

Glensford Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 14th July 2015 @ 7.15pm at Glensford Village Hall

Present: Cllrs: Brown (chairman), Mallalieu, Southgate, Plumb & Sewell. The clerk. CCLlr Kemp.

01.07 Chairman's announcements

Thanks were given to Suffolk Housing for the donation of £1000 towards facilities for the allotments. Also, thanks to Brian Leech for helping with the wheelie bins at the Church and Cemetery for many years.

It was announced that Shotley had won the village of the year competition. Thanks were given to all who helped with the Glensford entry. The judges were very impressed and particular mention was given to the sewing group and the allotments.

02.07 Apologies for absence

DCllr Holt and Cllr Bloomfield

03.07 Declarations of interest/dispensation requests

Cllr Mallalieu declared an interest in planning application B/15/00685/FUL – land rear of 24-34a Egremont St

04.07 Police Matters

The clerk read a report which can be viewed on the website or at the office.

05.06 To adopt minutes of Council meeting on the 9th June 2015

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th June 2015.

06.07 Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting

Quotes for various works had not yet been received.

07.07 To receive reports

CCLlr Kemp – the report can be viewed on the website or at the clerk's office. The Citizens Advise Bureau is to hold an outreach session for Glensford residents at the Old School hall. It is hoped this will happen at least once a month.

DCllr Plumb – DCCLr Plumb has attended many planning meetings but no other meetings at this present time. Details about devolved powers will be given when available.

08.07 Planning

New applications:

B/15/00296/FUL – 14 Brook St

Change of use from mixed use (Sui Generis) to residential (Class C3)

It was resolved to recommend approval

B/15/00614/FHA – 11 panels Close

Erection of single-storey rear extension

It was resolved to recommend approval

B/15/00687/FHA – Brookcroft, Duffs Hill

Erection of a two-storey side extension (to form annex accommodation)

It was resolved to recommend refusal – HS33, loss of amenity and overdevelopment of site

B/15/00685/FUL – Land rear of 24-34A Egremont St

Erection of 3no single-storey detached dwellings & detached double garage

It was resolved to recommend refusal – Access issues. Not part of designated development area (green belt)

B/15/00754/FHA – 1 Orchard Way

Erection of a single storey side conservatory extension

It was resolved to recommend approval

Applications granted:

/15/00333/FHA/JC – Bulmac, Hunts Hill

Erection of single storey rear extension & rendering of front elevation

B/15/00485/FUL/SS – Land West of 18 Bells Lane

Erection of two-storey detached dwelling & single storey out-building. Alterations to existing vehicular access

B/15/00515/FHA/SS – 1 Jacques Close

Erection of fence to land fronting highway, as amended

Applications refused:

B/15/00514/AGDW - New Street farm, New Street

Change of use from agricultural building to dwelling house and associated operational development under class Q

09.07 Public Question time

None

10.07 Accounts for approval

It was resolved to pay accounts.

11.07 Allotments – update

The plot holders have established an allotment association. Cllr Southgate will be a committee member representing the Parish Council

12.07 Finance & Cemetery working group meeting – report from

BDO Guidance on holding of reserves – to adhere to or not: discussions were held concerning the holding of both earmarked and general reserves. *It was resolved* that general reserves do not fall below 30% (as per BDO guidance of between 30-100% of gross expenditure). Councillors are asked to put forward ideas for un-earmarked reserves. As at 30.03.15 un-earmarked reserves are £15,558 (£42,185 minus 30% of precept 2015-16 @ £26,627).

Library donation/cleaning costs – expenditure on the library was discussed. The Parish Council donates approx £2000pa to the library. There are currently only 4 or 5 Parish Councils within the IPS that donate to library services. Approx 7000 visits to the library have been recorded in the last year. *It was resolved* that the annual donation of £1000 and cleaning costs continue to be covered by the Parish Council.

The library Wi-Fi was discussed as it is still not being turned off as requested. Despite email request to the IPS for an update on this situation nothing has been received. Cllr Mallalieu is to request a written update.

Village Hall charges – update – *it was resolved* that with effect from the 1st August 2015 charges for regular users of the village hall are increased to £10ph in-line with other regular users.

Cemetery charges – update – charges for the cemetery need to be revised. The clerk made enquiries as to how much other Parishes charge. These varied hugely. A proposal for new charges is to be taken to the August meeting.

Cemetery – hedge cutting – it was agreed to obtain quotes to cut back hedging at the cemetery. These are to be obtained when the excess soil has been removed and trimming of hedges is allowed with regards nesting birds.

Play park repairs – recent inspections of the play park at the village hall have shown that the fence needs replacing and more play park is required. Also, repairs to equipment at the skate park. Quotes are to be obtained and the work completed asap.

Parish Council – 4yr plan – Cllr Mallalieu suggested making a 4yr plan. This is to be discussed further as there are many items that need to be addressed including the village hall plan and various repairs. It was agreed to have an agenda item to evolve a plan. A finance working group meeting is to be held on the 3rd August @ 7pm to discuss details further.

Summer holiday play days – donation to – It is hoped that help with funding for the play days will be coming from The Angels. ***It was resolved*** that the Parish Council top-up any shortfall of the £300 required.

13.07 History Society – possible museum building – siting of

The History Society enquired as to the Parish Council's thoughts on the siting of a portable type structure in the vicinity of the village hall. ***It was resolved*** (Cllr Mallalieu abstained from voting) that the Parish Council, in principle, raised no objections. However, this was subject to proposals.

14.07 Code of conduct – adhering to

Cllr Southgate raised concerns regarding some Parish Councillors becoming verbally abusive towards each other and the clerk. Particularly reference was made to the clerk who is an employee of the Council. Councillors are reminded that the Code of Conduct must be adhered to.

15.07 Wild flower areas – trial

The BDC grass cutting contractors have recently left bulb areas on green spaces in the village uncut to encourage the growth of wild flowers. However, many complaints have been received about how untidy they look. A meeting was subsequently held with the contractors and a representative from BDC. ***It was resolved*** that green areas in residential areas are not suitable for wild flowers and are to be cut as normal.

16.07 New bank signatory

It was resolved to have Cllr Southgate as a bank signatory.

17.07 Village hall – continuation of plan

This is to be worked upon within the proposed 4yr plan.

18.07 Library Wi-Fi – update

This was discussed under item 12.07

19.07 Village Hall – replacement cutlery

It was resolved to spend up to £60 on new cutlery for the village hall.

20.07 Correspondence to report

Tracey Brinkley (Communities Officer) from BDC/Mid-Suffolk has asked if anyone from the Parish Council would like to attend a meeting with herself and All-Sorts Playgroup. Cllr Mallalieu will attend.

21.07 Date of next meeting 11th August 2015

Meeting finished at 9.10pm