

**MINUTES OF THE  
GLEMSFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> September 2003 AT GLEMSFORD VILLAGE HALL**

- |            |                             |   |  |
|------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| <b>076</b> | <b><u>PRESENT</u></b>       | <b>Mr. C. Parmenter</b><br><b>Mr. L. Young</b><br><b>Mrs. A. Watkinson</b><br><b>Mr. H. Lay</b> | <b>Mr. R. Thake</b><br><b>Mr. B. Richer</b><br><b>Mrs. L. Knox</b> |
| <b>077</b> | <b><u>IN ATTENDANCE</u></b> | <b>Mrs. S. Turner (Parish Clerk)</b><br><b>Mr. R. Kemp</b><br><b>PC McKenna</b>                 |  |
| <b>078</b> | <b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b>     | <b>Mrs. L. Lord</b><br><b>Mr. J. Suttle</b>   |  |

**There were six members of public present.**

**079 POLICE MATTERS**

Seats had been damaged in the cemetery, as a result of vandalism.

The Vice-Chairman had reported the setting off of fireworks to the police, but had been informed that unless they were being thrown, or set off on the Highway, no further action would be taken.

PC McKenna reported that between 1<sup>st</sup> August 2003 and 5<sup>th</sup> September 2003, there had been fifteen reported crimes, compared to twenty last year.

Burglaries had dropped from three reported last year to none this year.  
 Damage had dropped from four last year to two this year; benches in the cemetery and damage to property at Bells Lane.  
 Vehicle crime had risen from two reported cases last year, to six this year; amongst those reported were damage to a vehicle in Kings Road, theft of tools from a vehicle in The Pippins, and a tractor stolen from a farm.  
 Public Order offences had risen from two to four.

Both of the telephone kiosks in the village had been vandalised during the past month, and PC McKenna suggested that if the tree was pollarded next to the kiosk on Fair Green, it would make it more visible. The Clerk would organise this.

Cllr. Young asked if the crimes were committed on any set days of the week, but PC McKenna stated that there was no visible pattern.

**080 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> August 2003, having previously been circulated, were adopted and signed.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Richer**

**SECONDED: Cllr. Watkinson**

**081 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Mr. B. Richardson of Neighbourhood Watch reported that cars had broken into over the weekend in The Pippins. Hi-Fi equipment had been stolen from the said vehicles.

The wood on the swing bridge at the children's play area was splitting and needed to be replaced. The Clerk would contact Playdale.

There had been a report of several scruffily dressed males knocking on doors in the Kings Road area, asking for electrical or plumbing work. The police had been called to move them on.

Mr. Don Gray asked why nothing had been done regarding the low level footway on Egremont Street. The Clerk had already contacted Highways twice regarding this matter, and Cllr. Kemp agreed to make enquiries as to the legal height.

Mr. Gray asked why the new housing estate on Egremont Street had been named "Seabrooks" as he felt it was totally inappropriate. It was explained that notification came from Babergh District Council and the Council were not now asked for approval. The Clerk would write to Babergh, and ask why the Parish Council were not now consulted on naming of new developments.

Mr. Gray asked how long the Gas Board would be working on the junction of Flax Lane/Egremont Street. The Clerk would contact them to find out.

Mr. Gray complained about the thistles surrounding the play area. The Clerk would contact Mr. Hickford and ask him to clear them.

Mr. Gray complained that newspaper reports of parish meetings were not always in the local newspapers and had not been for the past three months. The Clerk explained that she always sent reports to both the East Anglian Daily Times, and the Suffolk Free Press, but they were not obliged to print them, if they did not have the space.

Questions were asked about the Youth Facilities Park, and the Chairman stated that the newspapers would be carrying the story the following day. At present, the equipment was being stored locally, until a compromise could be reached with Babergh District Council.

**082 SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Notification had been received from Suffolk County Council that the speed limit for Lower Road would not be extended to cover the Hobbs Lane junction. Cllr. Kemp had written to Suffolk County Council, stating that he would prefer the speed restriction to be extended.

Cllr. Kemp had written to the Council regarding the Locality Budget. The Clerk asked Councillors to consider this, and it would be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

At a recent Babergh Area Committee meeting, Cllr. Kemp had proposed a motion to urge Suffolk County Council to make reductions wherever possible in the future to bring any annual increases in Council Tax to a figure more reflective of the rate of inflation measured against the retail price index.

**083 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Cllr. Young reported that certain departments at Babergh District Council would be extending their telephone opening hours from 5-7pm. These would include, Housing and Council Tax Benefit, Council Tax, Council Tax Rents and Business Rates.

Two new conservation officers had now been recruited. Michael Collins would be moving from Planning, and Clare Vint would be coming from Northamptonshire District Council.

Electoral registration forms would be sent to properties this week. Babergh urged people not to lose their right to vote.

Grants of up to £200 were being offered by Babergh District Council for those people who installed energy efficient oil or gas condensing boilers in their homes.

Cllr. Thake reported his dissatisfaction with money being wasted by Babergh District Council. Councillors had been asked whether they would like to attend courses on the correct way in which to handle the media. Cllr. Thake said that as long as the truth was told, there would be no need for these courses. He felt that money could easily be saved, by stopping functions at Stoke By Nayland Golf Club, and that also many of the training courses could be stopped, as there was a distinct lack of numbers in people attending.

The new policies on planning were starting to bite and a loophole in the system meant that Glemsford and Long Melford, because of their high population, were affected by certain matters that did not affect other parishes.

Developers were able to get around affordable housing issues by only erecting fourteen houses on a plot and provided they gave one car parking space per house with two visitors spaces, the parking issue was not a problem.

Cllr. Thake reported that following a letter sent from Babergh dated 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2003, members of the Development Committee were now allowed to sit in on planning discussions and advise, at parish level, but that he would not vote, and nor would Cllr. Young.

**084 CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk had written to Babergh District Council re Penny's Shop and had received a reply stating that Officers had visited the site and agreed that it did need some repair. Enquiries were continuing.

A letter had again been sent to Mr. Kiddy regarding the overhanging bushes on Duffs Hill.

Mr. Dane had been to look at Post Office Lane, following a complaint by Mr. Ludlow, but said that the area was not too bad.

Mr. Hickford had tidied the bushes in Angel Lane.

The Clerk had met with Sharon Halmkhan regarding the re-siting of the recycling bins. The Social Club had been deemed not acceptable, and if the site at Tower

Meadow were to be used, a road would need to be made, for the lorries to gain access. An email, had been sent from Babergh stating that no planning permission would be needed for the siting of the recycling bins, but Cllr. Thake said that this differed to the advice he had been given, when speaking to Michael Collins. The Clerk would write and ascertain more details.

A letter had been received from Mr. Gurr, expressing an interest in joining the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Mr. Gurr, inviting him to the next meeting, where he would be co-opted.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Knox**

**SECONDED: Cllr. Watkinson**

A letter had been received from Mrs. Alston regarding the siting of a sign for the Church Hall. The Clerk would write her and give the Council's approval to the initiative.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Knox**

**SECONDED: Cllr. Watkinson**

The Clerk reported that the web site was now operational, although there was still a great deal of work to be done.

An email had been received from Highways, asking for more details regarding the proposed footway on Hunts Hill. The Clerk would reply.

## **085 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### a. **Account Status**

Income	534.09
Expenditure	3558.18
Cash in hand	39404.55
Petty Cash	184.75
Youth Facilities Park	132.16
High Interest Account	14968.95

Total (not including yfp) 54558.25

### b. **Payments Received**

Burials	35.00
Village Hall Bookings	10.00
Organisation payments for Village Hall	332.00
Recycling	105.75

### c. **Accounts to be paid**

Mr. W. Dane	248.64
Asset Management Limited	150.00
Inland Revenue	213.64
Timely Help Security	507.60
Mr. W.R. Hickford	50.00
Chilton Office Supplies	141.00

d. **Payments made out of Council**

Amen Limited	204.45
Hygieco Limited	158.63
Viking Direct Limited	96.29
T&P Electrical	18.80

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Watkinson****SECONDED: Cllr. Young****086 PLANNING MATTERS**a. **New Applications****B/03/01356/FHA Courtlands, Flax Lane**

Erection of single-storey side extension.

Agreed to recommend this Application for approval.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Watkinson****SECONDED: Cllr. Knox****B/03/01336/RES Land adjoining 30A Hunts Hill**

Submission of reserved matters under outline planning permission B/02/00353/OUT - Erection of single-storey dwelling.

Agreed to recommend this Application for approval.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Watkinson****SECONDED: Cllr. Knox****B/03/01447/FUL Land rear of nos 13 and 15 Whitlands**

Renewal of OPP B/00/000624/OUT - Erection of a detached single-storey dwelling with detached garage and construction of vehicular access.

Agreed to recommend this Application for refusal and our original objections to this application still stand.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Richer****SECONDED: Cllr. Watkinson****B/03/00701/FUL The Cock Inn, Egremont Street**Retention of external lighting as amended by plans received 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2003 from agent.

Agreed to recommend this Application for refusal, and let the original objection to the application still stand.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Watkinson****SECONDED: Cllr. Lay**

**B/03/00933/FUL Land adjacent former Horse Hair Factory, Bells Lane**

Erection of terrace of 2 no. 2 ½ storey and 3 no. two-storey dwellings and conversion of existing two-storey building to 3 no. residential flats with alterations to existing vehicular access (as amended by details received 8/9/03).

Agreed to recommend this Application for refusal as there was not adequate car parking.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Lay**

**SECONDED: Cllr. Watkinson**

b. **Applications Granted**

**B/03/01168/TCA The Briars Residential Care Home, 23 Hunts Hill**

Pollarding of willow tree to 20ft.

**B/03/01021/FHA Newsomes, 8 Long Pastures**

Erection of front boundary wall.

**B/03/00365/FHA 30 Fair Green**

Retention of existing picket fence.

**B/03/01185/FUL Land at rear of Newfield House, Bells Lane**

Renewal of OPP B/00/00916/OUT - Erection of three detached dwellings.

c. **Any other planning matters**

**B/03/01077/FUL Land adjacent to Willow Farm, Lower Road**

Erection of 10 no. stables and siting of mobile home in connection with new livery and equestrian business.

Application withdrawn.

**087 CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter had been received from Babergh District Council regarding flood risk and damage, which the clerk would read and put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Suffolk County Council's Transport Plan was available at the Clerk's office, should anyone be interested in reading it.

**088 YOUTH FACILITIES PARK**

The Youth Facilities Park had been removed that day, and a press release issued to the local news papers. The Clerk had advised the youngsters using the park, to call her the following day, and she would set up a meeting, to discuss the matters further.

No response had been received from Tim Mutum at Babergh District Council regarding the emergency access to the Rec, if the Park were to be re-sited.

Cllr. Thake stated that he felt that major mistakes had been made by Babergh officers and events like this, were what caused the Council Tax to increase every

year. He still felt that there had been little or no communication between the various departments at Babergh District Council during the setting up of the Youth Facilities Park.

It was agreed to now write to Babergh District Council saying that the Parish Council would agree to give £9,600 and NO more money, but that Babergh must take the job of re-siting the Park on themselves, and also act as an Agent for the Parish Council in any negotiations that would take place. It would be stated in the letter that the Parish Council's contribution would be our total commitment and that Babergh District Council would be expected to complete the project and be responsible for its completion.

Cllr. Lay declared an interest in this item.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Watkinson**

**SECONDED: Cllr. Knox**

Cllr. Richer abstained from voting.

**089 PRIVATE SECURITY FIRMS**

It was agreed by the Councillors that the Security Firm had been a great success, with crime decreasing in the village. The Clerk would call them to change their hours and the position would again be reviewed in November.

**PROPOSED: Cllr. Watkinson**

**SECONDED: Cllr. Lay**

Cllr. Richer voted against the motion.

**072 ANY OTHER MATTERS**

Cllr. Thake had details of village appraisals. Councillors thought that this would be a good idea, and the Clerk would contact Suffolk Acre with a view to inviting the person responsible along to the next meeting.

**There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.50 pm**

**Next meeting 7<sup>th</sup> October 2003**

**Signed ..... Date and Min No. ....**