

**SAHAM TONEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON THE 7th JANUARY 2019**

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on the 7th January 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at the Wells-Cole Community Centre, Saham Toney.

Present – Mr. B. Hinkins in the Chair supported by Messrs M. Bohn, T. Bunce, N. Creek R. Harrold, J. Laws and Ms K. Avery and Ms. M. Baldwin.

1. Apologies for Absence: Apologies received from Mrs. A. Minto, Mr. E. Connolly (County Councillor) and Mrs. T. Hewett (District Councillor)

2. Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda: Mr. J. Laws declared an interest in Plan 3PL/2018/1583/O – residential development at Saham Tythe Barn, Chequers Lane under item 9 on the Agenda.

3. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd December 2018 were proposed by Mr. J. Laws and seconded by Mr. T. Bunce and unanimously agreed.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes and Action List:

- Trust Deed for the Community Centre – Meeting will be arranged with the Management Committee in January.
- Suggestion to move the Post Box to Bell Lane corner – Clerk has submitted a request form asking to move the post box but this could take 3 months.
- Telephone wire hanging down in Ploughboy Lane – Clerk reported to BT but this had already been repaired.
- Maintenance of parish seats – ongoing.
- Oak seat – this will be moved in the Spring.
- Flooding outside Hall Farm in Cressingham Road – Nothing further heard.
- Warning signs on Richmond Road – nothing further heard from Highways.
- Low branches on trees near play park – Clerk to contact ground contractor re these.
- Large hole at the back of the Community Centre land needs filling – Mrs. A. Minto had obtained some rubble from the builders and Mr. J. Laws had filled the hole. Thanks to both councillors for this work.
- Re-routing of Konect bus through Saham Hills – a response has now been received and Konect will visit the route in the next two weeks and make a decision.
- Signposts – Highways have replied that the signposts have been programmed for repair and refurbishment – nothing further heard.
- 2019 Fete – arrange a meeting with Management Committee to discuss.
- Cley Lane weight restriction – nothing heard.
- Picnic Benches – these will be purchased in the Spring.

5. Reports from County/District Councillor: Neither councillor was present.

6. Time allocated for members of the public to speak: A parishioner queried why our Breckland Councillor was not appointing someone else to attend the meetings if she was unavailable at the moment. Clerk will query this with the District Councillor.

7. Correspondence:

- Email from a parishioner re overhanging branches from the back right of the Community Centre grounds on to their property – Mr. J. Laws has done some work at this location and will complete the work.
- Notes re Highway Visit – A visit had taken place on the 3rd January to assess flooding. Mr. N. Creek has issued a summary of this visit after the meeting.
- Petition from parishioners re Community Centre Bar – A petition had been received shortly before Christmas but as this was addressed to the Management Committee of the Community Centre, the Clerk had passed it on to them. A copy of this was then delivered to the Council but the Clerk has taken no action.
- Comments from parishioners on NP Presentation – Comments received from two parishioners but these will be dealt with by the NP Work Group.

8. To Approve Accounts for Payment:

The following accounts are due for payment:-

- Norfolk Playing Fields Association - £25 – membership subscription
- Mrs. J. S. Glenn - £496.69 – Salary
- Lucy Batchelor-Wylam - £416.05 – attending NP Presentation in December
- Saham Toney Village Hall - £69.50 - Hire of Hall for Council Meeting and NP Presentation
- Mrs. J.S. Glenn - £60.20 – expenses in connection with attending Bury St. Edmunds Court on two occasions.

The payment of the Accounts was proposed by Mr. M. Bohn, seconded by Mr. N. Creek and unanimously agreed.

9. To consider any Planning Matters: Planning Permission received to Plan 3PL/2018/0995/D – erection of dwelling and garage at Development site, Richmond Road; 3PL/2917/1422/O – demolition of existing split dwelling Meadow View to form 2 replacement dwellings and 3 residential dwellings at land to the rear of Meadow View, Ploughboy Lane and 3PL/2018/1278/HOU – removal of existing conservatory and erection of orangery at 8 Hills Road The following plans were discussed:-

- Plan 3PL/2018/1477/VAR – Variation of conditions 1 & 3 on 3PL/2018/0162/D (dwelling and garage) revised scheme at land to the west of Cranford House, Ovington Road – discussed between meetings – no objection
- Plan 3PL/2018/1365/LB – remove existing secondary staircase and adjacent door within the West hall on the ground floor to create a larger hallway. At first floor level remove the West and South partition walls around the well of the staircase and incorporate the space into the adjoining ensuite bathroom 3 at Saham Lodge, Chequers Lane. Discussed between meetings – no objection.
- Plan 3PL/2018/1463/F – demolish double garage and erect 3 bedroom chalet style dwelling at 161 Pleasant View, Hills Road. The Chairman said that in the Design and Access Statement it states

- that Saham Hills has a bus service (15) serving the village between Thetford and Watton 700m away accessed by a footpath. This is not true as there is no bus service serving Saham Hills. After discussion it was agreed to object to this plan for the following reasons
 - It is a back garden development and could set a precedent for further development in the area.
 - The information regarding the bus service in the Design and Access Statement is incorrect.
 - There is no information as to whether the site can be accessed by the emergency services vehicles.
- Plan 3PL/2018/1583/O – residential development at Saham Tythe Barn, Chequers Lane. This plan is outside the development area. There are no footpaths and no space to create any on most of Chequers Lane and information included that has been submitted for a different plan is not necessarily valid. Mr. C. Blow had prepared some notes on the application and it was agreed the Council use these as guidance but submit their own comments. The Clerk to draft a letter of objection for approval by all councillors before submission to Breckland.

10. To Receive a Report on the Court Case on the 4th January re the Bar at the Community

Centre: The Clerk said that the possession claim brought by the Parish Council was heard by District Judge Pygram on the 4th January. As a result of lack of Court time, the District Judge has reserved his Judgment. This Judgment will be given to the parties at a hearing scheduled for Thursday the 10th January at 2.00 p.m.

11. To Receive a Report from the Management Committee at the Community Centre: The Clerk read the WCCC Chairman's Report. December had been a busy month. The decision to close the Centre over the Christmas period was made in consultation with all the regular user groups who agreed they would come back from the 7th January onwards. The bar hirers had been asked, via our solicitor, on two occasions to confirm any bookings over the Christmas period but no confirmation was received. The WCCC Chairman was then approached just before Christmas Eve asking if the bar would be open for Christmas and New Year's Eve but, as Committee members had made arrangements over Christmas, this was not possible. Following this, notices were put up in the bar blaming the Committee for the closure and not giving the whole story and this opened a barrage of messages on the Nextdoor social media site which did not giving the full facts. A petition was also received via the Parish Council but some of the signatures and comments were illegible. If anyone has any points to raise the Committee would prefer to be contacted by email rather than creating a social media site and bad feeling around the village. January will be spent getting more jobs done and all volunteers are welcome. The marquee lining will be going back up as it has now been cleaned. There will be another Wedding Fayre in March. Full Report is on the Council's website.

12. To Consider Report from Outside Organisations: The Chairman said that he had agreed with the Chair of the NP Work Group that there would not be an Agenda item re Report from the NP Group as all councillors receive the Minutes of the Work Group Meetings. If there is anything to report this will be done under "Reports from Outside Organisations" in future. Mr. T. Bunce said he was attending a Presentation at the Golf Club this Saturday and was taking Mr. C. Blow (NP Chair) with him in connection with the sale of the Golf Club.

Mr. R. Harrold said he was attending an Extraordinary Meeting of the Wayland Development Partnership this week.

Mr. N. Creek said he had spoken with a Watton Town Councillor who thought that the area of land between the Watton Brook and Wayland Avenue was in Watton when in fact it belongs to Saham Toney.

The Clerk read the Play Park Inspector's Report. There has been small amounts of rubbish mostly beer cans and bottles. All the equipment is in good order apart from the two upright support posts on the bridge climbing apparatus to the rear of the play area. Clerk will contact Fenland Leisure re repairs to this piece of equipment. Much of the area has a bramble issue and low branches and suggested that there could be a village clean up of the area to make it ready for spring. Rabbits and moles could also be assessed and any damage repaired. It was agreed to hold a Village Clean-up on Saturday 23rd February starting at 9.30 a.m. at the Community Centre.

13. Items for the Next Agenda: There were no items for the February Agenda.

14. To Confirm the Date and Time of the Next Meeting: -Monday 4th February 2019 at 7.30 p. m. in the Small Hall at the Wells-Cole Community Centre

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Parish Matters

There were no parish matters raised.

