

GREAT ASHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday, 19th March 2020 at 7.30pm
The Lord Thurlow Village Hall

Mr. A Peake – Chairman*

Mr. R. Barker – Vice-Chairman*

Mrs. N. Calderbank*

Mr. B. Fitch*

Mr. I. Sadler*

Mrs D. Stick*

Present: All marked*

Mrs S. Austin took the minutes.

Two members of the public attended

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Record Councillors' apologies for absence

All in attendance

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr Barker in respect of item 12i

3. Managing Director – Portable Spaces Ltd

This item was cancelled due to coronavirus outbreak. The Managing Director was happy to attend at the next available meeting, a briefing note had been sent to allow for responses to be ready. Council briefly discussed the expansion of Portable Spaces. Cllr Stick to also invite the Community Police Officer to the next available meeting.

Suffolk County Councillor

Cllr Storey did not attend a report had been received and circulated to Councillors which included: Ipswich Northern Route will not proceed to the next stage, New street lighting proposed to reduce the county's carbon footprint, County Council approves budget to spend more on services for vulnerable residents, Suffolk Highways waives fees for VE & VJ Day Commemoration Events, Suffolk County Council issue school crossing patrol staff with body cameras, Have your say on improvements to the Tollgate junction in Bury St Edmunds, Refilling your weekly shop without unnecessary plastic is getting easier in Suffolk and East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust public consultation.

District Councillor

Cllr Meyer did not attend a report had been received and circulated to Councillors which included: Budget approval, Planning for the future – Councils receive national recognition, Needham Market on track for bright future, Helping ratepayers high on the agenda, Ipswich Town Football Club teams up with Active Schools, Services provided at leisure centre are named as some of the country's best and refilling your weekly shop without unnecessary plastic is getting easier in Suffolk.

Public Forum

A resident had attended in respect of lorries within the village, the Chair advised this would be addressed at the next available meeting. Cllr Barker suggested another lorry count could be

undertaken at a future date; this could be included with speedwatch. It was also advised there were alternative routes for the lorries to use.

4. To Sign the Minutes of the Previous Meeting as a True Record

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 20th February 2020 were signed as a correct record.

5. Reports

- i. General Highways: Nothing to report
- ii. Community Speed Watch Report: Cllr Stick had circulated the report
- iii. Neighbourhood Watch: Cllr Stick had circulated the report
- iv. Broadband: Cllr Sadler had no update
- v. Clerks Report: The Clerk confirmed future meetings can now take place virtually due to the coronavirus, Council all in agreement to carry out meetings virtually in the present circumstances.

6. Update on Spring Clean 2020

This had been cancelled, Cllr Barker felt it would happen on an individual basis and it was sad it had to be cancelled as it would have been a good community activity.

7. Update on War Memorial/Roll of Honour

Nothing further to report, to place on next agenda.

8. Update on history of schooling/education in Great Ashfield

Cllr Stick advised she was putting the book together, to place on next agenda.

9. To consider VE Day Remembrance

It was hoped this would be able to take place further on in the year, to place on next agenda.

10. Correspondence

To circulate: Clerks & Councils Direct

11. Covid-19 Village Response

Council discussed ways to help residents if it was needed:

- it was advised 27 people had joined the 'WhatsApp' group 26 of these were happy to help if they can. Other offers of help had been received.
- there were 79 households on the village email group.
- Council agreed leaflet to be printed in case of residents having to go into self-isolation to go out to all residents with various ways to contact a central point including a landline.
- Central contact to cascade and co-ordinate help when required.
- Leaflet to be delivered to all households.
- Cllr Barker highlighted the most vulnerable residents in the village to ensure they had help.
- Cllr Barker advised the village hall would be closed from Friday 20 March and will use the opportunity to re-paint.

12. Planning

- i. **Application DC/20/01023 Land North of Oak Cottage, Daisy Green – Change of use of agricultural grassland to equestrian use and erection of stables:** Council discussed Cllr Stick proposed no objection seconded by Cllr Sadler all in agreement with the comment: the lighting in the stable to be controlled and not intrusive and the manure to be disposed of responsibly.
- ii. **Application DC/20/00693 Odessa, Westley Way – Change of use of land to keeping of horses & erection of stable block/food store:** Council discussed Cllr Barker proposed no objection seconded by Cllr Sadler all in agreement with the comment: if permission is given this should be linked to the property 'Odessa' and cannot be sold separately. The lighting in the stable to be controlled and not intrusive and the manure to be disposed of responsibly.

13. Finance Report and to consider the payment of invoices

The deposit account held £802.65 at 28.1.20 the current account had a cleared balance at 1.3.20 of £3,452.60. The fourth quarter against budget had been circulated to Councillors.

All Councillors in agreement for the payment of invoices below:

- i. Clerks salary and expenses to 31.3.20: a cheque no: 377 was raised for £292.52
- ii. HMRC payment: a cheque no: 378 was raised for £70
- iii. SCC Street Lighting Maintenance inv: 9234927 £396.53: a cheque no: 379 was raised for £396.53
- iv. No further invoices had been received

14. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

To place street lamps on future agenda when the asset review takes place.

15. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, 21 May 2020.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.