

# CLOPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on 20<sup>th</sup>. September 2012 in the Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors R Compton (Chairman) S. Freeman, & C. Angwin & the Clerk, G. Kimmerling  
**In attendance** SCC Cllr. Bellfield, Mr. Nat Bocking and 7 members of the public.

**The meeting commenced in Open Session.**

SCC Cllr. Bellfield gave a report from SCC – The cabinet are meeting on Monday to agree additional funding for Higher Speed Broadband (by July 2014 in this area). School results show that children tend to do better under the two tier system. Suffolk children are below the national average. Libraries are no longer run by SCC and mobile libraries visit areas once a month now. Two delegates from China & South Korea visited SCC to look at wind power. EDF Energy is still keen to build Sizewell ‘C’ and consultations are ongoing. Under the 106 agreement the developer will put money into community projects and the A12 by-pass at Farnham is a possibility.

SCDC are continuing to amalgamate with Waveney DC, there are some problems to overcome with the planning departments. The budgets for the coming year are in progress.

2 members of the public reported problems with flooding. In Shop Road there is bad flooding by the second property from the junction. Highways have been informed and the gullies cleared but the surface water cannot get away during heavy rainfall. Rouse Hall flooded by No. 19 and there was a bad problem with sewerage leaking here. Highways blasted the pipes but the ditches are blocked. Flagship Housing are responsible for the sewerage, Catts Hill Farm for the ditches. It was agreed these areas need to be looked at again.

**The Open Session concluded at 7.55 and the Parish Council meeting commenced.**  
*SCC Cllr. Bellfield left the meeting.*

Agenda Item	Discussion/Detail	Action
<b>1. Apologies for absence</b>	Cllr. Pryke – away for a wedding and PCSO Chattenberry	
<b>2. Resignation of Parish Councillor</b>	Cllr. Compton informed the Parish Council of the resignation of Lucinda Pennington due to work commitments. She was warmly thanked for all her work. The Clerk has advised SCDC and advertised the vacancy.	
<b>3. Co-Option of new Parish Councillor</b>	There are 2 vacancies which can be filled by co-option. PROPOSED by Cllr. Compton, seconded by Cllr. Freeman & agreed by the Parish Council to co-opt Mr. Tony Fryatt onto the council. Mr. Fryatt agreed, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the Parish Councillors.	Clerk to inform SCDC of new councillor.
<b>4. Declarations of Interest</b>	None	
<b>5. Minutes</b>		
Meeting held on July 19 <sup>th</sup> . 2012	Proposed by Cllr.Freeman seconded by Cllr. Compton & agreed by the Parish Council to accept the Minutes as a true record. The Chairman signed the Minutes.	
<p style="text-align: center;"><i><b>Cllr. Compton left the meeting to take Cllr. Freeman home. Cllr. Angwin took the Chair until his return.</b></i></p> <p>Cllr. Angwin closed the meeting to allow Mr. Nat Bocking to speak on the Good Neighbour Scheme.</p> <p>Mr. Bocking explained that he is from Suffolk Acre and that the Rural Services Survey completed for Clopton indicated that a Good Neighbour Scheme might be beneficial in the village. Several schemes have been started up in this area with from 10 to 50 people taking part. Wickham Market is the largest. They are all self sustaining with neighbours willing to offer help and time to other people. A mobile phone is held by a volunteer along with the list of volunteers. The idea of the scheme is to set up a network of help in communities. Mr. Bocking would act as co-ordinator – doing CRB checks (£7.50 per person through SAVRO), arranging blanket insurance, advising on fund-raising, preparing leaflets etc. 3 to 5 People are needed to start a scheme &amp; Suffolk ACRE have set up 29 so far. 45 people indicated a wish for a Good Neighbour Scheme or similar in the Parish Plan. It was agreed this would be discussed further. Mr. Bocking was thanked and he then left the meeting.</p>		
Cllr. Compton closed the meeting to the public and returned to the Agenda		
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<b>6. Matters Outstanding from the Minutes</b>		
a) Reclaiming VAT	The Councillors had viewed the HMRC website. Cllr. Angwin felt the Parish Council was not entitled to reclaim VAT on work done to the village hall as it was only the Holding Custodian. Cllr. Compton felt that the Council should claim the VAT if it raised the funds as the hall belonged to the Parish Council. He will circulate the Deed of Trust to the PC.	Cllr. Compton to circulate Village Hall Deed of Trust to P.C.
b) Flooding in Manor Road & Shop Road.	Flooding discussed in open session. Highways, Flagship Housing and the local land owners need to be contacted about the problems.	Clerk to contact various bodies.
<b>7. Finance</b>		
i) Financial statement as at 20/09/12	Copies given to all Parish Councillors	
ii) Approve invoices for payment	G. Kimmerling – Clerk’s salary £223.07 G. Kimmerling – Clerk’s expenses £3.60 Della Hughes – newsletter £24.46 HMRC - Clerk’s tax £55.80 Sfk. ACRE Services – insurance £310.05 PROPOSED Cllr Angwin, seconded Cllr. Fryatt & agreed by the Parish Council. All chqs dated 20/09/12 & signed by Cllrs. Compton & Freeman	
iii) To consider any other financial matters	The Clerk explained that a Change of Address would need to be completed for the new Clerk. PROPOSED by Cllr. Angwin, seconded by Cllr. Fryatt & agreed by the Parish Council to pay for 6 months. Chq. for £30 signed by Cllrs. Angwin & Compton, dated 20/09/12 & payable to Royal Mail Group Ltd.	
<b>8. Planning</b>		
<b>i) Planning Decisions</b>		
	None received	
<b>ii) Planning Applications</b>		
	C12/1697 Birds View, Snipe Farm Road Erection of all weather ménage, fenced in by 3 rail post & rail wooden fence, drained, floodlit, 1 horse gate, 1 pedestrian gate & for private use only. Approved by the Parish Council on 12/09/12	
iii) Other Planning Issues	Application for an Operators Licence for The Old Council Yard, Hall Road, Debach for 5 vehicles & 5 trailers. The Parish Council supported Debach Parish Meeting in their objection to this.	
<b>9. Appointment of new Clerk</b>	The position has been advertised and three people were interested in the post. One has since declined. Cllr. Compton welcomed Mrs. Esther Brown, Clerk to Easton, who had attended the meeting. A decision will be made shortly on who to invite for interview .	Chairman to arrange interviews.
<b>10. Wildlife Area by the Concrete Road</b>	The ‘pond’ was originally dug as a reservoir for farm use. Mr. Taylor is willing to consider this for a wildlife area with a seat but must be involved with the plans. Cllr. Compton met Tracey Housley from Sfk. Wildlife Trust at the site. It could be turned into a wild life area quite easily & she suggested getting help from Otley College. Cllr. Angwin suggested considering the area by the village hall as well. It was felt the churchyard was too remote. Cllr. Compton will liaise with Tracey & work with Della Hughes to advertise the work in the Parish Magazine and on the web page.	Cllr. Compton to liaise with Tracey Housley & Della Hughes.
<b>11. Village Design Statement</b>	Cllr. Angwin reported that Hilary Hanslip at SCDC had said the first edition of the Village Design Statement was inadequate. He is working to improve this.	
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<b>12. Parish Plan</b>	The Clerk read out a letter from Mr. Searle , Shop Road, concerned about speeding traffic on the B1078. This is an on-going problem which the Parish Council will continue to work on.	
<b>13. Speedwatch</b>		
	Cretingham is still interested. Tuddenham have had CRB checks and are keen to join. They will pay the same as the original communities taking part. Cllr. Compton said a new reflective barrier is needed as one was damaged. Cllr. Fryatt said Little Bealings may be interested in joining the scheme and he will speak to them.	Cllr. Fryatt to speak to Little Bealings on joining Speedwatch.
<b>14. SALC</b>	Cllr. Fryatt attends SALC meetings as he is on the Planning Board. There are rules coming out relating to temporary signage by the roadside. Parish Councils can do a £60 on the spot fine if they have attended a course. Potash Corner can be a problem. In 2010 there was a Scrutiny Committee on Planning but this paper was not produced at the time. There are rumours that the Planning Help Desk may go. Fewer Planning applications are going to the Development Control Boards so people are not able to speak in person. SALC is opposing this.	Cllr. Fryatt to report on SALC meetings
<b>15. Correspondence</b>	SALC AGM on 12 <sup>th</sup> . November. Cllr. Fryatt to attend.	
<b>16. Questions to Chairman</b>		
	Cllr. Angwin asked if the Parish Council is registered for VAT. It is not. The Risk Assessment needs to be reviewed. This will be on the next Agenda. A Vote of Thanks was given to the Clerk for her work.	Risk assessment review on next agenda.
<b>Next Meeting</b>	Next meeting Thursday November 22 <sup>nd</sup> . 2012.	

**Meeting closed at 9.15pm.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Chairman) Date \_\_\_\_\_ Page125