

## **RINGSHALL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of Ringshall Parish Council held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.30pm in Ringshall Village Hall.

### Present:

Mrs C Free (Chairman), Mrs L Hitchcock, Mrs A Jones, Mrs K Benton, Mr J Phoenix, Mr N Last, Mrs H Nunn (Clerk), Mr N Cox (resident)

### Public Forum:

The reports from County Councillor Anne Whybrow and District Councillor David Whybrow were circulated in their absence. Copies of these reports will be attached to the minutes on the parish council website.

The chairman thanked Mrs Hitchcock and her family for their work in ensuring the roads around the village were kept clear during the recent adverse weather conditions.

Mr Kemp and Mrs Benton resigned as parish councillors and confirmed that this would be the last meeting they attended. The chairman thanked them for their contributions during their tenure. Mr Kemp was thanked for implementing the Emergency Plan; Mr Kemp confirmed that he would still be a member of that team.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Cllr A Whybrow and Cllr D Whybrow

#### 2. Declarations of interest

There were none.

#### 3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on January 16<sup>th</sup> 2018

The minutes were approved and duly signed and dated by the chairman.

#### 4. To receive a financial report, approve payments, and donation requests

The clerk reported the following balances:

Community Account	£ 363.51
Business Saver Account	£9439.37

Requests for donations had been received from East Anglian Children's Hospice and Mid Suffolk CAB, the latter having reported that they had received at least 16 requests for assistance from Ringshall residents during the past year. Donations of £50 for each cause were approved.

The clerks' salary and expenses to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 totalling £613.60 was approved for payment.

#### 5. To discuss Neighbourhood Watch in Suffolk

Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association has taken over the responsibility for Neighbourhood Watch in Suffolk from Suffolk Constabulary and have asked for a donation of £50 to help sustain NW schemes across the county. After some discussion by councillors it was agreed that more information should be sought regarding the SNWA's future planning entails and what they hope to achieve before a decision is made on funding.

#### 6. To discuss defibrillator checks and the purchase of new pads

Mr Kemp confirmed that both sets of pads need replacing at a cost of £35 plus VAT and p & p. Councillors approved payment for these.

Mr Kemp confirmed that with effect from the end of April 2018 he would no longer be able to undertake the weekly defibrillator checks. The clerk volunteered to take over for the time being.

**7. To discuss the Speed Watch Scheme**

Mr Kemp reported that since the last meeting one session had taken place during which 11 motorists were caught at speeds of between 35-43mph. The speed gun is currently with the manufacturer undergoing repairs.

**8. To discuss a speed reduction scheme at Ringshall School**

There was nothing to report.

**9. To discuss any village hall management committee matters**

No report had been received. Mrs Hitchcock confirmed that no complaints had been received.

**10. To discuss the closure of the Premier shop at Wattisham Airfield**

After some discussion it was agreed that Mrs Free would compose a letter to the Station Commander at Wattisham Airfield registering the parish council's disappointment at the closure and the apparent lack of concern shown by the Army. The clerk will contact Great Bricett Parish Council to ascertain its response.

**11. To discuss crime and poor performance in the waste sector**

The clerk had sent a reply to this survey based on the input from parish councillors.

**12. Suffolk Highways Community self- help survey**

The clerk had completed and returned the survey confirming that volunteers from the village would be willing to maintain the road signs.

**13. To discuss planning matters**

The clerk confirmed that the council's comments regarding the application at 3 South View had been sent to MSDC. There were no other planning matters.

**14. To discuss new draft recommendations on the future electoral arrangements for MSDC (view at [www.lgbc.org.uk](http://www.lgbc.org.uk) or <https://consultation.lgbc.org.uk>**

Councillors had been unable to access the information using this link. The clerk will see whether an alternative is available.

**15. To discuss highways matters**

There were none other than those previously discussed.

**16. To discuss a residents' survey**

Mrs Free advised that she had circulated a Smart Survey to all councillors prior to the meeting. Unfortunately no-one had received it so it will be re-sent. The clerk will obtain a parish clerk's email address from Community Action Suffolk.

**17. To discuss the appointment of a Data Protection Officer**

The clerk reported that Somersham Parish Council will be employing a local resident as Data Protection Officer while both Great Bricett and Barking parish councils will be using an external service. It was agreed that further information be obtained regarding the service being offered through SALC.

**18. To review the litter pick**

Approximately 22 people took part in the litter pick on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Mrs Free thanked Liz Hitchcock for organising the event and for driving the volunteers around the village.

19. Items for the next meeting

Renewal of councillors Registers of Interest and the Celebrations to mark the Centenary of the end of the Great War.

20. To confirm the meeting dates for 2018

The meeting dates for 2018 will be as follows:

May 29<sup>th</sup> (Annual Parish Meeting and AGM, 7pm start)

July 24<sup>th</sup>

September 18<sup>th</sup>

Meeting closed at 9.00pm