

# RAYDON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2020

<b>Present:</b>	Faith Backhouse (FB) Stephen Coe (SC) Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC) Keith Lovering (KL) Jim Lowe (JL) Sue Newton - Chairman (SN) Amanda Pyall - Vice Chairman (AP) Jayne Tann (JT)
<b>In attendance:</b>	John Ward, Babergh DC (JW) 3 Parishioners
<b>Apologies:</b>	Trevor Sayer (TS) Sigi Steer (SS) Gordon Jones, Suffolk CC (GJ)

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### 20.3.1 APOLOGIES

See above - apologies were accepted from TS and SS.

### 20.3.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

KL declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 20.3.3.2, below.

### 20.3.3 PUBLIC FORUM

#### 20.3.3.1 Agenda item 20.3.10.2

Two parishioners present wished to give their views on the planning application to convert a barn at Sulleys Manor to a brewery (see also minute 20.3.10.2, below). As near neighbours, they were concerned about noise, odours, dust and loss of privacy, as well as access from what was a narrow country lane; they did not consider the location to be suitable for a commercial enterprise. They also expressed concern about security and the possibility of break-ins.

#### 20.3.3.2 Flooding

Another parishioner was concerned about flooding issues in the village (see also minute 20.3.8.1, below). His cellar had recently been flooded following the closure of the A1070 from Woodlands Road to Acacia Road, when Anglian Water had been laying a new water supply to The Green; the 'road closed' signs were not taken down immediately, which led to impatient drivers mounting the pavement to get past the barrier. This in turn led to the newly laid asphalt surrounding the new meter being damaged. It was then discovered that some manhole covers were leaking sewage. Anglian Water took samples of the flood water in the cellar, which contained a small trace of ammonia; Highways later unblocked the surface water drains. However, the action taken had not prevented the cellar from filling up again. The parishioner was due to have a meeting with Anglian Water to discuss the problem.

### 20.3.4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020

It was proposed by AP, seconded by JL and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11 February 2020 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

## **20.3.5 ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Most of the actions were either ongoing, or were on the agenda; there were updates on the following:

### **20.3.5.1 HGV network review**

With regard to the intention to review the HGV network within Suffolk, SN said she understood that the review would not commence until late March; JC would ask GJ when and how parish councils would be able to give their views.

### **20.3.5.2 Litter**

With regard to the problem reported at the last meeting of litter from the Notley Business Park blowing onto the road, it was agreed that JC should write to the Director and his agent.

## **20.3.6 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

### **20.3.6.1 Babergh DC**

The written reports for February and March had been circulated prior to the meeting, copies of which are filed with these minutes; AP commented that she preferred the new format. JW reported that Babergh / Mid Suffolk planning officers had been awarded Silver in the Planning for the Future awards. The budget for 2020/21 had been approved, with an increase in council tax of £5 per year for a Band D property. Council house rents would also be increased, although would still be less than in 2015. In response to a question from FB about the new housing assistance policy, JW said there would be sufficient funding for all those eligible. He noted JL's comment that it was often difficult to contact the team by telephone.

### **20.3.6.2 Suffolk CC**

The written reports for February and March had been circulated prior to the meeting, copies of which are filed with these minutes.

## **20.3.7 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **20.3.7.1 RFO's report**

It was proposed by AP, seconded by JL and agreed unanimously that the finance report for 10 March 2020 should be approved; payments of £1,427.85 were authorised, together with a direct debit of £9.24 to Anglian Water. It was noted that a tax refund of £638.20 had been received from HMRC. JC confirmed that information about CIL payments could be easily accessed on Babergh's website - she would re-circulate the link.

## **20.2.8 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

### **20.3.8.1 Outstanding matters**

JL's report was noted. If the overhanging hedge opposite the Village Hall had not been dealt with by 19 March, Highways would contact the owner direct. With regard to the issue of flooding near Valley Farm, JL said Anglian Water had checked and reported no chlorine present in the water and that the problem had probably been caused by surface water from the recent heavy rain. SN commented that the problem was exacerbated by water running off the fields and washing soil onto the road. JL would contact Highways again; JC would ask GJ if he could help. AP said one of the drains in Rectory Close had been cleared, but the other still appeared to be blocked; KL would report this to SCC.

## **20.3.9 TRAINING**

JC confirmed that FB and TS had been booked on training courses at SALC in April and May respectively. She would also book a place for SC on the April course. With regard to planning training, SALC had published the results of the planning questionnaire carried out in November 2019, which had highlighted a need for a more in-depth approach to training. SALC hoped to be able to offer training through Birketts and / or Babergh & Mid Suffolk in the near future.

## **20.3.10 PLANNING**

### **20.3.10.1 DC/20/00641 - 2 School Cottages, Woodlands Road**

Councillors had no objections to the application for the erection of a single storey conservatory (following demolition of existing).

### **20.3.10.2 DC/20/00941 - Sulleys Manor, Sulleys Hill**

Councillors considered the application for change of use of a barn to a brewery and had several concerns, including the impact on near neighbours; KL said an odour management system would need to be implemented should permission be granted. It was felt that access would be a problem, given the fact that Sulleys Hill was a single track road in places. Councillors felt strongly that the location - within an AONB - was inappropriate for an industrial enterprise such as this; it was agreed unanimously that the Parish Council should object to the application.

### **20.3.10.3 DC/19/00190 - Oak Meadows, Woodlands Road**

It was noted that the application for the creation of an equestrian manege had been approved.

### **20.3.10.4 DC/19/05039 - Land west of Pipers Went**

It was noted that reserved matters had been approved.

### **20.3.10.5 DC/19/05161 - Station Farm, Woodlands Road**

It was noted that the application for the erection of a dwelling and access had been refused. JW said that Babergh now had a 5-year land supply; other similar applications had also been refused.

## **20.3.11 POLICIES**

### **20.3.11.1 Standing Orders**

It was proposed by AP, seconded by SN and agreed unanimously to approve the amended Standing Orders.

### **20.3.11.2 Financial Regulations**

It was proposed by JL, seconded by SC and agreed unanimously to approve the amended Financial Regulations.

## **20.3.12 SCC COMMUNITY SELF-HELP SCHEME**

JC clarified that there were four different forms, depending on the type of project being considered and who would be carrying out the work. KL was in the process of obtaining quotes for the resurfacing of the lay-by outside the church, and also for the KGF car park which would be considered by the Playing Field Committee. With regard to the lay-by, KL would bring three quotes to the May meeting, when a decision would be made on which contractor to use so that the relevant forms could be completed and submitted to SCC. In the meantime, JC would speak to her contact at SCC to discuss timescales.

## **20.3.13 COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH**

Following the piece in Quartet, one parishioner had volunteered for this - in addition, some members of the PC would be willing to participate. It was agreed that JL would obtain costings and further information on training etc so that a decision could be made at the May meeting.

## **20.3.14 PARKING**

FB expressed concern about the parking in Rectory Close, not only on the road but also on the grass verges. It was agreed that JC would write to Babergh and ask them to review parking in Rectory Close and give consideration to inserting yellow lines and marking disabled spaces etc. She would copy the letter to JW. With regard to the ongoing parking problems in The Street, AP and SN would carry out a survey and report to the May meeting.

**20.3.15 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The draft agenda for the APM was approved; JC would contact the various external organisations to invite them to present reports. It was agreed that councillors would present a brief review of the year.

**20.3.16 CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**20.3.17 CLERK'S REPORT ON URGENT DECISIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

None.

**20.3.18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Annual Parish Meeting - 7.30pm on Thursday 9 April 2020, in the Pavilion.

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