

Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council
Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on Monday 13th January, 2014
in the Parish Rooms, Grundisburgh.

NOTICES had been posted according with regulations.

Present:- Messrs. G.Caryer, D.Crowe (in the chair), C.Doyle, J.Dunnett, G.Hartfall, M.Sanders, R.Youngman, Mrs.J.Bignell, Mrs.J.Crowe, Mrs.S.Grahn, Mrs.A.Willetts, County Councillor P.Bellfield, District Councillor T.Fryatt, PCSO J.Byde and 8 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence Mrs.A.Woods (business)

2. To receive member's declarations of interest No interests were declared

3. Minutes The minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on the 11th November, 2013 had been circulated and were therefore taken as read. It was proposed by Mrs.Willetts seconded by Mr.Doyle, to unanimous approval, that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record. There were no matters arising

The minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 29th November, 2013 had been circulated and were therefore taken as read. It was proposed by Mr.Crowe. seconded by Mrs.Willetts, to unanimous approval, that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record. There were no matters arising

4. Resignation of Mr.Richard Graham The Chairman announced that Mr.Graham had resigned because of his increased business commitments. The process of an election of a replacement had begun.

5. Police Matters PCSO Byde reported that 6 crimes were recorded for Grundisburgh in December 2013 – 4 in December 2012 - an increase of 2. However 4 of the 2013 crimes were domestic assaults. Culpho had 1 crime recorded – none in 2012. Heating oil thefts and thefts from outbuildings are a continuing problem and she urged residents to take precautions. Several speed checks had been carried out in Grundisburgh since the last meeting which revealed that very few motorists exceeded the speed limit. She will investigate inconsiderate parking on Rose Hill.

The mobile police station will be on Grundisburgh Village Green between 9.30am and 10.00 on Tuesday 14th January and 4th February 2014

6. District Councillor's Report District Councillor Fryatt reported that budget control and measures to make more savings are ongoing. A move from the Melton Hill HQ was being considered. In a scheme to drive up localism District Councillors are being given a sum of money to award to promote local initiatives. It was questioned whether paper deposited in "blue" bins was being recycled or dumped in land fill. Mr.Fryatt will investigate.

7. County Councillor's Report County Councillor Bellfield said that the County Council had to save £156m in 4 years. There is a 37% reduction in the Central Government Grant for the next two years. £38.6m will be saved next year of which £9m comes from landfill tax savings. However front line services will be protected and there will be no increase in the council tax charge. He reminded that preferences for primary school places had to be submitted by the 14th January.

He was concerned that many families who are entitled to free school meals are not applying and he encouraged them to do so.

Care UK, who took over the County Council's Care Homes, will open 10 new homes in the County.

A £300,000 grant had been received from central government to fund apprenticeships.

Partnerships with Norfolk County Council to make savings by merging services have been very successful and other partnerships are being pursued notably with Essex County Council. There is the potential for significant savings.

8. Grundisburgh & Culpho Village Matters

8.1 Playing Field Bottle Bank The Clerk reported that due to constant complaints of noise from neighbours, which will undoubtedly increase with two houses being built on the old garage site, the Playing Field Management Committee will ask the District Council to remove the bottle banks. . In addition the area is used as a general dumping ground. The District Council will be asked to provide notices to be placed on the site informing residents that the banks have been permanently removed and not to leave bottles in the area and the location of the nearest bottle banks.

There are many recycling centres within easy reach of Grundisburgh at Hasketon, Otley, Wyvale Garden Centre, and Tuddenham. Martlesham, Woodbridge has lots (8) with a large collection in the car park behind the Community Hall so there should be no problem for car drivers. There didn't appear to be any alternative site in Grundisburgh. Several councillors expressed their regret that this decision had been made.

A message will be sent out on the What's on in Grundisburgh News Group and published in the "News". .

8.2 Welcome Packs The Clerk read a message of appreciation from a new arrival in Grundisburgh who had received a "Welcome Pack" organised by Mrs.Grahn. Other similar messages have also been received.

9. Emergency Planning The Clerk said that in the past there have been requests for a Committee to be formed to give aid to vulnerable residents in times of emergency such as the recent lengthy loss of electricity. Canon Clare Sanders has already begun the task of finding out who at St.Mary's Church has gas hobs, and who would be willing to provide help with hot water etc in an emergency. The Lunch Club and Lyttleton Club have been involved. .

The Clerk suggested, and it was agreed, that the Parish Council should call a meeting of village organisations involved with the care of the elderly and vulnerable to discuss the formation of an Emergency Committee. The following to be invited St.Mary's Church, Baptist Church, Lunch Club, Lyttleton Club, Gurdon Trust and Parish Council. It is hoped that they can come up with a plan of how help could be given in future emergencies.

This group could also look at the possibility of a Volunteer Driver Pool to ferry vulnerable people to Doctors or Hospital appointments and possibly other users. This suggestion has been put forward by a resident who is a member of the 'Patient Participation Group' (PPG) who asked if Grundisburgh might consider such a scheme.

10. Annual Parish Meeting 2014

It was agreed that the 2014 Meeting should be held on Tuesday 29th April in Grundisburgh Village Hall.

Mr. Kendall is willing to show a selection of "News" photos as he did at the 2013 Meeting

It was agreed that an exhibition and talk should be included in the programme commemorating the centenary of the First World War showing how Grundisburgh and Culpho were affected by the War. An appeal would be made for villagers to lend any memorabilia they have which could be included in the exhibition. There is some very interesting material in the Record Office which could be loaned for the occasion.

Mr & Mrs.Youngman have agreed to organise refreshments.

11. Financial Matters

11.1 Precept 2014/2015 The Clerk reported that at the previous meeting held on the 11th November he had explained that the grant from the District Council to protect Council tax payers from the adverse impacts of the Localisation of Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) would be progressively reduced by 25% each year over the next four years until it ceased altogether at the 5th year.

The Council's allocation of this funding in 2014/2015. will be £1,389.05. To maintain its precept at 2013/2014 levels, £17,400, a precept at £16,100 will need to be set. This will mean that a Band D payer who paid £27.50 in his Council Tax as a Parish Charge in 2013/14 will pay £28.26 in 2014/15. An increase of approx 3%. The charge for each other bands is calculated by multiplying the Band D charge by the appropriate scaling factor i.e. Band A - 6/9 B 7/9 C 8/9 E 11/9 F 13/9 G 15/9 H 18/9

Mr.Crowe proposed seconded by Mrs.Willetts, to unanimous approval, that the precept should be set at £16,100. With the addition of a grant of £1,389.05 the total amount received from the District Council will be £17,489.05. The Finance Committee will meet on the 6th February to prepare a draft budget to be submitted to full Council at its scheduled meeting on the 10th March 2014

11.2 Applications for grant Grundisburgh Play Group, Headway, Starlight. It was agreed that the Finance Committee should consider these at its budget meeting.

11.3 Playing Field Grass Cutting 2014 The Clerk had accepted a quotation from the County Council of £51.10 per cut (2013 £48.17)

11.4 Payments received since the last meeting

Mr & Mrs.Kersey £12.00 Allotment Rent Plots 4 & 5

11.5 Ratification of payments made since the last meeting and approved at the time

F.Masters Ltd	£90.00	Cleaning WW11 plaques on War Memorial
Mr.R.Fletcher	£222.00	Village Green Grass Cutting August
HM Revenue & Customs	£194.60	Income Tax
SALC	£25.20	6 months provision of payroll service to September 2013
SALC	£24.00	SALC AGM – 2 delegates
Mr.J.Ager	£517.20	Clerk's Salary October/November 2013
	£46.84	Clerk's Expenses August/September 2013
	£17.58	A4 paper, folders, envelopes.
Anglian Water	£32.48	Allotment water charges 26 July – 29 October
Mr.R.Fletcher	£222.00	Village Greens Grass Cutting September/October

It was proposed by Mr.Crowe seconded by Mr.Hartfall, to unanimous approval, that these payments be ratified.

11.6 Emergency payments made prior to the meeting under Section 5.7 of Financial Standing Orders

Eastern Facilities Management Solutions	£714.53	Playing Field Grass Cutting 2013
Mr.B.R.Quinton	£50.49	Duck Food
Mrs.S.Grahn	£52.89	Christmas Walk refreshments
	£14.00	Christmas Walk – gift for Mrs.Cooper
Mr.I.Langdon	£90.00	Village Green Christmas Tree & Lights

11.7 Other payments requiring approval

Mr.J.Ager	£510.00	Clerk's Salary December 2013/January 2014
	£54.84	Clerk's Expenses December 2013/January 2014
	£58.90	HP Colour Laser 2550 Yellow Cartridge.
HM Revenue & Customs	£192.60	Income Tax
Grundisburgh Village Hall	£20.00	Hire of Village Hall Extraordinary Meeting 29November
Mr.J.Dunnett	£38.32	Millennium Meadow –bush saw blade, oil and petrol
Norse Commercial Services Ltd	£64.00	Dog Waste Bags
Society of Local Council Clerks	£87.00	Annual Subscription

It was proposed by Mrs.Crowe seconded by Mr.Sanders, to unanimous approval, that these payments be made

11.8 Budget Report The Clerk presented the report for the financial year to date – copy attached.

11.9 Account Balances as at 13th January, 2014.

Business Tracker Account	£60.50
Current Account	£4,567.22
Post Office Investment account	£20,221.02
VAT to claim	<u>£1,757.53</u>
TOTAL	£26,606.27

12. Roads & Transport Many highway problems had been reported to Customer Services Direct since the previous meeting. e.g. potholes, damaged signs, public footpath issues etc. Most have been dealt with and others are being “chased”.

The County Council’s East Area Highway Manager is to contact the owner of the Olde Forge Stores to see whether a permanent repair can be made to the forecourt area adjacent to the road. A temporary repair is shortly to be made to make the area safe.

The Sand Bin, purchased by the Parish Council, will be installed at Ablitts Meadow one afternoon this week.

13. Planning Report

13.1 Neighbourhood Planning It was agreed that representatives of the Parish Council should attend a conference on the 3rd February, 2014 in Lavenham Village Hall.

13.2 Applications approved by Suffolk Coastal District Council

DC/13/2713/FUL 20 Stoney Road, Grundisburgh. Erection of drop kerb to allow access to property.

13.3 New applications

DC/13/3531/FUL 32 Post Mill Gardens, Grundisburgh. Erection of single-storey front extension. No comments,

DC/14/0012/FUL Maple Lodge, Woodbridge Road, Grundisburgh. Construction of part one and a half & part single storey extension to form granny annex.

Conditions to be requested that the extension should be used as ancillary to main house and that all construction and delivery vehicles must be kept within the site.

13.4 C13/1130 Land and part gardens of 3 Saddlers Meadow and Saddlers Cottage, Woodbridge Road, Grundisburgh.

Since this application was refused by Suffolk Coastal District Council established hedges have been taken out and extensive site clearance has been carried out. The District Council had tried to protect the hedges but was unable to do so. An appeal is expected against the refusal which has to be submitted by the 23rd March.

13.5 C13/0687 The Spinney, Meeting Lane, Grundisburgh It was questioned whether there was any requirement to widen Meeting Lane at this point.

14. Public Open Forum Mrs.Willetts proposed seconded by Mr.Caryer to unanimous approval, that the formal meeting be temporarily suspended and members of the public invited to address the meeting. The following issues were raised.

- New Village Hall An Outline Planning Application is going through the usual processes. It was uncertain when it would be considered by the Development Control Committee.
- Scouts The Scouts Christmas Card delivery service had raised £194. The removal of the bottle banks from the Playing Field will not affect the Scouts clothing bank.

15. Footpaths & Environment Report Mrs.Grahn reported:

15.1 Christmas Torchlit Walk 29 villagers took part in this very popular annual walk to Little Thatch Culpho, the home of Mrs.Libby Cooper, where mulled wine, fruit juice and Christmas fare was served. This is the last time that Mrs.Cooper will host this event as she is leaving the area. A presentation was made to her and she was warmly thanked.

15.2 Tree Work A response to a planning application for tree work in Thomas Walls Close had been made by Mr.Dunnett – the village Tree Warden.

15.3 Litter Pick This will take place on the 29th March.

15.4 Footpath 19 Flagship Housing have removed the hedge which was blocking passage on the footpath. Members of the Footpaths & Environment Committee tidied up the area. .

15.5 Committee Meeting Date for next scheduled Footpaths & Environment Committee Monday 3rd March. .

16. Any other business (information exchange/agenda items for next meeting)

16.1 2014 Council Meeting Dates 10 March, 12 May, 14 July, 8 September, 10 November.

All meetings to be held in Grundisburgh Parish Rooms starting at 7.30pm except for the July meeting which will be held on St.Botolph's Church, Culpho. 2014 Annual Parish Meeting 29 April – Village Hall.

Action Summary

9 Clerk

10 Clerk

11.1 Clerk

11.2 Clerk

13.1 Clerk

13.5 Mrs.Willetts