

**GLEMSFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2009**

<b>Present</b>	Lucy Knox Len Young John Suttle Newman Ford	Lynn Bloomfield Neil Searle Colin Parmenter Rex Thake
<b>In attendance</b>	Sara Turner Richard Kemp	
<b>Apologies</b>	Neil Gurr (work) Tracey Sansum (holiday)	

**014 SCHOOL'S USE OF PLAYING FIELD**

Iain Maxwell from Suffolk County Council explained that Glemsford Primary School were deficient in external playing field areas. Following the School organisation review the school will see an increase in size and were now trying to establish a more formal playing field area for the school so that the children can have more exercise. A local landowner was going to allow use of his field but pulled out at the last minute. They were now trying to establish a way forward and may have to purchase land, but in the meantime would like to use the recreation ground. If this was feasible. Suffolk County Council may be able to improve facilities such as marking out pitches and take over the grasscutting. If they were intending to use the field on a regular basis they would need to come to an arrangement to ensure the field was free of glass and other debris. The use of the field would commence in 2010-2011 potentially for about two afternoons a week.

There were issues around access and use of toilets etc. It was agreed that Mr. Maxwell should liaise with the Clerk and that a responsible person would need to have a key in order to use the toilets in the Village Hall.

**015 POLICE MATTERS**

Julia Bignall informed councillors that the police were trying to find neighbourhood watch co-ordinators in Glemsford. This would be placed in the next newsletter.

**016 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2009, having been previously circulated were adopted and signed.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Bloomfield**

**SECONDED: Cllr. Searle**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009, having been previously circulated were adopted and signed.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Parmenter**

**SECONDED: Cllr. Bloomfield**

**017 Suffolk County Councillors Report (Mr. R. Kemp)**

Cllr. Young congratulated Cllr. Kemp on securing his seat as a County Councillor.

The Local Government Review has now finished its second stage of consultation, in which local authorities, political groups and members of the public all responded. These can now be seen online at the Boundary Committee website.

The next stage of the process is for the Boundary Committee to report to the Secretary of state on which proposals it thinks would be best for the County of Suffolk. This is supposed to happen on the 15th of July. However, as soon as the consultation finished three district councils from Suffolk (Suffolk Coastal, Forest Heath and St. Edmundsbury) delivered papers to the high court calling on the Boundary Committee to consult on the three unitary option. In a recent poll conducted for the three district councils, they found that 76% of the public surveyed would have like the option to be consulted on an East, West and Ipswich unitary. They believe that ignoring this possibility, would mean that the Boundary Committee is not fulfilling one of the five criteria set out by the Secretary of state at the beginning of this process.

Suffolk County Council is developing a new service that will support people who are called names, laughed at, bullied, harassed, hit, or have their property stolen or damaged because of their race, faith, disability, gender, age, or sexual orientation. This new service will link to the 'Racial Harassment Initiative'. The Racial Harassment Initiative project aims to ensure that sufferers of racial harassment are aware of the support that is available and that they can access it. S.C.C will ensure that all incidents of racial harassment are properly and sensitively investigated.

In order to provide the best possible service, Suffolk County Council has developed a questionnaire that they would like to you to complete and return by e-mail or post.

You can also call to arrange a face to face meeting or ask any questions.

The questionnaire can be found on the Suffolk County Council website.

<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/PolicingAndPublicSafety/CommunitySafety/RacialHarassmentInitiative/RacialHarassmentInitiative.htm>

There have been recent reports in the papers about the potential closing of the diabetes clinic at Ipswich Hospital.

There were apparently threats to the funding for the diabetes centre as the Government want to move to treating more diabetes sufferers at their local GP centre. This could (according to the Evening Star) lead to a drop in the numbers attending the clinic and therefore a reduction in funding which could cause it to close.

However, later in the week, the Hospital put a statement out, saying that the diabetes clinic would not be closing. By moving some patients to receive their services from their GP's it allows the clinic to concentrate their efforts on the more serious form of the disease type 1 diabetes.

They also stated that with the continuing increase of diabetes sufferers there wouldn't necessarily be a decrease in the number of those attending the clinic.

With the move of diabetes sufferers to GP clinics we must make sure that GP's and nurses across the region have adequate training to provide these services.

**018 District Councillors' Reports**

Cllr. Thake reported that there have been many changes to the local plan. The officer dealing with it at Babergh said it was a tickbox exercise but not one councillor at Babergh had been informed about the changes. This meant that Parish Council s would now be following central government guidelines rather than the local plan. The Council should receive an updated version of the actual policies that are no longer in use.

**019 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk and Cllr. Sansum had been to visit the Greensward at Gowers End following the recent vandalism and inspected the damage caused by youths. The Clerk had since contacted Babergh to ask for these to be filled in but had received no reply. Cllr. Thake would pursue this matter.

Councillors discussed the recent vandalism to the skateboard park. Cllr. Ford had been to inspect the damage and stated that he thought it feasible to just patch the surface. The Clerk would arrange for quotations for the work and also ascertain if there was any sort of non-flammable surface that could be used. An article would be inserted into the newsletter stating that money spent on repairing the damage would be taken out of money precepted for the youth.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Parmenter**

**SECONDED: Cllr. Ford**

The accounts for 2008-2009 were now with the accountant and would soon be sent to the auditors.

The Clerk informed the meeting that Jack would be starting full time work shortly so would probably not be able to run the sports club any more as he would not be home by 5pm. Councillors agreed that the Clerk could find a new level II coach and do a new recruitment drive for the club.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Knox**

**SECONDED: Cllr. Thake**

**020 Financial Matters****Account Status**

Income	5996.34
Expenditure	5114.98
Cash in hand	37754.35
Petty Cash	1005.62
High Interest	35375.26
Sports Club	2197.49

**Payments made out of Council**

Inland Revenue	333.16
Babergh District Council (bin emptying)	558.70
Mini Waste	155.25

**021 Planning Matters****Applications Granted****B/09/00358/FHA/LM          42 Hunts Hill**

Erection of single-storey and two-storey rear extensions, Erection of front porch, Erection of a detached double carport with store over (existing two-storey extensions to be demolished).

**B/09/00329/FHA/AS          15 Third Avenue**

Erection of detached garage.

**B/09/00200/ROC/CJT          Hunts Hill General Stores**

Variation of Conditions 04 and 05 to vary the times to allow deliveries at 5.00 am on weekdays, Saturday, Sunday and Bank holidays and to opening times from 6.00 am each day.

**Applications Refused****B/09/00256/FUL/ETR          Land West of Dove Cottage**

Change of use of agricultural land to domestic use.

**022 Village Hall and Youth Facilities Park**

The Clerk reported that people had tripped over the step when voting in the recent elections. She would arrange for a sign to be installed by the door.

The Chairman had sent a note out to councillors highlighting her concerns about the forthcoming possible merge between the Village Hall and the Social Club. Councillors were concerned that if the club became insolvent, whether there would be implications to the Parish Council. It was agreed that this would have to be inserted as a clause in the agreement.

Concerns were also raised that the Parish Council were now expected to finance the costs of the showers and fittings in the football club extension. Cllr. Parmenter quoted excerpts from the working party but Cllr. Searle said that the working committee is not part of the Parish Council, and the two comments quoted were very misleading.

Cllr. Thake said that until Parish Council knew the total costings and had in writing the social club's financial commitment then no decision could be made as it would be taken out of ratepayers money and the Parish Council could not run into massive amounts of debt. The Clerk has met with three contractors regarding quotations for the Parish Council part of the Village Hall and is seeing one more. It was envisaged that these costings would be available for the next meeting.

Cllr. Searle stated that the Parish Council would still own the entire building and the piece of land and that it could not be treated as a separate entity. Cllr. Parmenter stated that the Charity Commission had advised that provided that the Social Club paid the going rent for their part of the building then this would not affect the charitable status of the Village Hall.

Cllr. Parmenter stated that the original plan was to add the social club to the present Village Hall and in exchange they would give the Parish Council the whole of the back extension for extra storage, and would also increase the car park, put in the new

road and the new sewer. Cllr. Searle disagreed that the extension was being given for nothing, instead he felt that the Parish Council are just gaining storage rooms for use of the village hall users. Cllr. Knox felt that the interest of the village is being overtaken by the commercial interest. Cllr. Knox asked what would happen to any excess money left over from the purchase of the Social Club land. Cllr. Parmenter stated that it was unlikely that any money would be left over. Cllr. Thake stated that if the Parish Council would incur any debt then it is not a viable proposition and that the reserves could not all be used either to finance the project.

Cllr. Young asked if the Social Club would they have to pay rates? Cllr. Parmenter said yes, but the Clerk thought that as long as the Social Club was part of the Village Hall then it would still be zero rated. Cllr. Parmenter stated that if it was called Glemsford community centre then it would be feasible. Cllr. Thake said that he had been lead to believe it was going to be a community centre from the onset, and again reiterated that the Social Club could not be a separate entity.

Cllr. Ford asked how much is it going to cost for the installation of showers and changing rooms. Cllr. Searle said that the rooms needed to be wet rooms and that the drainage system needs to be changed. This must be put in when the hall is developed, as the actual sewerage and drainage has to be done at ground work level.

Cllr. Young said that everyone should be aware that despite reports to the contrary, the Parish Council would be putting something into the project as they were allowing the extension for the Social Club to be built on their land.

Cllr. Parmenter said that all costing for sewerage etc are being paid by the social club, and also the gas and water.

**023 BUS SHELTER PAINTING**

The chairman had collected entries for the decoration of the bus shelter from Glemsford Primary School. These were judged and the chairman would inform the school of the winners from the three key stages.

**There being no other business, the meeting finished at 8.45 pm**

**Approved .....**

**Date .....**