

Boyton Parish Council Minutes of meeting 18 November 2015

	Key Tasks	lead	Date
AP21811152	Malcolm Lane to be contacted re absence	GB	22/11
AP5181115	Email to confirm agreement with Malcolm King and clarify time schedule for level survey and speed reduction programme.	GL	
AP6181165	Examples of employment committee would be sought from SALC	GB	22/11
AP8181115	JC would ensure that a report relating to the broadband installation programme would be forwarded to Cllr A Reid. Additional issues would be forwarded to BT contact. Regular updates would be reported via the information team.	JC	
AP12181115	Letter to be sent to Andy Cassy expressing thanks for his endeavours and his commitment to act as a mentor to help a volunteer undertake his role.	GB	22/11
Expenditure approved			
AP13210715dd	Rent and salary (£175 incl. tax) as agreed at beginning of financial year		
AP14181115	Payment to SCDC (refund of grant) £919.75		
AP14181115	Payment to Village Voices (refund of grant) £250		

DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday 13 January 2016

Attendance	<p>Parish Councillors: John Carpmael (JC), Jess Richardson (JR), , Ali Crawford (AC), Gary Lowe (GL)</p> <p>Cllr. Christine Block, Cllr. Andrew Reid</p> <p>Members of the Community: I Lilley, Rev'd Hatchett, Louise McGregor, John Dawson, Charlie Lansdowne, Liz Lansdowne</p>
1. Public and Agency reports	<p>JC informed all of the recording of the meeting.</p> <p>Written reports were provided by SCC Cllr Andrew Reid, Rev'd R Hatchett,</p> <p>Key Issues arising:</p> <p>Cllr. Christine Block: Alde and Orr estuary partnership are seeking £10m. –consultation document is also available accessible on line. It was noted that there are public events to highlight the work.</p> <p>Rev'd Ruth Hatchett: The report was noted with thanks. The hall's renovation programme is well underway. It was noted that the work was welcomed by councillors. The play equipment grant application was being undertaken. The rationale underpinning this decision was to <i>own, maintain and insure</i>. It was noted that the specification had been amended - a junior (smaller) version of the sure shot goal was to be purchased. Members were perplexed at the fact that this change was not aimed at the young people who may use it all who are all over 10 years of age. The PCC were also unhappy with the suggestion of a small concrete area (which had been recommended to the PC by experts). Equipment was to be professionally installed. It was suggested that the PC application had incorrectly costed the price of the goal post and installation. However it was noted that additional funding had been promised to the PC by Cllr. Block if required to meet costs and the PC itself was to contribute. Members asked for an explanation of the decision to withdraw from the partnership. Rev's R Hatchett stated that it did not seem sensible to have some equipment owned by the PCC and others owned by the PC and that the offer of a licence (to be provided by SCDC) would still have meant legal costs by the PCC for ratification. The time scale depended on the grant application process.</p> <p>Cllr. Andrew Reid: The report was noted with thanks. Sizewell C A £ 1/2m business case for the support development (infrastructure etc) has been submitted to government. Members requested that the status of a greener county should be validated in Cllr's Reid's report on a regular basis.</p>

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	<p>Fibre broadband installation: members of the public in attendance voiced their complaints about the appalling progress by BT in the installation programme in the village. All were delighted with the installation plan. However the plan seemed in chaos. Some expressed frustration at the fact that there was a discrepancy in advice when applying. Some people in the village had spent an inordinate amount of time trying to secure an agreement. <i>BT Openreach</i> stated that fibre was available but <i>U-switch</i> stated that it was not. Promised installation dates had not been met. One example cited was that whilst one house in Mill Lane was now connected, others in the same road were told that the service was not available. JC reported that notification was circulated to those on the information team service asking for any concerns and six complaints had been received. He had contacted Cllr. Reid who provided a contact. JC had submitted the complaints. To date, two have been resolved and four remain pending.</p> <p>Suggested reasons (myths and legends) for delays and chaos that have been cited by engineers and others from <i>Openreach</i> include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) It has been installed but it does not work b) It has been connected to the outside of the house but internal installation is still awaited c) Confusion about postcodes d) Shortage of poles in the village as only 4 homes can be connected to a pole e) If you are not with BT already you will not get such good service f) Better broadband site quotes 214 premises in Boyton area. Members noted that there is half that amount g) Money was running out. <p>The additional concerns voiced by those in attendance would be sent to Cllr Reid as well as the contact from <i>BTOpenReach</i></p> <p>Letter from Jamie Greenwell: Members were asked to note a letter that had been received from Jamie Greenwell (circulated to members) concerning the dog that had attacked him and the concern about dogs not under control. This was clearly a police matter. JC had replied suggesting that he might wish to send the letter to Village Voices. It was noted that some months ago, an article in Village Voices about the law and dog control had been written by PC Andrew Warne. It was noted that there was a dog regularly barking in the village as well. No further action could be taken until the home of the dog had been identified.</p> <p>GL reported that the RSPB had failed to get the development grant from Department of Environment for the Boyton Marshes project. Work has commenced however. AC reported that a part of the dock had collapsed. Aaron Howe (RSPB manager) had been notified.</p>
2. Apologies	Richard Jesty (RJ) Absent: Malcolm Lane (ML) to be contacted
3. Declaration of interest and dispensation	None
4. Minutes	Minutes were approved and signed.
5. Action update	<p>All actions completed. Items from the records office have been delivered to A Cassy. AP11210715 flooding. The meeting took place with landowners, Cllrs and Malcolm King who agreed to conduct a "level survey". It was agreed that an email be sent confirming what had been agreed and to include the speed survey. It was also agreed that clarity as to which year's funding was to be used for the projects to be completed. Copy was to be sent to Cllr. A Reid and Cllr. Copy also to go to Jane Burch, Flood & Coastal Policy Manager, Suffolk County Council (jane.burch@suffolk.gov.uk) since the incidents of flooding impacted on homes .</p> <p>GL agreed to undertake the task and to also report through the flooding using the Suffolk County Council reporting on line system</p>

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6. Employment Committee	It was agreed that an employment committee be drafted. Examples of governance would be obtained.
7. Finance Officer	It was agreed that JC would assume the role of Council Finance Officer although ML would be approached. The role required two elements; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) to oversee the finances and agree budget proposal in partnership with the responsible finance officer, Gerry Bathe. This meant that council did not need a finance committee as our financial resources were so minimal. b) To pay the salary and HMRC on line. Although the RPO could do it herself, it was her wish that a Councillor undertook the task.
8. Broadband	It was noted that this item had been discussed under public comments. JC was to remain in contact with Cllr Reid and the BT contact ensuring that any progress would be reported back to the community.
9. Play equipment	<p>Members expressed concern at the recent email received by JC stating that the PCC were withdrawing from the negotiation. No explanation was formerly provided. Members had worked hard consulting with the community, engaging with the PCC, meeting with SCDC staff, attending a Hollesley Parish Council meeting, visiting other sites and seeking expert advice to overcome all the issues presented such as insurance, safety checks and licence that was complaint with the law. In addition these items had been requested by members of the community several years ago. It was noted that the application for grant aid from SCDC would now have to include VAT and planning fees (costs that the parish council would not have incurred) and which might exceed the legal cost that may have been incurred if a licence had been agreeable. It was also noted that Rev'd Ruth Hatchett had approached Richard Jesty to ask for an item to go on tonight's agenda in support of the application. Unfortunately the deadline had been passed. It was noted that Council would receive the application in due course from Sarah Shinnie, SCDC. However a question on the application form required that the local council support the bid which was contrary to the procedure adopted when the previous application was considered. The clerk contacted Sarah Shinnie, SCDC to seek guidance which was forwarded to Rev'd Ruth Hatchett, namely that there were two options which would assure compliance - not to complete the question at all or to add a copy of the report presented at the meeting tonight.</p> <p>The following resolution was proposed JC and seconded by GL: The council wishes to record its disappointment at the decision made by Boyton parochial church council to withdraw from the protracted negotiations relating to the purchase and placement of the <i>sureshot</i> netball/basketball post and football post. We understand that this outcome was due to their reluctance to consider a proposed licence agreement which would have clarified the roles and responsibilities of both parties. As a consequence the grants obtained from Suffolk Coastal District Council and Village Voices will be returned. The resolution was carried (1 abstention).</p> <p>It was also agreed that a letter be sent to the chair of the PCC setting out the Council's decision and that the current situation would be communicated to the village.</p>
10. Winter venue	The PCC has installed new heaters which it is hoped will overcome the problem of coldness in winter. It was noted that when the heating was on, the new fire/smoke alarm was set off, so the new heaters were not used during the meeting. However, as the weather was mild, the room was warm enough. It was therefore agreed that the next meeting of the Council would be held in the village hall as usual. If however it is found at a future meeting that the new heaters are not sufficient to deliver an appropriate temperature, the Council will seek an alternative venue for any future meetings held in the winter, and provide transport for members of the community wishing to attend.
11. Village report	The draft was to be finalised by Friday 20 November 12.00 noon. The clerk would print copies for 100 homes and give them to JC. Members received their distribution lists. Distribution would take place week beginning 23 November and collection, week

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	beginning 30 November. A village meeting would be held on Saturday 9 January to seek further views before the final budget is agreed on Wednesday 13 January
12. Events	<p>a) A Christmas Village gathering would take place on 19 December 6.30pm.</p> <p>b) Andy Cassy has given notice of leave from organising events including the spring litter pick as well as the November bonfire He would be happy to talk to explain to anyone who may take on these events if they are unsure of the logistics or contacts etc. Council expressed their grateful thanks for all his efforts during the last few years. The events have become firmly established in the calendar for residents of Boyton. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to him.</p> <p>c) EDF Sizewell event- No dates until January/February</p> <p>d) A Greenwell talk on farming deferred until 2016</p> <p>e) RSPB update deferred until 2016</p>
13. Gritting	It was agreed that volunteers from 2015 receive a letter and guidance for 2016. It was noted that Bob Rothwell was no longer available. A volunteer was required from the Little Scotland area.
14. Finance	Draft budget was approved. No increase would be recommended this year. Payments approved: see above. Accounts noted on next page

Parish council budget 2016/7 draft approval

	2016/2017	
	£	
	<i>Proposal</i>	Agreed
Allocation		
Parish clerk	750	
Council Expenses	35	
Insurance	145	
Training	100	
Membership SALC/Suffolk Acre	150	
Funding of community activities, litter watch, voluntary gritting, fireworks	100	
Hall hire	160	
Audit fee	100	
Data Protection	40	
Contingency	100	
Total	1680	
Indicative Annual Precept pa*	22.08	

*assumes that we claim the council grant to ensure precept remains the same due to change in government allocations

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Signed

Date

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Account summary to 15 November 2016

2014/5	RECEIPTS	2015/6	Reasons for +10% difference
£1,680.00	Precept	£1,757.19	
£500.00	Grants	£919.75	
£170.02	Other income	£317.00	donation for play equipment
£0.00	VAT repayment	£0.00	
£2,350.02	total	£2,993.94	

PAYMENTS

£0.00	VAT	£0.00	
£35.29	Administration	£0.00	
£540.20	Clerks salary	£334.80	
£145.60	Insurance	£145.60	
£0.00	Clerk's Expenses	£0.00	
£0.00	Section 137	£0.00	
£156.00	hall hire	£63.00	
£150.00	Subscriptions	£153.00	
£20.00	Training	£315.00	new councillor training
£767.00	Sundries	£50.00	
£0.00	Election fees	£100.00	2015 elections
35.00	Audit	100.80	SALC audit Heelis and Lodge not contactable
0.00	events	0.00	
£1,849.09	total	£1,262.20	

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY

Balance as at 1 April 2015	£1,781.62
total receipts	£2,993.94
less payments	£1,262.20
£0.00	total
	£3,513.36

CUMULATIVE FUNDS REPRESENTED

1301.69	Current Account	£3,516.36
21.00	Unpresented cheques	£3.00
£0.00	unpresented deposits	£0.00
1280.69	balance c/f	£3,513.36