

SNAPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Snape Parish Council Meeting, held on Thursday 11 September 2008,
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 Greame Hinton, Mr Geoff Day.

In Attendance: SCC Rosie Clarke & the Clerk.

1 OPEN FORUM – MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. None

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Mr Neil Parsons, Mr Roger Horton, Mr Cyril Fidler SCDC.

4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 24 JULY 2008. These were approved correct and signed by the Chairman, proposed Mr Wilmot seconded Mrs Churcher.

5 MATTERS ARISING. a. Development of Cycle Ways – Recent Meeting. Mrs Walker reported that she had attended the recent meeting along with 2 other village residents. A Constitution has still to be decided. Also to decide if there are enough safer cycling provisions eg; Cycle Paths or Cycle Ways.

b. Footpath from Saxonfields to the Primary School. Further to the site meeting with Mr Goodyear regarding the installation of a footpath from Saxonfields to the Primary School, this meets his approval, the Chairman still needs to contact the residents who's front gardens would be affected to see if they are also in approval. He will pursue this.

c. Internal Auditors Report - Fidelity Cover. The Clerk informed she had contacted the PC insurance company Allianz Cornhill and to cover the bank balances plus 50% precept, will cost an additional £25.09 to date. This was agreed by all, proposed Mr Wilmott seconded Mrs Churcher.

d. Playing Field and the Snape Woodland Joint Insurance. The Clerk informed that she had asked the PC insurers if this was possible. Because the PC are not owners of the Woodland and are not responsible for it, it is not possible to have a joint insurance.

e. The Art Loss Register. It was decided that the Maltings will have adequate insurance for the PC's picture which they have on display. Therefore not to sign up to the Art Loss Register, approved by all, proposed Mrs Churcher seconded Mr Robertson.

f. Fence – Church Road. A response has been received from SCC who has informed that they have agreed to make safe the fence for now, however in the future it will be the responsibility of the land owner.

g. Local Government Restructure. This is still under review.

6 POLICE REPORT. None (*The Clerk received a report from PCSO Thora Taylor after the meeting and emailed to all*).

7 REPORT FROM SCDC & SCC COUNCILLORS. The Chairman read out the report which had been sent from Mr Cyril Fidler. Mrs Rosie Clarke SCC reported on the Boundary Review, 2 options are being considered, a single Suffolk Unitary or Ipswich/Felixstowe Unitary with Rural Suffolk. She urged that the PC respond to the Boundary Committee and say that Lowestoft must stay in Suffolk. Parish Councils will stay as they are but will have to take on more responsibilities eg: Budgets for grasscutting, fence repairs etc.

7a. Village Post Office. Mrs Walker informed that she has reduced her hours at the Post Office to 3 days a week, therefore the Post Office is currently closed on Thursdays & Fridays until a replacement is found. Mrs Sue Howarth who is in charge of the Post Office has assured Marion that she wants to keep the Post Office open. Mrs Walker asked that the PC is aware of the situation and to still support the Post Office on the days that it is open. She will report back at the next PC meeting the impact that the change has had, if any.

8. FOOTPATHS & HIGHWAYS a. Parking in layby opposite the shop. It has been brought to the attention of the PC that vehicles from the Snape Motor Company have been parking in the layby opposite the shop therefore taking up valuable space for people who want to park and use the village shop. If customers find that there is no space for them to park then they may drive away and not support the shop. The motor company does have designated spots for parking at the front of the shop and there is plenty of space at the rear of the garage. The Chairman will send a letter to Mr Moss at the garage expressing the concern.

b. Coach parking at Church Common. Mrs Churcher reported that on 21 August, 4 coaches had parked on the church common carpark from 2.00pm to 7.00pm, subsequently the Fish & Chip man was not able to get his regular spot and the coach drivers refused to move. The coaches had dropped off visitors to Snape Maltings. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Maltings and ask for funding toward the resurfacing of the car park should coaches continue to park there in the future.

The Chairman informed that further to the PC letter to SCC dated 2 April regarding Parish Plan issues, a reply has finally been received. Speed checks have been carried out on the A1069. There will be no change to the speed limit in Priory Road. No traffic calming measures for the Church junction.

It was agreed that another letter should be sent asking for the requests again and to also request that a SID speed check is carried out opposite the school.

9 PLAYING FIELD – Report. Mr Gillett informed the PC that the cost to improve the surface of the track to the playing field, to widen the turning into the track and make a splay, install a water pipe and electricity cabling will cost approx. £2400 plus vat. He proposed that money from the Amenity Fund could be used to pay, this was agreed by all. Mr Gillett will go ahead and organise this. The allocation of money from the new development at Snape Maltings is still being looked at. To connect the water would cost £3,500, it was agreed that this will not be done yet.

The Charity Commission forms are still to be completed, 2 or 3 representatives from the PC will need to be a Charitable Trustee. Eddie will draw up a list of trustees after the next Playing Field committee meeting.

10 PARISH PLAN – Report. The Chairman informed that this is still being pursued.

11 AFFORDABLE HOUSING. The Chairman reported that Gregg Dodds from Orwell Housing is contacting the Gibsons agent.

12 FINANCE. a. Statement of Accounts. Bank balances as at 11 September 2008, Community Account - £338.54
Business Money Manager Account - £6218.88, Village Amenity Fund - £7900.42.

b. Donation Requests. These have been received from Optua, Ipswich & East Suffolk Headway, Suffolk Accident Rescue Service, Disability Advice Service, The CYDS Project and Age Concern. £200 has been budgeted for donations this year, it was agreed to give £25 to each, leaving £50 a side for any of the other regular requests which have not yet received.

c. Grasscutting – Invoice. This has been received from Mr Bradley, £261.00.

d. Recycling Credits. £37.44 has been received from SCDC in recycling credits. This is from the glass recycling bin at the Golden Key. Mr Day informed that the bin is currently full and needs emptying, the Clerk will find out who this needs to be reported to. He also suggests that a sign is put up on the fence which surrounds the bottle bank so that people can see that the facility is there.

e. PWLB ½ Year Payment. The payment of £830.62 is now due. The Parish Council still owes £16,000.

All of the above payments were approved by all, proposed Mr Wilmot seconded Mr Robertson.

13 PLANNING. a. C08/1464 2 Garrett Close, Snape – Installation of one solar panel on south facing roof. No objection from the Parish Council.

b. Development behind the garage – off The Glebes. The Chairman informed that there appears to be no significant changes to the original plans other than all of the homes will have wood burners installed and there is provision on site for an oil tank.

The Chairman will add in his letter to Highways the need for a roundabout at the Glebes junction due to the increase in traffic to and from the new development of 65 units at Snape Maltings, 10 behind the garage and the possible 7 affordable homes on the land opposite the Glebes.

c. Planning Permissions etc. This has been granted by SCDC to 5 Garrett Close. Oakwood, Church Road.

Listed Building consent to The Crown Inn.

14 NOTICE BOARD - BOTTOM OF SNAPE HILL. The Chairman has had confirmation from the owners of the cottage at the bottom of the hill which the notice board is adjacent to, that they have no objection to a new notice board being attached to their property so long as it is a professional job. It was agreed by all to ask a local cabinet maker to make a new notice board and to erect it. The Clerk will get the 2 quotes.

15 CORRESPONDENCE. a. Safer Neighbourhood Partnership Team. Rosie Clarke informed that a meeting is to take place.

There a new Sergeant, Dave Goddard at the Saxmundham police station.

b. SALC. The area meeting is to take place on 15 September.

c. Footpath. Mr Gillett reported that the footpath along Bents is overgrown and needs cutting back. The Clerk will inform SCC.

d. Eb N Flow Article. The Chairman advised that further to his Parish Council articles which he had submitted to the magazine, much of it had been edited out in their last 2 issues. If the bulk of the article is not going to be printed it is not worth submitting anything. He suggested that an A5 sheet could be inserted into the magazine, which has the Parish Council article on and delivered to just the Snape households (330 approx.) Also advertised on the website. Draft minutes (not approved) could also be displayed on the village notice boards and made available in the 2 pubs. Mrs Walker said that she would be happy to have a copy in the Post Office.

E. Snape School Governor. Rosie Clarke informed that the recent vacancy on Snape Primary School board of Governors has been filled by Mrs Helen Barker.

School Councils meetings take place at Endeavour House and these are very well attended.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. This will take place on Thursday 13 November 2008.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm