

Snape Parish Council

Minutes of the Snape Parish Council Meeting, held on Thursday 12 March 2009,
7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

Present: Mr Mike Hill (Chairman), Mrs Marion Walker, Mr Andy Wilmot, Mr Eddie Gillett, Mrs Carol Churcher, Mr David Abbott, Mr David Robertson (Vice-Chairman), Mr Geoff Day, Mr Neil Parsons, Mr Roger Horton, Mr Graeme Hinton.

In Attendance: Mrs Rosie Clarke SCC, PCSO Thora Taylor & SNT Officer Kevin Stollery.

OPEN FORUM – MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

PCSO Thora Taylor, introduced the SNT Officer Kevin Stollery to the Parish Council, he is the SNT Officer at Saxmundham in charge of Saxmundham and the surrounding villages and has been in the post for 6 months.

PCSO Taylor reported that there had been just 1 criminal offence in Snape in January and 2 in February. Dog fouling in Saxmundham is being monitored and on the spot fines enforced. Speeding is still a problem within the village and the B1069 near the Crown is a priority issue, they will continue to do speed gun checks and deal accordingly.

Saxmundham & Framlingham Tasking meetings continue. The PCSO thoroughly supports the Youth Bus project and encouraged the bus visit to Snape.

The Chairman informed that SCC Rosie Clarke will be at the PC meeting later, he then read out the report sent by Mr Cyril Fidler SCDC (see copy attached)

1 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. None

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Mr Cyril Fidler SCDC.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2009

These were approved correct and signed by the Chairman, proposed Mr Wilmot seconded Mrs Churcher.

4 MATTERS ARISING

a. Snape Annual Parish Meeting. This has been planned to take place on Thursday 9 April. The Chairman will ask Gregg Dodds (Orwell Housing) to give a short talk on the Affordable Housing. The land opposite the shop has not been purchased yet, no plans have been drawn up. Once this has been done then the Parish Council will meet to consider. However preferred outline plans have been received from Orwell Housing for the PC to consider. If Gregg Dodds is not able to give an update at the APM then it was agreed to invite Rob Macklin from the RSPB to report on the Abbey Farm marshes project.

Mr Brian Boulton has agreed to bring along his Historical Photographs Exhibition.

b. Village Notice board. This should be ready beginning of June.

c. Youth Bus. The Clerk has not got a date yet for when the Youth Bus will come to Snape, she will follow this up.

5 MINUTES OF THE EXTRA MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2009.

Mr Horton brought it to attention that his name had been omitted as present at the meeting, the Clerk apologised for this and will correct the minutes. The minutes were then approved correct & signed by the Chairman, proposed Mr Wilmot seconded Mr Robertson.

6 MATTERS ARISING

a. Cundle Green Action Group. The group has been formed and includes Cundle Green Residents and Mr Rob Macklin RSPB, it is hoped that Mr Gooderham & Mr Kerr will also join the group. The date for the first meeting is set for 23 March, Mr Eddie Gillett agreed to chair the meeting. An agenda has been circulated.

7 FINANCE. a. Statement of Accounts. Bank balances as at 12 March 2009, Community Account £684.55, Business Money Manager Account £5,513.35. Village Amenity Account £6,567.09 this is after the payment of £1,373.80 has been paid out to Essex & Suffolk Water for the connection of the water to at the playing field.

b. Tree Surgery at Snape Allotments – Invoice to be paid. The tree surgery has not yet been carried out at the allotments, it was agreed by all that if this has not been done within the next week then it must be put on hold until the Autumn because of the bird nesting season.

c. Snape Carpet Bowls – Donation to be paid. It was agreed by all to now make the donation of £50 to the carpet bowls club towards the new mat which they have purchased.

d. Recycling Credits Received from SCDC. £38.32 has been received in recycling credits, for recycling at the bottle bank at the Golden Key. Mr Day informed that clear signage is still needed at the Golden Key as it is not obvious where the bottle banks are located. The Clerk will report this to the pub landlord.

e. Playing Field Hedge Cutting – Invoice to be paid. £119.60 is now due for payment to D E Keeble for the hedge cutting which has been carried out at the Playing Field.

f. PWLB – Half year payment due. £830.62 is now due to be paid.

The above payments were approved by all, proposed Mr Wilmot seconded Mr Abbott.

8. PORTALOO CO-ORDINATOR. Due to the resignation of Mr Pryor, a new Co-ordinator is needed.

A letter of resignation has been received from Mr Pryor informing that he is no longer able to carry out this role. The task involved includes delivering and collecting the portaloo from functions, cleaning, collecting the hiring fees. A letter of thanks will be sent to Mr Pryor for all his hard work over the past years. It was suggested that Mr Neville Smith could be approached to carry out the role. The Clerk will write him a letter.

9. SNAPE PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESMENT. To approve the risk assessment for the forthcoming Audit.

The Parish Council risk assessment was considered by all and it was agreed that nothing has changed since last year, there is nothing to add or amend. It was then approved by all, proposed Mr Horton seconded Mr Robertson.

10. HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS. To discuss any issues which have arisen since the last meeting which need to be reported to Suffolk County Council.

a. Proposed Footpath from Saxonfields to the Primary School. Mr John Goodyear SCC has written to inform the PC that he had written to the three residents where land would be required to provide the requested pavement between Saxonfields and the school. 2 out of 3 of the residents are not prepared to provide the land needed therefore, he is sorry to say that the scheme is not feasible.

b. The Canser. Mr Day informed that he has heard that Suffolk Wildlife Trust will be clearing the ditches which run alongside the Canser.

11. PLAYING FIELD – Report. Mr Gillett informed the Parish Council that a flyer has been delivered to all homes in Snape asking for volunteers to come forward who may be interested in taking forward bigger projects in the future for the playing field. So far no responses have been received back. This could be promoted at the Annual Parish Meeting.

If a bigger project is not strongly supported then the Playing Field Committee will instead use money from the SCDC play space funding pot to purchase some new equipment.

The Playing Field Trust has finally been drawn up, this will be signed by the trustees after the PC meeting and witnessed by the Clerk.

12. PARISH PLAN. It was agreed by all that the Parish Council are implementing the plan so it will be removed from the agenda in future.

13. AFFORDABLE HOUSING. The Chairman informed that outline plans have been drawn up by Orwell Housing and have been presented to SCDC who prefer option 2.

At 8.20pm The Chairman invited Mrs Rosie Clarke SCC to give her report.

She is interested to know what the Parish Council propose to do now that the footpath from Saxonfields to the Primary School cannot go ahead. Mr Horton suggests could the PC have “Compulsory Purchasing Powers”?

She then went on to report that Suffolk came 9th, the best Counties to live, out of 40 Counties in a survey carried out by Country Life. Their will be a 2.45% increase to the County Council in Council Tax for the forthcoming year.

£27 million of PFI credits will come to Suffolk to refurbish or rebuild 10 fire stations across the county.

The Audit Commission has given SCC a 4 star rating. The SCC elections will take place on 4 June. Views may need to be submitted again regarding the Unitary Council System and will be reported back to Mrs Blears on 15 July.

Mr Horton questioned the 2.4% increase in Council Tax, if staff did not get a pay increase this would help to keep costs down?

Mrs Clarke will take this question back to SCC. Mr Parsons would like to know what the increase will be spent on?

Mrs Walker would like to know where the care in the community is coming from now that the Mind Charity has reduced to 1 morning a week. Mrs Clarke will ask the questions and will send her findings to the Clerk to circulate.

14. PLANNING. a. Permissions. Granted by SCDC to Ardenbank, Wadd Lane. 21 Stanhope Close and to Land to the West of Abbey Farm. Outline planning permission has been granted to Part Side Garden, Alde View, Priory Road.

15. CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – May 2009 to May 2010.

The Chairman reminded the Parish Council that his role ends in May. As he has been Chairman for the past 4 years he now feels that it is time to stand down. However if no one will take this on he is prepared to be Chairman for one more year only and whoever is elected at Vice-Chairman in May will take over as Chairman next May 2010. They should be prepared to act as Chairman for 3 years. If Mr Hill decides not to be Chairman this year then a Chairman will be elected for each meeting. A decision must be made at the AGM in May.

16. CORRESPONDENCE. a. Litter Action – Spring Clean Suffolk 2009. The Chairman set the date for the litter pick to be carried out in Snape on Saturday, 25 April. This will be promoted at the APM.

b. Boundary Committee – SCC. The Boundary Committees will make their recommendations to the Secretary of State by 15 July 2009.

c. Camper Van at Church Common Car Park. Mrs Churcher drew the attention of the PC to a camper van which appears to have a continued presence at the car park. This should not be allowed to continue as it may encourage travellers to the area.

The Clerk had informed SCC but they deny that the car park is on their land. However local knowledge confirms that it is SCC land.

Mrs Rosie Clarke will look into this for the PC.

d. Shoreline Management. An email has been received which the Clerk had forwarded to the Parish Councillors.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. Annual Parish Meeting, Thursday, 9 April, Annual General Meeting, Thursday, 28 May 2009

Mrs Rosie Clarke SCC informed the PC that she has put forward Snape Crown traffic calming as her priority project and that there is £12,000 available to carry out the suggested “Formed Visual Narrowing”. Mr Day asked that the PC are shown the proposed drawings for this.

The meeting ended at 8.55pm