Group were approved. Various suggestions have come from members of the group for plans for the additional land including adult gym equipment and a wildlife walk, further discussion will take place within the working group before any recommendations are made to council.

2015/211 **Standing Orders and Financial Regulations** – Following recommendations from Salc and changes to legislation it was resolved to approve the amendments to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations as drafted, Proposed Cllr Youngs with all in favour.

2015/212 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.

2015/213 **Annual Parish Meeting** – It was agreed that the format of the Annual Parish meeting be the same as previous years with the addition of an invitation to the Garden Club and WI. The meeting will be held on Thursday 12th May at 8pm and will follow the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

2015/214 **Suffolk Code of Conduct** – It was confirmed that the Suffolk Code of Conduct was adopted at the 2012 July meeting. It was noted that approval of amendments recommended in June 2014 in order to comply with the Localism Act had not been minuted. Following a review of the Suffolk Code of Conduct the revised draft was approved.

2015/216 **Matters to be brought to the attention of council** – None.

Meeting closed 8.40pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 4th April 2016 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall