

TRIMLEY ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Trimley St. Mary Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 7th February 2005 at Trimley St. Mary School at 7.04p.m.

Present:

Councillors: Mrs H J Blackshaw, Mrs M J Dixon, E Durrant, R Kerry (Chairman), N Mayes, J Newman, Mrs B Shout, D Southgate, and C Storer.

Apologies: B Frost and D Tyler.

Before commencing the meeting, the Chairman welcomed new members Mrs B Shout and C Storer and thanked them for joining the Council. He added that he hoped they enjoyed their role as Councillors.

97. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

J Newman, Mrs B Shout and C Storer declared an interest in major planning proposals for the Parish (the East of England Plan and the second 'vision' from Bidwells). Cllr. Newman expressed the opinion that there might be a need for further discussions on the implications of a letter, received by the Clerk, from the Standards Board. The Clerk confirmed that consultation with Suffolk Association for Local Councils, Hilary Slater, Monitoring Officer for Suffolk Coastal District Council and the Standards Boards had all led to the same conclusion – since the members would not have a final say in any planning application, when submitted, they were not excluded from discussing and contributing to the consultation process on such issues. Mrs M J Dixon, as a Suffolk Coastal District Councillor, declared an interest in planning issues and N Mayes declared an interest in matters relating to the Port of Felixstowe. Cllr. Dixon added that a recent article in the 'Evening Star' had somewhat compromised her position. She stated that she had always tried to remain impartial but the report gave the impression that she had strong opinions in opposition to the second 'vision'. Cllr. Dixon affirmed that she had not intended to give this impression. She continued that she did not want to be disqualified from planning applications at Suffolk Coastal District Council.

98. MINUTES

The minutes of the General Purpose and Finance Committee meeting held on Wednesday, 5th January 2005, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 10th January 2005, the minutes of the In Camera meeting held on Monday, 10th January 2005 and the minutes of the Trustees' meeting held on Monday, 10th January 2005, which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record, the following amendments having already been made: - the date of the East of England meeting in 90. 9 should read 27th January not February; the General Purpose and Finance Committee meeting took place at B Frost's home not Mrs M J Dixon's. Proposed E Durrant, seconded N Mayes.

99. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that all required paperwork had been completed with regard to the co-option of the two new members and a letter had been sent to all applicants for the positions, detailing the outcome of the co-option procedure. Dispensation had been sought for the new members to participate in discussions relating to funding for the Welcome Hall and the playing field from the precept, which would be considered at the next meeting of the Standards Committee on March 3rd 2005. Until this had been granted, Mrs B Shout and C Storer would have to leave the meeting during such discussions. As previously mentioned, communications with SALC, Hilary Slater of Suffolk Coastal District Council and the Standards Board all intimated that, since J Newman, Mrs B Shout and C Storer would not have a say in the final decision as to whether plans from Trinity College, Cambridge, or any other plans, when submitted, were accepted, they need only declare a personal interest and could engage in consultation discussions at the meetings, despite their active campaigning for STAG. The Clerk had copied the letter from the Standards Board to the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Mrs M J Dixon, Cllr. Newman, Cllr. Shout and Cllr. Storer and advised those in receipt of the letter to direct their attention to the last paragraph. All members were asked to re-read the bottom of page 6 and top of page 7 from the Standards Board latest pamphlet on lobby groups. It was agreed that the Clerk need not read out the relevant sections. Cllr. B Shout thanked the Clerk for her actions taken to clarify this issue as soon as possible.

The new members were invited to consider joining any of the various committees, a list having already been provided. Mrs B Shout agreed to become the Parish Council's representative on the Welcome Hall Committee and was thanked for accepting the position.

No further news had been received on the issue relating to street lighting in Station Road. The Clerk had invited Mark Youngman, Suffolk County Council, to attend a meeting with herself, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman at 14.45p.m. on Friday, 4th February 2005 and, as instructed by the Council, had requested a white 'H' marking outside an address in High Road, which had been applied for previously. The Chairman advised the Council that the traffic had been appalling. It had been suggested that no Traffic Order was necessary, if the zigzags were extended from the crossing beacon after Faulkeners Way North mini roundabout to 148, High Road, 17metre bus stop boxes were placed outside the stop at The Drift and at the stop on the other side of the road and the centre line was moved, to encourage those parking on the opposite side of the road from the school not to park on the pavement, a measure which would leave enough room for through traffic. All those affected would have to be consulted and the Clerk was asked to draw up a draft letter to be approved by Suffolk County Council before issue. Proposed plans were already being drawn up. The Chairman continued that this would mean no parking at all on the school side of the road and, if these measures failed, it would be possible, with a Traffic Order in two years' time, to request double yellow lines, if wished. Councillors were encouraged by this news and posed questions on the success rate for these measures elsewhere, the funding and the implications regarding residents' parking and possible objections. D Southgate proposed that the necessary steps be taken towards implementing this scheme, J Newman seconded the motion and all agreed.

The bus shelter outside the Free Church had been returned, the Clerk had received no reply again from an address in High Road, regarding a trailer parked in Park View and the required response had been sent to Nacton Parish Council on the matter of a quieter road surface on stretches of the A14. Following a letter from the Clerk, dated 12th January 2005, regarding the pending closure of the U3113, a reply had been received by email on the 28th of the same month, the contents of which were read out by the Chairman for the members' interest and information. The matter of clearing rubbish around the village was still being pursued.

Replies had been received to the Clerk's letters regarding train timetable problems and the Station Building, which the Chairman read out for the members' interest and information. The former thanked the Council for putting forward its concerns and explained the difficulties in making changes. The Councillors were assured that the situation would continue to be reviewed. The latter stated that BRB (Residuary) Ltd. did not own any property at the station, all records relating to the building had been vested in Railtrack plc and enquiries should be directed to Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd., from whom, it was believed, the required information could not be obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. The Clerk read out a letter received from Steve Brown, Suffolk Coastal District Council, in response to the Clerk's enquiries about consultation in the Felixstowe Masterplan, dates for input in relation to the new framework document from Bidwells and details of the number of houses required on the Felixstowe Peninsula. Mr Brown had intimated that he would be happy to address the Council and this had been arranged for the next full Parish Council meeting, Mr Brown, regrettably, being involved at another meeting that evening. Documents provided by Mr Brown to the Clerk could be viewed only on application but were within the public domain. The response to the Clerk' letter to Bidwells was also read out.

The Clerk advised the Council that the precept had been confirmed, the Suffolk PASS details had been forwarded to the webmaster, the SCC Racial Harassment Initiative flyer had been displayed and the SCDC questionnaire regarding Playground Inspections Service had been returned. The Clerk also apologised for the fact that the thanks from the webmaster for the Council's remuneration for services during the past year had been omitted from the last meeting.

Members were reminded that the Local Authority Liaison Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 15th 2005 at Trinity College, Cambridge. Neither she nor the Vice-Chairman would be able to attend and, in anticipation of receiving a request for the relevant information, the Clerk asked who would be attending. The Chairman confirmed that he would attend and encouraged the other members to fill the empty spaces. The Clerk also requested a full Trustees' meeting following the main Council meeting.

Reports:

B Frost – Railway Station and Use. In the absence of the Vice-Chairman, the Clerk reported that some painting work was being done at the Station and thanks were extended to D Southgate for pointing this out. Cllr. Southgate stated that he believed the painting might be more of a safety measure than anything else. The Chairman confirmed that the wood at the back of the new station sign had been treated.

EERA Meetings. The Clerk stated that, in the absence of the Vice-Chairman, no one was present who had attended a seminar on the East of England Plan. Concerns were expressed that the attendance of Steve Brown at the next meeting could lead to an influx of parishioners wishing to attend. The timescale of the meeting and the capacity of the venue were discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk should ascertain if the meeting could begin at the earlier time of 6.30p.m. It was also agreed that the meeting with Steve Brown was primarily a gathering of information exercise for the benefit of the Councillors. Clarification was required on the number of houses proposed and the definitions of the Haven Gateway area, since conflicting information had been received on both issues to date. Mrs H J Blackshaw advised the Council that the school's OFSTED inspection began on March 7th and hoped that this would not affect the holding of the Parish Council meeting. Mrs M J Dixon advised the members that Steve Brown had stated that many landowners were offering up land for planning and that Bidwells was only one of them.

100. The meeting was adjourned at 7.48p.m. The Community Police Officer was not present and no report had been received. Suffolk County Councillor, Mrs P O'Brien, had sent her apologies and the Chairman read out her report. Mrs S Green, Suffolk Coastal District Councillor, had sent her apologies. Mrs M J Dixon, Suffolk Coastal District Councillor, produced a report. No members of the public were present. The meeting reconvened at 7.55p.m.

101. ISSUES ARISING FROM REPORTS

1. There were no issues under this heading.

102. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Members were advised that cover had been arranged during the leave of one of the bus shelter cleaners. Two letters had been received regarding new, possibly offensive graffiti at the shelter opposite the Three Mariners. The Chairman had offered to attempt to remove it with graffiti wipes. If this failed, the Clerk should gain a quote for repainting. The Clerk was asked to inform the Community Police Officers of the recent damage.

2. The Volunteer Centre had requested a stall at planned events/fetes. It was agreed that the Clerk should pass the information on to the Carnival Committee.

3. Suffolk Coasts and Heaths had invited the Chairman to attend the AONB Community Conference on March 12th 2005. The Chairman was unable to attend but Mrs M J Dixon had already accepted an invitation and Mrs H J Blackshaw expressed a wish to attend. The Clerk agreed to make the necessary arrangements.

4. A document from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister entitled Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Authorisation of the Qualified Person and amendments to Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 with information notes had been received, which could be viewed on application to the Clerk. The Chairman advised the members that, for the purposes of section 36 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for Parishes in England, the Primary Authorisation for the Parish Council was the Clerk to the Council, the Secondary, the Chairman of the Council. At the Parish Meeting the Primary Authorisation was the Chairman of the Parish Meeting, the Secondary, the Proper Officer of the District Council.

5. Suffolk Accident Rescue had written to request continued support. The Chairman advised the members that this organisation relied entirely on public donations, receiving no income from the National Health Service or Central Government.

6. A communication had been received from Suffolk Coastal District Council relating to its Tree Risk Surveying service, excerpts from which were read out by the Chairman for the members' interest and information. The Chairman also added that he had been extremely impressed by the swift response from Suffolk Coastal District Council to the Clerk's report of a damaged tree in Burnham Close following the last meeting.

7. The Chairman advised the members that the Environment Agency Flood Awareness Campaign had sent details of viewing the new Flood Map. Further copies of the enclosed leaflet and poster could be obtained on application to the Clerk.

8. An offer of recently de-commissioned PC's and furniture from Suffolk County Council had been forwarded to the Council by Suffolk Association for Local Councils. These details were passed on to Mrs M J Dixon in the event that it might be of some use to the Welcome Hall.

9. The Chairman provided details of a job advert for Regional Development Officers received from the National Association for Local Councils. Members were advised that the closing date was February 11th 2005. The Clerk added that Area Meetings Agendas and Minutes were available from Suffolk Association for Local Councils by email. Interested members should advise the Clerk.

103. INFORMATION CIRCULARS

The following were presented and/or circulated:

1. The Local Channel – Free Community Website and Freedom of Information Act.
2. Glasdon – Local Councils News-Sheet, brochure and specification sheet.
3. SALC - ROSPA 2005, East Anglian Daily Times Wildflower Awards 2005, Local Councils Insurance Scheme, SCARF Emergency Planning Seminar.
4. SCC and Mid Suffolk District Council – Customer Service Direct folder.
5. RSPB Birds, Spring 2005.
6. SCC – Forthcoming Bus Service Changes.
7. SALC – Suffolk Coastal Area Committee minutes of the meeting held on November 22nd 2004 and agenda for meeting on March 17th 2005.
8. ESTA – The Traveller, No. 91, January 2005, 2005 Tours booking Form and 'one' The East Suffolk Line, Ipswich to Lowestoft guide to your local railway, including through services to London, 2005 edition.

The Clerk advised the members that a consultation document in circulation had not been returned and the deadline had now passed. She asked that it and the accompanying documents be returned as soon as possible.

104. FINANCE

1. The monthly financial statement was presented and agreed. Proposed J Newman, seconded E Durrant.

2. Paid since last meeting:

Goslings Farm	Christmas Trees	48.20
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3. Expenditure:

Bus Shelters	To 05/02/2005	60.00
Trimley St. Martin Parish Council	Link Road	635.39
E. ON Energy	Xmas Light Up 2003	17.03
Clerk	Imprest Top Up	42.86
Clerk	Reimbursement Travel	86.40

4. Bryan Frost – Timetables. In the absence of the Vice-Chairman, the Clerk reported that there would be a delay in the printing of the new timetables, as further amendments were expected. As a result, no costs were available at present.

5. The Chairman advised the members that the VAT return had been completed and submitted and thanked the Clerk.

6. Turfcare and Pest Control Options – Stennetts. The Chairman advised the members that the Stennetts Memorial Playing Field Management Committee had opted to place the turfcare and maintenance of the field entirely in the hands of Suffolk Coastal District Council, the pest control from Laurie Pest Control Ltd. being more expensive. There would be two less cuts in the summer months because the Cricket Club would be amalgamated with Felixstowe, although this was not yet 100% certain. The Chairman informed the members of the reasoning behind this possible move. D Southgate commented that the field must still be maintained to a satisfactory level for the community. Having chosen Option 2, pest control for moles only and a request made for a full Sports Turf Research Institute report on the playing field the Clerk confirmed the total cost at £3,303.90 plus VAT. The Clerk added that she would have to cancel the contract with Laurie Pest Control Ltd. and they required three months' notice.

105. PLANNING

1. Applications:

CO5/0032 The extension of Nicholas Road to provide access to and facilitate the development of Plateaux E and F, Blofield Hall land north of Nicholas Road. The objections raised were read out for the members' interest and information.

CO5/0033 Application to vary conditions 1, 4, 5, 8, 11 and 14 of outline planning permission C98/0290 for the development of the Clickett Hill/Blofield Hall land to allow: - the early release of Plateaux E and F (north of Nicholas Road) for container storage without: a) compliance with conditions requiring strategic landscaping; and b) improvements to the junction of Blofield Road and Trinity Avenue. – an increase in the maximum height of stacked containers from 13m to 14.5m above finished ground levels; - a relaxation of noise restrictions to reflect changed circumstances; - a relaxation of the time period for completion of screen mounds and planting, Clickett Hill and Blofield Hall land north of Blofield Road/Nicholas Road, Trimley St. Mary. Each condition had been addressed in turn and some objections raised. The full response was read out for the members' interest and information. The Chairman inquired whether the containers were still to be stacked 5 high and the height increase was due to the fact that each container was now higher. A response in the affirmative was received. D Southgate disagreed and stated that, at the height suggested, the containers could be 6 high.

CO5/0034 Engineering and building operations in connection with use of Plateaux E and F for container storage and haulage business (submission of details under outline planning permission C98/0290), Blofield Hall land north of Nicholas Road, Trimley St. Mary. The objections raised were as those outlined in CO5/0032 above. Since submitting the responses and following an independent submission by B Frost, as mentioned below, amended plans for CO5/0032 had been received, which the members viewed. It was agreed that the amended plans did not affect the Council's initial response and there was no need for a further letter. D Southgate expressed the concern that a temporary diversion might become permanent.

The Chairman read out a letter from The Ramblers' Association in response to planning applications CO5/0032/0034 and an independent letter had also been submitted by B Frost regarding the same applications.

CO5/ 0050 Erection of first floor rear extension, 55, Cordy's Lane – supported with recommendations.

CO5/0093 Erection of terrace of 3 two and a half storey three bedroom dwellings with construction of vehicular access and parking area, land adjoining 132 High Road. The Council accepted that the site could accommodate the proposed dwellings but concerns were expressed about the access and the members objected to the dormer windows, requesting that the design be more in keeping with the street scene.

CO5/0136 Erection of single-storey rear and side extensions, 40 Langstons – supported with recommendation.

LCC – Proposed Vodafone upgrade installation at High Road, Walton, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 9UB – objected.

2. Decisions:

CO4/2161 Erection of single-storey extension to provide dining and kitchen area with a glazed link to existing dwelling and a glazed link to the existing attached building, Candlet Farm, Gulpher Road – granted.

CO4/2162 Alterations and extensions in relation to the above, Candlet Farm, Gulpher Road – listed building consent.

CO4/0364 8 residential flats, 3 storeys high, comprising 3 one-bed units and 5 two-bed units, land adjacent to 132, High Road – appeal dismissed.

3. SCDC – Planning Application CO4/1751, Erection of one new dwelling with garage, land adjacent to 12, The Avenue. Members were informed that this application had gone to appeal and further representations were required by March 16th 2005. It was agreed that no further representation was required.

4. Responses to Felixstowe Masterplan, Bidwells and East of England Plan. The Clerk suggested that, in the light of Steve Brown's visit, the Councillors should divide up into groups to address various relevant topics of the East of England Plan, pool their ideas at a meeting prior to the next full Council meeting and be prepared to submit the final response to the consultation document shortly after the full Parish Council meeting, the deadline being 5.00p.m. on Wednesday, 16th March 2005. C Storer stressed that informal get-togethers must commence as soon as possible and it was agreed that the Clerk need not be present at these. C Storer and J Newman agreed to address housing issues, B Frost had already stated that he would address transport and E Durrant offered to assist with this, the Chairman, C Storer and Mrs B Shout

would look at environment issues and Mrs H J Blackshaw community facilities. Mrs M J Dixon offered to pose suggested questions for the various groups to consider.

The Clerk continued that the next urgent issue to address was the response to the second 'vision' and suggested that she try to obtain the school hall for the Annual Parish Meeting and use every means available to encourage the parishioners to come along and put forward their views. This would leave the input to the Felixstowe Masterplan to be addressed.

Mrs B Shout provided photocopies of the response form for the East of England Plan, available on the website, for the benefit of those who did not possess a computer, having ascertained that individual responses were welcome. On the subject of environmental issues, she also raised the question of research into the effects of planning proposals on water levels, particularly the Orwell Estuary. The Chairman confirmed that the matter had been discussed at a meeting at the Dock and changes were being noted. Mrs M J Dixon stated that this had also been a topic of discussion at the Joint Parish Meeting and added that no study for a proper report by the Environment Agency had yet been carried out. Cllr. Shout, as a resident, also expressed concerns about light pollution. The Chairman stated that he could confirm with confidence that the lights had already be changed to the best available. Cllr. Dixon concurred that there had been a lot of concern about light overspill.

Cllr. Storer stated that the Council positively wanted to inject ideas into the Masterplan and should capture the issues for the community and feed them into Steve Brown's consultation process. D Southgate reminded Cllr. Storer that the Council had a formal response to the Local Plan.

106. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

1. N Mayes expressed concern at the number of trees being felled on Blofield. He stated that there seemed to be a lot of activity on the plateaux, logs being stacked up and some burning taking place. Mrs M J Dixon added that the trees were not protected. The Clerk was asked to make the relevant enquiries.

2. D Southgate advised the members that complaints might be received from members of the public regarding the state of the footpath outside 17A, The Avenue due to the building of the house and the installation of services. He assured the members that the footpath would be restored to its former state.

107. EMERGENCY ISSUES

1. D Southgate advised the members that he had been unable to attend the last meeting of the Sports Council due to illness.

108. NEXT MEETING

Monday, 7th March 2005 at 6.30p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.06 p.m.

_____ Chairman

_____ Date