

**MEETING OF
BROCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
14 APRIL 2016, THE VILLAGE HALL, BROCKLEY**

PRESENT: Cllr A English, Cllr R Jones, Cllr K Fisk, Cllr U Hardy, Cllr D Boreham Cllr R Double, Mrs V Hill and Mrs J Brookman.

Cllr English chaired the meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr J Stones.

**Action
by**

2 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS:

No requests had been received.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

4 PUBLIC FORUM:

Mrs Hill reported that the hedge on the B1066 opposite Little Maple towards the cricket club needed trimming back and a branch was sticking out on to the road. It was confirmed that the ditch was behind the hedge possibly making it the responsibility of SCC. Clerk to report. Cllr Boreham agreed to remove the branch.

The Clerk presented a report from County Councillor Evans which is attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

**Clerk/
DB**

Cllr R Jones joined the meeting at 7.35 pm.

Cllr English convened the meeting.

5 MINUTES:

Cllr Double proposed that the minutes of 3 and 17 March 2016 were a true record; seconded by Cllr Fisk. All in favour.

6 MATTERS ARISING:

Community Speed Watch Volunteers

Cllr Hardy reported that he was still in the process of recruiting volunteers, 1 or 2 more were needed to make the scheme viable.

IT equipment grant

Clerk had contacted NALC regarding the Local Council Award Scheme grant for a laptop and printer. In order to apply a £50 registration fee must be made to NALC and then a further accreditation fee to cover the cost of the panel decision making process of £50 will be necessary. County Associations may also charge additional costs for advice or support of the application and will be determined locally (ie we would have to join SALC). It was unanimously agreed not to apply for the grant. The Clerk will continue to use her own laptop and printer and the situation will be reviewed when planning the budget for 2016/17.

UH

Footbridge over the stream adjacent to the Church in need of repair

The Clerk confirmed this had been reported to SCC.

RJ

7 FINANCE REPORT:

Cllr Fisk proposed that the following payments should be made; seconded by Cllr Double. All in favour.

Chq no 22212	Brockley Village Hall hire March 2016 – 2 meetings	£14.00
Chq no 22213	Mrs J Brookman, clerk – March 2016 – 2 meetings	£120.00

Cllr Jones confirmed that he had received the documents for the external audit.

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

DC/16/0589/HH Fox Farm, Hawkedon Road, Rede. Householder Planning Application – Detached 3 bay garage incorporating workshop, office and accommodation at ground and first floors (following demolition of existing outbuilding).

DC/16/0590/LB Application for Listed Building Consent as detailed in above application.

The Parish Council unanimously supported both applications.

Clerk

9 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:

It was unanimously agreed that the format used in 2015 should be repeated and details finalised at the next meeting. Councillors agreed to distribute posters as per the previous year; delivery to be made by 1 May 2016.

**ALL
CLLRS**

10 CLERK'S REPORT:

SEBC play equipment months inspection report:-

- Sign to be placed at entrance to play area to include emergency contact details; Cllr English agreed to organise signage. Clerk to forward report to Cllr English.
- Picnic table – severely damaged suggested replacing item. Cllrs Double and Hardy agreed to repair the seat and make good.

**Clerk
AE
RD/UH**

Update of on-going matters

- UKPN/BTS – trees at the edge of The Green – works still outstanding.
- Football goals – rust areas to be treated and painted when the weather improved.
- Cllrs Hardy and Double to carry out works on the goals to secure nets at ground level.
- Telephone box light – Cllr Hardy to deal.
- Felling of tree no 29 on The Green – Cllr Double confirmed this had been felled.

**UH/RD
UH**

11 CORRESPONDENCE:

Headway Charity poster of forthcoming events displayed on the notice board

Came & Co – Council Matters Spring 2016 – emailed to Councillors

Suffolk Preservation Society invitation to Heritage Planning Training on 14 June 2016 at Haughley Barns the cost is £40. Clerk has more details.

Community Emergency Planning Newsletter – emailed to Councillors

Clerks & Councils Direct – March 2016 – to be circulated to Councillors

Request from Magpas for a donation to support Magpas Air Ambulance. Declined.

Suffolk Fire Ride 26 June 2016, poster displayed on notice board.

Anglian Water launching “Pollution Watch” campaign to raise awareness of sewage pollution, the causes of it and what to do if you spot it – emailed to Councillors.

12 PARISH MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

Review Standing Orders and Financial Regulations which will be circulated electronically with the agenda and draft minutes for the next meeting.

Clerk

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12 May and will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 26 May 2016.

The meeting was closed at 8.15 pm.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARY EVANS

Suffolk County Council and the Police, working through the county's Roadsafes Board, have bought 20 new vehicle activated signs to use in rural areas to combat speeding.

Brockley is on the list of the villages to be served by this and I am told you should have had a VAS operating in the village in the last couple of weeks – do let me know if that didn't happen and I will chase it up.

I have worked with the police to ensure one of the two new speed camera cars bought by the Roadsafes Board is deployed around the Clare area. I hope in time we can link up the operation of the VAS and the speed camera cars so that reckless motorists get the message that excessive speeding is not acceptable. VAS machines can collect data not identifying drivers but showing what speed vehicles have travelled past the sign at what time of day. So, for example, the machine that has been in use in Ousden indicates that someone regularly drives through the 30mph at about 6am at speeds up to 75mph.

There is a new road traffic unit based in Bury St Edmunds and I have been assured that where data from a VAS demonstrates there is a motorist clearly flouting all common sense, the police will come out to stop them.

Our new head of highways Mark Stevens has got to grips with the contract to make it work effectively. There had been up to 180 SCC staff able to issue orders with our contractors which led to a huge amount of paperwork and form filling. This is being reduced to a small team. We are taking a more common sense approach to working on rural roads and where appropriate won't be going for a full road closure, with all the expense of administration and legal orders for us and the disruption of diversions for residents. Instead the roads teams will operate temporary road closures of up to 15 minutes at a time. We are also investing heavily in planned road maintenance – surface dressing a stretch of road can cost as little as £2.50 per square metre while rapid response repairs can cost a staggering £95. Therefore it makes common sense to get our roads into better condition. We will be undertaking about twice as much surface dressing this year compared with last. This work is weather dependent and if we have a bad summer it will be held over until 2017. The planned timetable of maintenance work will be published shortly.

The leaders of councils across Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and the local enterprise partnerships signed a devolution deal with the Government last month. Details are still being discussed and at this stage it is not clear whether it will actually be ratified.

The proposal would see a combined authority, led by an elected Mayor, take charge of the strategic infrastructure programme and there would be much closer working between the NHS and social care.