

Glensford Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 9th September 2014 @ 7.15 at Glensford Village Hall

Present: Cllrs: Brown (chairman), Mallalieu, Plumb, Southgate, Young, Bloomfield.
3 members of public. Cllr Kemp, DCllr Thake, Clerk, Gordon Jones and two Suffolk County Council representatives, Allan Cadzow and Anna Shaw.

01.09 Chairman's announcements

All were welcomed to the meeting. A part II meeting is to be held for councillors. A reminder was given to hand DBS forms to the clerk. Standing orders will be suspended for item 11.09 to allow public discussion.

02.09 Apologies for absence

Cllr Sewell

03.09 Declarations of interest/dispensation requests

None

04.09 Police Matters

The clerk read a report. This can be viewed on the website or at the clerk's office.

05.09 To adopt minutes of Council meeting on the 12th August 2014

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th August 2014.

06.09 Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting

Three quotes had been obtained for new outdoor gym equipment for the playing field. It was agreed to defer this until after the winter.

07.09 To receive reports

Cllr Kemp - a full report can be read on the website or at the clerk's office. Glensford School is applying to become an academy. A consultation is to take place. Further concerns were raised concerning the possible closure of Woodlands Children's Centre, a much need facility which was only built 4yrs ago at a cost of approx. £700,000.

DCllr Thake - Planning protocol is to be decided. The application for development of the Downs site is to go before committee next week. There are no further developments concerning the Silk Mill site.

DCllr Young - A report was given from the meeting of the joint audit and standards committee, covering the joint Governance Statement, Non-salary expenses, Commissioning ODT, textile recycling bag scheme and topics for future works. The report can be viewed at the clerk's office.

08.08 Planning

B/14/00913/FHA - 14 Fair Green

Erection of single storey rear extension

It was resolved to recommend approval

B/14/01075/TCA - Kingsley, Bells Lane

Fell 1no elderberry tree, 2no apple trees & 1no cherrytree

It was resolved to recommend approval

B/14/00987/FHA - 20 The Pippins

Erection of detached garage

It was resolved to recommend approval

B/13/01238/FUL - 2-4 Brook St

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Change of description from 27 to 29 dwellings and flats
Amendment to plot 2 to provide additional window
(due to time restraints decision already given to recommend approval of amendments)

Applications granted:

B/14/00494/FHA/SS – Sluice Cottage, Cutts Lane

Erection of single storey outbuilding for use as studio

09.09 Public Question time

Questions were asked concerning the removal of a rose bush in the cemetery to keep in line with rules and regulations. It was agreed that the rose could remain until the dormant growing period, at which time it would be removed.

Concerns were raised about the pedestrian safety on Skates Hill. Suffolk County Council are to be asked about a footpath.

10.09 Accounts for approval

It was resolved to pay accounts

Suspension of standing orders to allow public discussion

11.09 Woodlands Centre – Gordon Jones, Cabinet member for children’s services

Gordon Jones together with two representatives from Suffolk County Council (Allan Cadzow and Anna Shaw) attended the meeting to discuss the future of Woodlands and whether services should be repositioned. It was advised that the building is needed as a nursery/early years facility and that children’s services provision will remain, but outside of the building. Lengthy discussions were had highlighting the concerns of the Parish Council. Frank Field (MP) will be visiting Suffolk in the next 6 weeks as part of the on-going consultation, which all are encouraged to complete. Funding is to be looked into with reference to the possibility of use of specialist space (i.e. midwifery services). It was confirmed that the consultation process is not about reduction of the staff complement, although a separate review is already underway with a formal consultation with staff expected to take place in the Autumn.

Standing orders re-instated

12.09 Village Hall Plan - update

It was resolved (Cllr Plumb abstained) to use the service of Harcourt Powell to produce initial plans and subsequent services at a cost of approx. £1300 plus VAT.

It was resolved (Cllr Plumb abstained) to keep the ladies and gents toilets in their current position and to go ahead with their refurbishment. Cllr Kemp is to be asked if funding is available.

13.09 Craft afternoon – use of hall

It was resolved to allow use of the hall FOC.

14.09 Job vacancy – update

It was resolved to use the services of the only applicant on a three month trial basis.

15.09 Report from finance meeting

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It was agreed to place safety glass in the opening to the clerk's office to enable a better view of people entering the village hall. This was agreed under emergency spending.

It was resolved to purchase a fireproof safe for the Parish Council office at a cost of £665 plus VAT.

The village hall plan was discussed and agreed it needs more specific detail. Once this is done a copy will be posted on the website.

16.09 Fund raiser – village hall

It is hoped to hold a fund raising event in the Spring.

17.09 Affordable Housing – agreement of and public consultation

Following confidential discussions ***it was resolved*** (DCllr Young abstained) to agree to go ahead with the affordable housing. A public information event will take place on Tuesday 30th September 2pm -7.30pm.

18.09 Allotments update

Plans are moving ahead. It is hoped to mark up the plots and erect the fencing within the next few weeks.

19.09 Correspondence

A letter had been received from the History Society requesting a village archive be established in the planned refurbishment of the village hall. This will be given consideration in discussions of the plans.

20.09 Date of next meeting – 14th October 2014

Meeting finished at 9.15pm