

# CLOPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2010 in the Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors R Compton (Chairman), C. Angwin, G. Boshier, S Christensen, S Freeman & new Cllr. Richard Taylor.

**In attendance** Clerk G. Kimmerling and 4 members of the public.

**The meeting commenced in Open Session.**

No report from SCC/SCDC.

Cllr. Compton read out a report from the Police (included in the Minutes folder) There were no other reports but Cllr. Taylor said the Village Hall A.G.M. is on April 8<sup>th</sup>. at 7.30p.m. Mr. Dockerell pointed out that in the Clopton newsletter it stated that this publication was free but, in fact, it is paid for via the precept. He suggested sending it via e-mail or a website & saving money. Cllr. Compton had asked for e-mail addresses but had received none. Other suggestions were using the Grundisburgh newsletter – only half A4 sheet allocated to Clopton, or reducing the content to a double-sided A4 sheet. Cllr. Compton felt most people enjoy receiving the newsletter in its present format but it would go onto the ‘One Suffolk’ website when Cllr. Pennington had this in place which could reduce the number of paper copies.

**The Open Session concluded and the Parish Council meeting commenced.**

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Taylor back onto the Parish Council.

Agenda Item	Discussion/Detail	Action
<b>1. Apologies</b>	Received from Cllr. Pennington – babysitting & SCC Cllr. Bellfield – at a Local Development Framework meeting.	
<b>2. Declarations of Interest</b>	None	
<b>3. Minutes</b>		
21 <sup>st</sup> .January 2010	It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on January 21 <sup>st</sup> . 2010 be approved. Proposed by Cllr. Freeman, seconded by Cllr. Angwin and agreed by the Parish Council. The Minutes were then signed.	
<b>4. Matters Outstanding from the Minutes</b>		
a)Community Speed Watch	This was suspended in the cold weather but had now restarted. It was felt there was a need to do Rouse Hall Estate/Shop Road but the Police will not allow this.	
b)Clopton Commercial Park	The site has not been visited yet due to the bad weather but a site visit will be arranged.	Cllr. Compton to organise a site visit.
c)Road Safety Mirror	This was delivered to Cllr. Christensen’s house. She thinks it is too big for the site. It was agreed that Cllr. Compton & Cllr. Angwin would meet with Cllr. Christensen to make a decision on the suitability of the size of the mirror.	Cllr. Compton & Cllr. Angwin to decide if the mirror should be replaced with a smaller one.
d)Grit bin volunteer	No-one had responded to the poster asking for volunteers to grit Rouse Hall/Shop Road junction.	
e) ‘Street View’ on Google	Cllr. Angwin said all of Clopton is now on ‘Street View’ and all properties can be seen. It is possible to have properties removed from the site.	.
<b>5. Finance</b>		
i)Financial statement as at 18/3/10	The Clerk reported the end of year financial accounts. Savings over budget for the year are £723.00 and Income over Expenditure is £106.00. There is £163 due from VAT. The Precept for 2010/11 will be £3500.00	.
ii)Requests for funding under Section 137	The rate for 137 payments is £6.15 per person on the Electoral Role - £1650. Grants were considered for 4 organisations. RESOLVED to give £50 to East Anglian Ambulance Service (First Responders) Proposed by Cllr. Taylor, seconded by	

	<p>Cllr. Boshier &amp; agreed by the P.C.  RESOLVED to give £25 to Ipswich &amp; East Suffolk Headway (brain injury &amp; stroke victims). Proposed by Cllr. Angwin, seconded by Cllr. Taylor &amp; agreed by the P.C.  RESOLVED to give £25 to Disability Advice Service (help for disabled people and their carers). Proposed Cllr. Angwin, seconded Cllr. Taylor &amp; agreed by the P.C.</p>	
iii)To approve invoices for payment.	<p>RESOLVED to approve invoices as follows:-  G Kimmerling – Clerk’s salary and expenses £290.62  G. Kimmerling – Parish Plan folders £61.28  Wdge. Copy Centre – photocopies for newsletter £45.00  Suffolk ACRE Ltd. –Parish Plan questionnaires £657.00  East Anglian Ambulance Service – 137 payment £50.00  Disability Advice Service – 137 payment £25.00  Ipswich &amp; East Suffolk Headway – 137 payment £25.00  Proposed by Cllr. Angwin, seconded by Cllr. Christensen and approved by the Parish Council.</p>	
iv)To update the Asset Register & Insurance	<p>All Councillors had copies of the Asset Register with updated valuations.  Assets descriptions &amp; locations checked, clarified &amp; confirmed.  The printer in the Village Hall was last used in 2008 and had no ink cartridge. It was agreed that this was no longer any use and should be scrapped. Cllr. Compton had an old camera which had not been used for many years and it was agreed to write this off.  The Village Hall, contents, land and equipment is to be included in the Asset Register as the Parish Council is the Holding Custodian.  The Clerk will update the Asset Register and adjust the Insurance accordingly.</p>	Clerk to adjust Asset register and update Insurance.
v)To approve the Financial Risk Assessment	<p>The Clerk had prepared a Financial Risk Assessment based on NALC’s model. This was reviewed and approved by the Parish Council. Cllr. Angwin and the Clerk will run through the Financial Risk Assessment as it applies to Clopton Parish Council.</p>	Cllr. Angwin & the Clerk to work through the Financial Risk Assessment.
vi)To appoint the Internal Auditor for 2010/11	<p>RESOLVED to ask Mr. Robin Prior to carry out the Internal Audit again. Proposed by Cllr. Angwin, seconded by Cllr. Boshier and agreed by the Parish Council.</p>	Clerk to contact Mr. Prior
<b>6. Planning</b>		
<b>i) Planning Decisions</b>	No decision notices received	
<b>ii) Planning Applications</b>		
	<p>C10/0358 Part of Land opposite Pear Tree Farm, Grundisburgh Road.  Change of use of land for the stationing of a mobile home to supervise the equestrian business run from Lark Vale Stud, Grundisburgh Road.  The Parish Council had originally expressed concerns that there was no accommodation or staff facilities on site. This was ignored by the Planning department. RESOLVED to object to the application as staff accommodation should have been included as part of the original buildings.</p>	
iii) Hill Farm Appeal		
	Letter sent to the Planning Inspectorate objecting to the application to double the number of HGV cabs and trailers. Awaiting decision.	

<b>iv) Lack of Confidence in Planning Department</b>	Letter sent to the Chief Executive SCDC expressing the concerns about the Planning Dept. Long response received supporting the department but a comment was made that 'other parishes locally had raised similar concerns.' An assurance was given that Parish Council views would be fully taken into account. There is a Planning Forum on 15 <sup>th</sup> . April at SCDC or 22 <sup>nd</sup> . April at Stratford St Andrew. The Clerk will attend on 22 <sup>nd</sup> . April. Cllrs. Angwin & Compton to inform the Clerk if they can attend.	Cllrs. Angwin & Compton to contact the Clerk if able to attend either meeting.
<b>7. Parish Plan.</b>		
	The questionnaires have been received and will be delivered to all households in the next few weeks.	Clerk to deliver.
<b>8. Traffic Issues</b>		
	The Speed Assessment Panel had seen a video of the visibility at Shop Road/B1078 junction. Recorded speeds were found to be below what would normally be found in a rural 40mph speed limit & it was felt that a speed limit would not result in an actual reduction in vehicle speeds therefore Not Supported. The Parish Council had not requested a 40mph limit before and did not know when the speed checks had been carried out. The Clerk will write again re this and approach SALC for support.	Clerk to contact Luke Barber and SALC.
<b>9. Website</b>		
	Cllr. Pennington has asked for various information before she can proceed.	
<b>10. Village sign &amp; notice boards</b>	The weather has been too bad to make any repairs but these will be carried out asap. There is a large crack in the Village sign post. Cllrs. Compton & Taylor will check this.	Cllrs. Compton & Taylor to check Village sign.
<b>11. APM &amp; APCM on May 20<sup>th</sup>.</b>	Clerk to contact all local groups for their reports. Tea coffee and biscuits will be provided.	Clerk to contact village groups.
<b>12. SALC report</b>	No-one was able to attend the last SALC meeting.	
<b>13. SORR report</b>	No report.	
<b>14. Community Emergency Planning report</b>	Cllr. Pennington is continuing to make progress. The Emergency plan could be included on the website.	
<b>15. Get to Know Clopton update</b>	Unfortunately the person who was going to organise this is unwell so it is on hold for the moment.	
<b>16. Correspondence</b>	Cllr. Boshier reported on the Hedgerow Survey. Guy Ackers is sending up-to-date forms. Cllr. Boshier will write to all land-owners and then organise the volunteers. There is a training day on May 15 <sup>th</sup> . at Thornham Magna. The survey must be completed this year. SCC draft Fire Action Plan 2010/11 –details on a website. Royal British Legion offering talks – given to Ladies Group SCDC Spring Clean Litter Pick. Volunteers are covered by Public Liability insurance provided various conditions are met. It was decided not to organise a Litter-pick.	Cllr. Boshier to organise Hedgerow Survey.
<b>17. Questions to Chairman</b>	None	
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall – Annual Parish Council Meeting.</b> <b>This meeting will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm.</b>	

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Chairman) Date \_\_\_\_\_