

GT. BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL
(www.greatbealings.co.uk)

**A Meeting of Gt. Bealings Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on
Monday, 22nd September 2008 commencing at 8.00 p.m.**

PRESENT

Mr Eric Barnett	Chairman
Mr Julian Haywood-Smith	Vice-Chairman
Mr Ken Willcox	
Mrs Sally Johnson	
Mr Paul Norris	
Mr John Carter-Jonas	
Mr Robin Sadler	
Mrs Sarah Cartwright	Parish Clerk
Mr Peter Bellfield	County Councillor
Mr Ivan Jowers	District Councillor
PC Dan Wheddon	Community Police Officer

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr G Rufford

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr Robin Sadler.

The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

2. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS.

The Chairman advised that there was no formal declaration of interest. This was written in the Declarations of Interest book and signed by the Chairman.

Signed

Chairman

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21st July 2008.

Prior to the meeting an email had been received from Mr Paul Norris requesting consideration to amendments:- **Minute 5** – “out of the 20 he had distributed, 17 had been returned to him”. Since there was some discrepancy over the numbers distributed and returned it was decided to leave this sentence out. **Minute 7** - It was decided to delete the last sentence and add, “It was thought that we should be cautious about recommending schemes to our parishioners. Mr Paul Norris questioned if we had the competency to do this and it was agreed that we would talk with the energy officer at Suffolk Coastal for further guidance.”

Subject to the above amendments the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st July 2008 were approved as a true and accurate record of the discussion at that meeting. The minutes were then put to one side to be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (Not covered under Agenda items)

Telephone Box. Details of “Adopting” the K6 telephone box had been received from BT. This meant that the red box could be kept free of charge (with maintenance down to the parish) but the telephone apparatus would be taken out. Another scheme to “sponsor” the phone box was given. At a cost of £500 per annum the phone and box could be kept intact. It was decided not to pursue either of these schemes. Mr Julian Haywood-Smith was going to contact BT and see if he could keep the phone box (minus apparatus). **A number of issues has been raised prior to the issue of these minutes and we need to return to point 4 at the next meeting.**

Environmental Group – Green Squirrel Project. Mr Eric Barnett reported that a meeting would be set up with Great Bealings Environmental Group where they would discuss a way forward. Mr Paul Norris said it was important to have a system whereby checks could be made on Projects offering help with cavity wall insulation etc. It was decided for the time being to delete the reference to “Green Squirrel” on the website and simply liase with SCDC’s energy officer.

Signed
Chairman

5. POLICE REPORT

Pc Dan Wheddon reported no crimes since our last meeting. He also reported that Great Bealings would now be joined to the new Kesgrave SNT. The police officer would be Sgt Richardson. Whether or not police officers would continue to attend Parish Council meetings he was unsure. He informed us that letters will be sent out giving new information as and when it becomes available. Mr Eric Barnett asked if we could have some crime reduction advice sent to the Clerk so that it could be published in the Benefice Newsletter. On the matter of “Stray Dogs” – which Pc Dan Wheddon reported was no longer a police matter but to be dealt with by the local authority – Mr John Carter-Jonas reported that a black Labrador had been killing chickens at Meadow Cottage. In this instance PC Dan Wheddon reported that it WAS a police matter and informed Mr John Carter-Jonas to tell the owners of Meadow Cottage to contact the police.

A copy of the Police Report will be circulated and put on the website.

6. COUNCILLOR PETER BELLFIELD’S REPORT

Mr Peter Bellfield mentioned that the County Council have a new financial – “Oracle” system which meant a tightening up on financial controls.

7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW: BOUNDARY COMMITTEE

Mr Eric Barnett reported that the 3 village Boundary Committee meeting on the 4th September had been a success and as a result Little Bealings and Playford have already determined their views for a “One Suffolk” Unitary Council. In preparation for tonight’s discussion Mr Eric Barnett had drafted a response to the Boundary Committee outlining that:- 1) the present stucture of local government in Suffolk should not be changed but if that is inevitable it supports the Boundary Committee’s alternative option for a single Unitary Authority for the whole of Suffolk, including the retention of Lowestoft within the county. 2) If the North Haven proposal is retained the Parish Council urge the Boundary Committee to reconsider their suggestion that Great Bealings is included within that authority and include it within “rural” Suffolk.

Signed

Chairman

With the exception of one line in the second paragraph the draft response was agreed to be a fair and accurate response of parishioners views and it was agreed to submit it to the Boundary Committee before the deadline of Friday, 26th September. (Copy response attached to these minutes). There was some debate as to why we had not been told anything about either becoming part of the North Haven or being part of Rural Suffolk and what the advantages/disadvantages were. It was summarised that it was probably for financial reasons that we had been included in the North Haven and it was felt that being a rural parish villagers would not want to be dominated by an urban authority. Mr Julian Hayward-Smith questioned why we thought being part of "Rural" Suffolk would be better than part of North Haven?

8. PARISH PLAN

Mr Paul Norris reported that this was progressing.

9. HIGHWAYS

Mr Peter Bellfield reported that some critical comments had been made about the Area Highways Office in Saxmundham. Mr Eric Barnett reported that he had attended the last SALC area meeting where he had talked to the Highways department representative and reported that the white bridge outside his home had still not been painted (it was due to be done October last year). He also reported other issues including a blocked ditch that needs digging out. It was agreed we should monitor the response on these matters.

10. FINANCE

The Annual Return had been returned by BDO Stoy Hayward and was accepted by council.

The following cheques were reported:-

Phil Holmes	£5
BDO Stoy Hayward	£141
Suffolk ACRE Services	£165.11

The following cheques were written and authorised:-

Sarah Cartwright Salary	£418.13
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These payments were proposed by Mr Julian Hayward-Smith and seconded by Mr John Carter-Jonas.

A thank you letter from Bealings Village Hall Trust for £350 donation had been received.

It was agreed to have the draft budget ready for the next meeting.

Signed

Chairman

11. CORRESPONDENCE

An invitation to Suffolk ACRE’s AGM on 2nd October had been received. The Clerk agreed to attend and would report back. In addition it was agreed to ask Mrs Tabitha Jones and Mrs Jenny Shaw since the key speaker was talking on Climate Change and this was particularly relevant to Mrs Jones/Mrs Shaw’s work in setting up The Environmental Group in the village.

An invitation to SALC’s AGM on 21st October had been received. At this time no-one was able to attend. Apologies would be sent.

An invitation to a public police meeting on the 6th October had been received. At this time no-one was able to attend.

A letter had been received from the Suffolk Preservation Society gauging support for the proposal to employ a Community Planner. The questionnaire asked if the Parish Council supported the idea of an independent community planner – to which Councillors said “No”. It then went on to ask if a community planner was available would you be prepared to make a contribution towards the cost of them working for you? – to which Councillors said “No”. The Clerk will respond to SPS.

Maureen Emerson from Chapter and Verse Books had sent a copy of her book “Escape to Provence” her biography of Winifred, Lady Fortescue, who was born in the Rectory of Great Bealings in 1888. The Clerk will write and thank her. The book is at the Clerk’s house.

12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

C08/1532 Croft House, Lower Street.

Retention of Manege. 20m wide x 40m long.

A letter had been written to SCDC raising no objection to this planning application subject to the Manege being used for ponies of the residents of Croft House only. There would be some concern if the use of this facility attracted visitors and additional traffic to this section of Lower Street.

BT Adastral Park – Submission of Outline Planning Application for the Regeneration of Adastral Park and Surrounding Land.

An email had been received from the above. Mr Ivan Jowers said SCDC won’t be responding to for some time and are inclined to refuse the proposal at this stage as premature and contrary to planning policy. Mr Peter Bellfield said that we should oppose it totally until the road infrastructure is vastly improved. It was agreed that we should send a holding comment saying we believe it is premature.

Signed

Chairman

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Julian Hayward-Smith enquired about the recycling credits and the possible location of recycling facilities at the village hall. Mr Eric Barnett confirmed that the matter would be raised at the Village Hall Management Committee on 23rd September 2008.

Mr Ivan Jowers reported that the “travellers” in Little Bealings had now gone.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:-

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Village Hall Committee Room on 17th November 2008 at 8.00 p.m.

The meeting finished at 9.20pm

Signed
Chairman