

# DRINKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 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  
11 members of the public
- County and District Cllr Penny Otton (part)
- 2015/217 **Apologies for Absence** — None  
2015/218 **Declarations of Interest** – None  
2015/219 **Adjournment for:**  
**Open Forum** – Concerns were expressed regarding blocked drains at junctions on Woolpit Road and Park Road the clerk will report to Highways.  
**County and District Cllr Otton’s Report** – Cllr Otton gave her report which has been circulated and is attached to these minutes.  
**Meeting resumed:**
- 2015/220 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** – It was proposed by Cllr Youngs that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved with amendments to 2015/200 and 2015/191. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016 were signed as a true record.
- 2015/221 **Clerks report** – It was noted that Woolpit Parish Council have actioned a consultation on their Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation with the area defined as the existing parish boundary. The closing date for comments is 3<sup>rd</sup> May therefore it was agreed that Cllr Youngs would co ordinate any comments from councillors and submit.  
It was noted that current funds available from S106 agreements stand at £973.51 for Village Halls and £1801.06 for Outdoor sports.  
It was confirmed that four salt grit bins have been ordered and once the proforma invoice is paid they will be delivered and installed.
- 2015/222 **Finance** – The clerks Financial Report for April 2016 was noted.  
2015/223 The following payments were approved. Prop by Cllr Youngs with all in favour.  
Clerk’s salary & Expenses for March 2016
- 2015/224 HMRC Q4 payment  
2015/225 Reece Safety Products £475.20  
2015/226 **Planning** –It was resolved to send the following comments to MSDC Planning;  
Proposed Cllr Schofield, sec Cllr Thurlow with all in favour. Application no. 0722/16  
Erection of detached agricultural vehicle and equipment storage building and cabin storage building following demolition of an existing structure, Meade Farm Buildings, Beyton Road - *“Drinkstone Parish Council OBJECT to this application on the following grounds. The applicants proposal to consolidate all their operations onto this one site so reducing traffic movements around their other satellite sites will create an increase in traffic volume and flow exacerbating the current issues experienced by residents of the adjacent properties and users of the narrow lane. The current access is narrow, for large vehicles involves crossing land belonging to two residential properties, and opens onto a single track road on a blind bend. It is currently used by HGV’s visiting the site and frequently by a low loader type lorry which has extreme difficulty exiting the site, causing the road to be blocked for a considerable time whilst it manoeuvres. The possibility of any additional vehicle movements is causing considerable concern and council feel that this proposal will be contrary to Policy T10 of the Mid Suffolk Local Plan, no provision has been made for improvements to the access and egress and the complete lack of suitability of the existing road for the safe free flow of traffic should be of great concern to the Highways*

*Department. Concern is expressed regarding the non compliance to condition 3 of previous planning consent which restricts the hours of use of the existing office building to 8am – 6pm, Monday to Friday. The amount of vehicle movements outside these hours has been highlighted to council by adjacent residents whose local amenity value has already been affected. Consolidating and increasing operations on this site will only intensify this issue. The proposed new admin building is a prefabricated structure totally out of keeping with the rural and agricultural surroundings and will be detrimental to the character of the area whilst affecting the privacy and amenity value of the near neighbours. The height and scale of the proposed new agricultural building is on a par with a row of two storey terraced houses and will severely impact on the amenity value of residents at The Meade by completely dominating the rear of the property. There are concerns regarding the depth of detail included in this application. There is no mention of how foul sewage will be treated, this is an admin/office building with no apparent toilet facilities. No details have been provided regarding the provision of outside lighting, additional hard standing outside the buildings and any associated water run off, waste disposal or storage of chemicals. No environmental report is included. The existing planning status for this site and the business run from it appears to be uncertain with requests for clarification from the MSDC Planning office unconfirmed. The red line shown as the application site encompasses a large area of rural ground and the concern that this whole site will be granted permission for use as B8 is great. The Parish Council urge the planning officers to take on board the concerns and issues highlighted regarding the current operations at this site and the objections raised against this proposal and refuse permission for the businesses expansion.*

Cllr Otton was asked by council to arrange for this application to be called into Committee for decision.

2015/227 and 0821/16 Erection of single storey flat roof rear extension. Re roof, clad and insertion of rooflights into existing rear addition. Remove ground floor small ensuite to rear. Reinstate original door opening, block up existing opening and replace ceiling to bedroom. Replace roof structure, reroof and replace vehicular access doors to garage. Create guest accommodation within outbuilding and all associated works, Church Cottage, The Street – *"Drinkstone Parish Council have NO OBJECTION to this application based on the information available"*

2015/228 The following MSDC decisions were noted: Application no. 0292/16 Erection of dwelling with alterations to form vehicular access into Cherry Tree Rise. Rear of Briar Cottage, Gedding Road – WITHDRAWN

2015/229 **Councillor Portfolios –**  
**Allotments** – Plot 2 Gedding Road is vacant and this will be advertised as soon as possible, with no waiting list the plot will be let on a first come basis.

2015/230 **Footpaths** – Nothing to report.

2015/231 **Playing Field** – Cllr Hembra's report had been circulated. It was resolved to accept the quote for new rubber matting at £443.70 plus approx £50 for topsoil. Proposed Cllr Schofield sec Cllr Lambert with all in favour. Cllr Hembra will progress the lifting, inspection and relaying of the surfacing.

2015/232 **Governments Technical Consultation on Implementation of planning changes** – It was agreed that these changes were of concern to parish councils and a reply should be formulated for submission. Cllr Youngs will draft a response, with input from councillors, and submit.

2015/233 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.

2015/234 **Matters to be brought to the attention of council** – None.

Meeting closed 9.02 pm

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**