

**Horringer-cum-Ickworth Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018**  
**In Horringer Community Centre**

**Present:** Cllr Knight (Chair), Cllr White, Cllr Crofts, Cllr Dearsley, Cllr Fuller, Cllr Hammill and Cllr Walker

No members of the public were in attendance

Mrs S Brown (temporary clerk) took the minutes.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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| 1 | <b>Record Councillors' apologies for absence:</b> All in attendance.  |
| 2 | <b>Declarations of Interest:</b> No declarations of interest received.  |
| 3 | <p><b>County Councillors' report:</b> Cllr Soons attended a report had previously been circulated which included: Highways update, Suffolk County Council's budget setting for 2019/2020, SCC to develop proposals for up to £10m of junction improvements in Sudbury, Suffolk's most active community award winners announced, Suffolk wins praise at the national Community Energy awards 2018, The Hold construction is underway, Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service vehicle on the road and a link to 'Can do Health and Care'. Broadband update: since October 93.2% of Suffolk addresses now have access to super fast broadband. Customers need to sign up to get this service if it is available in their area. Achieving 98% by 2020 looks likely as OpenReach exceeded it's target last quarter significantly and connected 3190 premises alone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Locality Grant: Cllr Fuller advised the gates to the village required refurbishment or replacement, it was asked if new gates could be similar to that of Westley. Cllr Soons advised it was cheaper if there were spikes/posts already in the ground, if not a survey would have to be carried out which is costly. If simply replacing the gate structure this is much more straightforward and would not involve Highways. It was noted the gates would not be maintained under SCC highways budget. Cllr Soons suggested using resin gates rather than wood and to obtain costs from private companies as this would be cheaper than Highways. Cllr Soons to pass on contact details from Westley and the Clerk to find further information, to place on next agenda.</li> <li>ii. Speed Report: Cllr Fuller asked how Tut Hill had changed the speed limit from 60mph to 40mph as Horringer had tried to change the speed limit coming into Horringer and was unsuccessful. Cllr Soons advised there could be various reasons; these were discussed as well as the need for more data being available to give a better chance of changing the speed limit. VAS data and sites were discussed; Cllr Soons suggested applying again for a VAS site to get more data. The Chair to contact the Community Speed Watch group for the VAS formatted data that is available. It was asked if there were alternative methods available to help reduce speeding particularly on the 60mph stretch going out of the village where there are a number of sharp bends which it was felt should be 40mph. Cllr Soons advised rumble strips are very rarely used in Suffolk but more often white lines giving</li> </ul> |

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|   | <p>a visual effect of narrowing the road, roundels or using red paint on the road again data is needed as these methods are not cheap. Cllr Soons advised a cheaper method, if posts are available, of signage 'thanking you for your considerate driving', for example. Details of collision data had previously been circulated for Westley Lane, Cllr Soons suggested using the website link 'crashmap' on the email circulated to see if further accident data was available.</p> <p>It was asked if grit bins need filling during the winter could any member of the public contact SCC, Cllr Soons advised anyone can contact SCC she would forward the contact details to the Clerk. Councillors to take out the old contact details from the grit bins.</p> <p>Cllr Soons was thanked for all her help during the past year.</p> <p><b>Borough Councillors report:</b> Cllr Clements attended and gave a report which included: Looking at Borough status and an amendment had been agreed; he felt this was something residents should vote on and is now being looked at again. Council tax Forest Heath's council tax needs to be raised while St Edmundsbury should remain the same to achieve equalisation within the next few years. SHEELA consultation closes on Friday and Cllr Clements highlighted the housing needs in the area and this was briefly discussed. Public Works Loan was advised on and this was briefly discussed. The Chair thanked Cllr Clements for all his help in 2018.</p> <p><b>Community Council report:</b> A report had been received in regards the Horringer Diary and update on a new website for the village.</p> <p><b>Public Forum:</b> No members of the public in attendance.</p> |  |
| 4 | <p><b>To consider the approval of the minutes of the last meetings:</b> Council agreed to add 'explaining our position' to item 5ii. Cllr Knight proposed signing the minutes of the meetings held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018 be approved and signed as a true record seconded by Cllr Walker all in agreement.</p>   |  |
| 5 | <p><b>Reports:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Play Area Report: The November report had been circulated to Councillors. Cllr Dearsley advised he had checked the play area and asked for extra copies of the play area checklist, the Clerk to bring to the next meeting. It was confirmed the trees works were ongoing.</li> <li>ii. Chairman's Report: Cllr Crofts agreed to write the Parish Council articles for the Horringer Diary. The Chair to contact the tenant at the Post Office to advise the rent is £200 in arrears which must be paid by her year-end or interest may have to be charged. To also ask the tenant for her new address. The Chair advised he had received a response from the land owner of the grassed area where cars were parking without permission. The Clerk had contacted SALC who advised the Parish council have no entitlement to spend public money on private land and suggest it might be worth obtaining legal advice from NALC including the village green agreement. Council discussed and did not wish to go down the route of legal advice at this stage. Cllr Walker had spoken to the resident asking if they could refrain from parking on the grassed area and they had agreed not to do so. Council discussed the landowners response and how to move forward Cllr White was happy to draft a further letter to the landowner</li> </ul>  |  |

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|    | <p>explaining the Parish Council's position. It was agreed Cllr White to draft a response to circulate to all Councillors for comments and the Clerk to check the letters content with SALC before sending to the landowner.</p> <p>iii. National Trust Meeting: Cllr White updated Council on the recent meeting with an Officer of the National Trust, Cllr Crofts and Cllr Knight. The National Trust claimed staff had been dealing with trees on the site. The Officer had been advised the Parish Council would need to consult with the Community Council, the roadway and ditch were owned by The Bristol Estate. The field used by the Scouts was owned by the National Trust and on a 20 year lease to the Scouts. It had been suggested a licence agreement is obtained to allow the National Trust on occasions to carry out specifically tree work on the land for a fixed period at first. If acceptable the National Trust will draft an agreement. Council discussed it was highlighted having a legal easement on land can be detrimental for instance if the Community Council wished to re-develop or sell the site in the future.</p> |  |
| 6  | <p><b>To Consider request for prescriptive right of access &amp; ditch/drainage issues:</b> Discussed above.</p>  |  |
| 7  | <p><b>To Consider Annual Parish meeting/Annual Parish Council meeting dates:</b> The Clerk advised the hall had been double booked and the Parish Council had been asked if it was possible to move the meeting to an alternative date. Council discussed possible dates and agreed the Annual Parish meeting to be held in the main hall on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> April followed by the parish council meeting. The Annual Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> May in the committee room. The clerk to inform the booking secretary and circulate the new list of meeting dates 2019 to Councillors. Cllr Walker to go back to the W.I. with the date change. The Clerk to send the booking secretary the contact details of the Chair and Vice-Chair to allow them to receive key box change of code.</p>  |  |
| 8  | <p><b>To Consider Refurbishment of Telephone Box:</b> The design and access statement had been circulated to Councillors. Cllr Crofts advised the planning application was 75% completed and asked for confirmation where the telephone box was to be sited Council agreed as per design and access statement attached. Cllr Crofts advised the planning fee should be £130. Cllr Hammill had circulated links to solar lights which were battery powered with motion sensor. Cllr Hammill to send a short specification of the solar lights to be used to Cllr Crofts.</p>   |  |
| 9  | <p><b>To Consider Pre-School sign:</b> Cllr Walker gave details of the sign to be placed on the 'A' board previously agreed. Council were happy with the proposed signage.</p>  |  |
| 10 | <p><b>To Consider purchase of Play Equipment for Play Park:</b> The Clerk confirmed receipt of a Community Investment Grant Offer from Havebury Housing Partnership for £2,500 to purchase a goal by 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Council discussed and agreed to purchase a goal up to the value of £2500, the Chair completed and signed the appropriate form from Havebury Housing.</p>   |  |

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| 11 | <p><b>To Consider Grass Cutting contract:</b> McGregor Services advised the costs will stay the same for next season. If the Council would like to enter into a three year contract with us we would hold those prices for 2019 and 2020 and any increases in 2021 would be in line with inflation. Council discussed and all in agreement to accept a three year contract subject to the Parish Council continuing to have responsibility for the upkeep of the area. The clerk to inform the contractor.</p>   |
| 12 | <p><b>Correspondence:</b> No further correspondence had been received.</p>   |
| 13 | <p><b>Planning:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Application DC/18/2267/FUL Ickworth Park – multi trail: Council discussed and all in agreement to support the application.</li> <li>ii. Application DC/18/2388/HH 12 Hazel Drive – loft conversion incorporating 2no dormer windows, single storey front extension (following demolition of existing front porch), single storey rear extension: Council discussed and all in agreement no objection.</li> </ul>   |
| 14 | <p><b>Finance Report and to consider payments to be made:</b> Third quarter against budget had been circulated to Council. Payment Schedule for December had been circulated to Council. All in agreement for the payment of invoices to be made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Temporary Clerks salary and expenses:</b> A cheque no: 1757 was raised for £493.92</li> <li>ii. <b>Street Cleaner Services:</b> A cheque no: 1758 was raised for £144</li> <li>iii. <b>McGregor Services Inv: 3601 £228 November Grass Cut:</b> A cheque no: 1759 was raised for £228</li> <li>iv. <b>Horringer PCC grant:</b> A cheque no: 1761 was raised for £1200 as previously agreed in budget 2018-19.</li> <li>v. <b>SCC Land Charge expenses £6 paid by Cllr Crofts to reimburse at a later date with planning application charges.</b></li> <li>vi. <b>To consider grant application ‘Good Neighbour Scheme’ for 2019:</b> Council discussed and agreed £1000 grant will be made to the Good Neighbour Scheme in the next financial year which commences in April 2019. The clerk to inform the scheme.</li> </ul> <p><b>No further invoices had been received.</b></p> |
| 15 | <p><b>Councillors’ reports and items for future agenda:</b> Nothing further to add.</p>  |
| 16 | <p><b>Date of next meeting</b> – The date of the next scheduled meeting was confirmed as Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.</p>   |
| 17 | <p><b>To Resolve to close the meeting to the public to progress staffing issues:</b> Council resolved to close the meeting to the public. The Chair updated Council.</p> <p><b>There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.45pm</b></p>  |

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