

Mendlesham Parish Council

A Parish Council Ordinary meeting was held in the Old School Room, Mendlesham on Wednesday 7th December 2016 at 7.30pm.

1. Present: Cllrs M Exley (Chairperson), A Davey, D Foster, N Foster, D Nunn, H Orton, E Ward, M Watson and S Jones (Clerk). SCC/MSDC Cllr A Stringer and 5 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr M Favager

All were welcomed to the meeting. The filming statement was read out.

2. Declarations of interest:

a) To note Councillor's declarations of interest in any of the following agenda items. Nothing declared.

b) To agree any dispensations with regard to declarations of interest. Not required.

Police report: The November newsletter had been previously circulated and was noted.

SCC/MSDC Stringer: See Cllr Stringer's reports as appended to these minutes.

Public Forum: No questions or matters raised.

3. Minutes:

a) Extra Ordinary meeting held on 23rd November 2016.

Pages 1451-1452 inclusive were approved as an accurate record of the meeting, signed and dated by the chairperson.

7.35pm Cllr Webb arrived.

4. Planning

a) Applications:

4670/16 Land adjacent to, Willow House, Mill Road, Mendlesham

Outline permission sought for the erection of three detached dwellings, construction of new vehicular access (All other matters reserved).

Receipt of a letter from a resident was noted.

A question was asked about the planning history of part of the site, noting this had been a refusal for a garden area as infringing into the open countryside. It was noted that planning regulations and policies had since changed.

Cllr concerns were raised about the access including visibility, flooding, space for contractors parking, narrowness of the road, need for a pavement, need for a private layby as seen closer to the village and the existing drainage network removing water from the playingfields.

The meeting was opened for members of the public to speak.

One resident's concerns were existing flooding, possibly due to a blocked drain at the Old Police House, existing surface water flooding and the possibility of the new dwellings increasing the problem.

Another resident reported that the site should be self contained to deal with wastewater and delivery of construction materials/servicing deliveries such as oil.

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application, subject to concerns about the access including visibility and suitability due to the narrowness of Mill Road. Construction deliveries and parking needed to be contained on site with sufficient permanent parking on site to prevent parking on Mill Road. Another layby was suggested as well as the need to protect/ improve the existing drainage system.

b) Results:

4257/16 Health Centre, Chapel Road, Mendlesham: Construction of 9 additional car parking spaces. Grant

4377/16 Wymarks, Hobbies Lane, Mendlesham

Variation of condition 3 of planning permission 2155/15 ("Erection of detached garage with guest accommodation (bathroom and bedroom) above. Erection of single storey outbuilding (dog kennels)") to refer to drawings 2016152/01A (Location Plan); 2016152/02A (Block Plan); 2016152/03B (First and Ground Floor Plan); 2016152/04B (Elevations 1); 2016152/05A (Elevations 2) as the approved plans (a retrospective application to regularise variances with the previously approved plans). Grant

c) Correspondence:

To note consultation re Suffolk County Council -Minerals and Waste Local Plan- Issues and options Consultation. Noted. **Action Clerk** to submit short consultation document.

8.05pm One member of the public left.

5. Reports:

a) Clerks report & delegated decisions. Actions taken from last Financial:

Q2 Street Cleaning grant £327.60 received.

Scout Hut: MSDC confirmation received no CIL contribution for new build.

Correspondence:

Mendlesham Green meadow: correspondence from resident re meadow and security (circulated- hole in boundary to be fenced).

Woodland extension: correspondence from resident suggesting extension towards new development.

Remembrance Service:contact from resident re lack of US Military representation, one wreath with no label, lack of Wetheringsett Parish Council wreath. Clerk in diary for August. Also contact from Veteran family, hope to visit next year.

Delegated Decisions by Clerk :none

It was also noted that a Cllr had been contacted by residents about dog excrement. **Action Clerk** to remind via Parish Newsletter.

Mendlesham Green residents had also asked for another noticeboard. Use of the red telephone box to be considered when appropriate.

The Clerk also reported attending a Suffolk Association of Local Councils, Clerk networking day. Topics/areas of concern had included the benefits of Neighbourhood Plans, dissatisfaction with the Police service, use of Vehicle Activated Signs and that Parish Council meetings no longer needed to be suspended for Public Forum and other external reports.

b) Report from Village Organisation Representatives.

A report from Mendlesham Community Council had been circulated, including provision of a grant of £2000 to Mendlesham Community Centre and purchase of a TV for Mason Court Lounge.

The red telephone box had been pressure washed and cleaned.

c) Report on Neighbourhood Plan

See report as appended to these minutes.

8.20pm A member of the public left

d) Chairs report: The Chair had nothing to report that was not an agenda item.

e) Questions to the Chair: No questions asked.

6. Traffic calming measures:

To discuss options, including the purchase of a Speed Indicator Device.

Cllr Stringer confirmed that he would fund the purchase of a Speed Indicator Device and after discussion it was unanimously agreed to start the process.

Cllr Stringer left the meeting.

7. Playingfield matters:

a) Report on new playingfield land.

Cllr Nunn reported that a report by Mr Ferguson, had been forwarded to TGMS detailing the unsatisfactory condition of the new pitch and remedial work options. Mr Ferguson is responsible for national and international football pitches, including Wembley. TGMS were in the process of discussing the possibility of further funding for the work with Sport England.

b) To confirm offer of grant from Sport England. Whilst a offer had not been received, it was unanimously agreed that this should be accepted, subject to suitable conditions/criteria.

c) Any other playingfield matters: none.

8. Financial:

Mendlesham Parish Council Financial matters:

a) To agree invoices for payment.

The following invoices were unanimously approved for payment.

000570	29.99	S Jones reimbursement for internet security. Page 1455
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000571	18.49	J Michell reimbursement for fuel for woodland
000572	389.51	Gipping Press community questionnaires
000572	184.31	RJ Nunn & Sons fuel for cutting grass, weedkiller and nitrogen for playingfields
DD	5.50	Google monthly fee
000574	24.50	The Association of Grace Baptist Churches East Anglia Ltd, grasscutting grant for Mendlesham Green Burial Ground
000575	139.00	The Society of Local Council Clerks re clerk annual membership (see Ord mins 9.3.16 p 1391 6g)
000564	157.00	J Lawes -decorating materials £106 and £20.45 50/50 shop, £4 bin bags plus vat
DD	1129.27	PWLB half yearly loan repayment re street lighting
000576	150.70	K Hales salary Nov salary plus tax rebate
000577	737.47	S Jones Nov salary

b) To note and confirm NEST financial commitment:

Subject to further checks regarding statutory requirements before the staging date May 17, it was unanimously agreed that the minimum employer contributions should be made ie 1% monthly, then from 1.10.17 2%, then from 1.10.18 3%. The direct debit authority was agreed and completed.

c) To consider grasscutting grant for Mendlesham Green Burial Ground. £24.50 for the year ending 31.3.17 was agreed.

d) Any other financial matters: none

9. Parish Council Budget y/e 31.3.18

a) To continue budget process:

Cllrs discussed the draft budget, duly updated to include November management figures. A significant shortfall of some £6k was currently shown, but this included an increase of playingfield expenditure to £6k. After discussion, noting the latest position regarding works to the new playingfield and that this year's management figures included the new play equipment seating and picnic tables plus damage to the Mendlesham Play tower which was mainly covered by an insurance payment, thus distorting the figures by some £3k. It was agreed the playingfield expenditure budget should be £3500 which should also cover maintenance work for the new land albeit completed locally rather than by professional contractors.

The principle of raising the precept for inflationary purposes was noted as well as the perceived "threat" of the need to pay for a referendum if the precept is increased by 2 % or more.

It was noted this would need further work and discussion at the next meeting, hopefully with the confirmation that the "threat" was removed or not applicable to Mendlesham.

10. St Mary's Church:

To agree request that Parish Council annual grass cutting grant may also be applied at the discretion of the PCC towards general maintenance of the churchyard, including tree surgery.

It was noted and agreed that whilst Mendlesham Parish Council benefitted from the Power of Competence (until the next election) the grant could be extended to cover tree works.

11. Street name and Numbering: to discuss potential new road names for Mendlesham.

It was agreed that residents should be asked for suggestions. **Action: Clerk.**

12. MSDC Sport, Leisure and Culture questionnaire: to agree response.

A draft response prepared by the Clerk was agreed.

13. Any other business: matters of report and future agenda items.

It was reported that volunteers would be clearing diseased Ash Trees in the Woodland.

Hgv vehicles travelling through Mendlesham at 5am was questioned, with no further knowledge of companies concerned.

9.15pm Meeting closed.