

OFFTON AND WILLISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st March 2010
at 7.30pm in Offton and Willisham Village hall.

Present	Cllr M Bolton (Chairman)	Cllr A Cox
	Cllr C Storey	Cllr N Coleman
	Cllr C Pinson Roxburgh	Cllr K Earl
		P Sands Clerk

County Councillor J Truelove and District Councillor S Wright were in attendance, also Mr and Mrs G Hitchcock

Apologies for absence

Cllrs Cattermole and Tingley. Council accepted the apologies

KE/NC

Declaration of Interests, with respect to items on the agenda

None

Public Participation Session with regard to items on the agenda

There were no submissions.t

Minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising from the minutes

None

Correspondence.

MSDC Proposed budget 2010/11. For decision by MSDC on 25th February.. Subsequently reported as approved with 2.5% increase to Council tax

MSDC Parish Liaison meeting. Cllr Bolton and the clerk have confirmed attendance at the 9.30 am meeting on 24th March.

Communities. Re Unitary councils. The proposals are for interim electoral arrangements, but a subsequent decision to refer back the Unitary question to Councils for further deliberation, will render these unnecessary.

Suffolk Preservation Society.. Concerns over the proposed Incinerator were passed to Councillors leading to a reply by the Chairman to SCC stating that the lack of factual matter available makes the assessment requested impracticable

Energy Saving Trust. Membership invited, details to be passed to Cllr Cattermole.

Fire Action Plan. Comments invited on 2010/11 proposals. Details taken by Cllr Bolton.

MB

Planning

3033/07 Ladyfield. After meetings with MSDC Planning Dept, and finally between

the Chairman and Cllr Passmore, Leader of Council, the Parish Council has been informed by E mail that Mr Woodley will now remove the concrete pad as required under the Enforcement notice, within three months ie by early June. Clerk to confirm details to Mr Rickard, MSDC . .

MB

clerk

2358/09 8 Middlewood Cottages. Applicant's appeal dismissed by the Inspectorate

2362/09 Linden House Granted by MSDC. The substantial concerns expressed by the Parish Council regarding the irregularities in the work undertaken to date have resulted in stringent conditions being attached to the Grant of Permission.

3350/09 2 Castle Lane. Granted by MSDC

Footpaths.

Willisham path 1. SCC have confirmed that Insurance liability remains with it given that surfacing work undertaken by the Parish Council on the path between the bungalows in Tye Lane has been completed to its satisfaction. Surfacing material will be supplied free by SCC, further details are awaited from Mr Glyn French.

KE

Offton path 41. The Parish Council has now been given a copy of Barker Goatlee's letter, acting for Mr and Mrs Tollemache, objecting to SCC's modification order extending path 41 to join with path 11. The objection was upheld by the Inspectorate based on the lack of clarity evident at the time of the Parish Survey in 1952 that such a route had ever existed.

Parish Property

Offton phone box. Refurbishment material has been purchased and delivered to Mr Southall. MSDC have agreed to accept the submission of invoices for the work undertaken at a date beyond the 'cut off' date of March 11th. The proposed work will now get underway following the prolonged spell of wet weather.

Marquee. The clerk has written to Mrs Rondeboom explaining the Council's unwillingness to purchase a marquee

KE
clerk

Council agreed to purchase four £6 dog fouling notices from MSDC for placing in Willisham. Proposed Cllr Earl seconded Cllr Cox

Highways

Willisham Bus Shelter. After consideration and consultation with parishioners, Cllr Earl had concluded that the pursuance of a bus shelter in Willisham should not be continued. It could perhaps become an inclusion in the Parish Plan

Cllr Pinson Roxburgh reported blocked storm drains on Offton hill leading up to Valley Farm and foliage overhang through Offton. He will provide detailed locations to the clerk for submission to SCC.

CPR

Cllr Cox reported a collapsed road edge / verge adjoining junction of 4403 and 4413 roads. Clerk to report to SCC

clerk

The U8106 Ware Rd / Wattisham Rd is to be temporarily closed from 13 to 15 April. clerk to post notices.

clerk

The upgraded Electoral register shows two 'Ipswich roads', post codes IP7 7AR and IP8 4SF, physically two miles apart. The clerk has discussed this anomaly with Mr Tallent MSDC who will raise it with Building Control, managers of the master database for road naming with which all departments should comply.

Village Hall

Groundwork at the new hall site is proceeding, intending completion before the site

is made available for building works to begin,

Parish website

Infolink with SCC. Should enable Parish Council and SCC information to be jointly promulgated. Details will be passed by Cllr Bolton to Cllr Pinson Roxburgh for examination and subsequent confirmation to Councillors

CPR

Representative's reports

Cllr Truelove spoke to her written report, copied to Councillors. Re the proposed National Grid pylons, further details are being sought. The pilot community board, independently setup by SCC is being wound up, review to follow

Cllr Wright considered the 'no decision' on Unitary Councils as the worst possible. MSDC and Babergh Councils will seek to increase cooperation to effect cost savings. The lack of information on the proposed incinerator is regrettable but when facts do emerge he will ensure they are relayed to the Parish Council.

Community

Parish Plan. Cllr Coleman reported that £750 from Cllr Truelove's community budget had been dedicated to the Parish Plan, initiating a matching reduction to the budgeted Parish Council commitment from £1700 to £950. The Steering group will attend ACRE's workshop later in March. The questionnaire is partly compiled, and will be mailed to Councillors on completion for their consideration. Cllr Bolton asked for a report to be given to the Annual Meeting.

NC

Finance

Balances. Cheque £1041.66 Community £4966.55 Deposit £8148.23
Petty cash £(10.59)

Authorisation of cheques. Scottish Power £68.07 AC/NC Unicorn Restoration £560.41 CPR/ KE

Council assessed the risks to the Council's finances and concurred that the necessary safeguarding provisions are in place, excepting perhaps the risk of cheque book theft from the clerk's home. Clerk to discuss with the insurers. The integrity of the internal audit practices were also reviewed and deemed appropriate

clerk

Dates for next meetings

April 26th and July 5th.

(post meeting switch, April 26th changed to April 29th)

mm/mar 010