

Bawdsey Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 18th January 2017 at 6.00pm

Bawdsey Village Hall

<p>In Attendance –Chairman Brian Johnson (BJ), Clls Liz Mark (LM), Mark Dovey (MD), Richard Tricker (RT), Andrew Rouse (AR), R Saunders, A Block and C Mann, SCDC Cllr Christine Block (CB), SCC Cll Andrew Reid, Jenny Webb (Clerk)</p>	
<p><i>Meeting called to order by Chair BJ at 6.00pm.</i></p>	
<p>1. Open Forum-No issues were raised</p>	
<p>2. Annual Report from SCC and SCDC –Andrew Reid summarised his report, highlighting improved Ofsted ratings within Suffolk with 89% of schools receiving Good or Outstanding designations. Cll Reid wished to talk more extensively about the Sizewell C Stage 2 consultation which runs until 3rd February. He recommended that BPC engage in the process in particular with regard to infrastructure implications. It is not clear to what extent building materials will be transported by sea, road and rail. EDF will be constructing a loading platform and jetty which could have an impact on coastal communities and the inner and outer water ways as well as the coastline. He felt that a full assessment of the impact on the coast line has not been carried out. It has been limited up to Thorpeness. It is hoped that a 2 village by-pass will be carried out as mitigating circumstance. A 4 village by-pass is not included in the consultation. Central government has awarded £1m to SCC for a plan to promote the 4 village alternative. Cll Reid is willing to attend a public meeting on the issue if one is set up in Bawdsey. He will send round a document to councillors put together by SCC with key points raised by SCC. Parish councillors can then identify which issues should be a top priority for Bawdsey before a response to the consultation by the council is put together. The full report can be read on the village website. Report from SCDC Councillor Christine Block: Regarding the merger between SCDC with Waveney in 2019-20, CB said that it has been discovered that SCDC has more money than Waveney which needs monitoring. Linking in with the proposed development of Sizewell C, she said that economic development is the main thrust of the enlarged district council with growth, jobs and new housing. The government rate support will be phased out by 2020. She recommended that BPC look at the CAS website to see what their assessment is of Bawdsey following a disappointing one of Boyton. CB is giving Gary Lowe of Wild Villages a grant from her Enabling Budget. Hollesley has a Speeding Indicator Device which they are willing to loan out on request for a small fee. Hollesley PC is going to facilitate a meeting of parish councils on the peninsula to discuss affordable housing in the area. Members of the planning dept at SCDC will be present. Lastly Cll Block warned that there is very little parking at SCDC's new offices.</p>	<p>Cll Reid</p>
<p>3. Chairman's welcome and Apologies: Chairman BJ was pleased to see a full house of councillors.</p>	
<p>4. Councillor's Declaration of Interests: Clls RT, CM and AB declared an interest in the Scottish Power Windfarm project.</p>	
<p>5. Signing of Minutes as a true record: The Minutes of 16th November were signed as a</p>	

<p>true record. Cll Mark asked for her comment relating to her last minute non-attendance at the meeting at Trinity Park of the East Suffolk Annual Forum on Friday 11th November be included at item 18 together with her suggestion that there should be a system to try and find a replacement in similar circumstances.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>6. Appoint delegate to Deben Coastal Communities Team: Chairman BJ explained the nature of CCT. They are a government-backed initiative and are being trialled nationally to foster economic development in rural areas. The Deben CCT corresponds to the Deben Ward and has been going on for a year, chaired by Peter Vadden. There is also a sub-group covering Bawdsey which has met twice. SCDC Cll Block has recommended a delegate from Bawdsey be appointed in order to have a consistent voice in this forum particularly with the situation with regard to the sale of Bawdsey Manor which is likely to have an impact on the surrounding area. A document entitled “Options for a Public Visitor Attraction” has already been put together for potential bidders for the Manor. The next meeting is on Friday 20th January at 10am when it is hoped to ascertain what the current situation is regarding the Manor and whether the earlier meetings have been useful. Cll Mark Dovey agreed to attend Friday’s meeting and another one at SCDC offices on Thursday 26th January at 2pm.</p> <p>7. Reports for information:</p> <p>i. Clerk’s report plus financial update. These were circulated to all councillors and can be found on the website. Suffolk Preservation Society is offering Heritage Training for Town and Parish Councils. Clls Dovey and Mark agreed to attend. Dissatisfaction with the CATS community bus has been expressed. Clerk has asked for the village telephone box to be retained. Finances are in a healthy state with £3,092.16 in our current account; £6,701.90 in the BQVC account and £4,001.33 in our Savers Account.</p> <p>ii. Village Hall and Recreation Ground Report: Report on website. Cll Saunders thanked Cll Mann for cutting the hedges in the recreation ground. The supports of the zip wire have come loose and will have to be re-cemented in at a cost of £1,000. Stairs from the storeroom to the attic will be instated where there is a large room not really used. Emergency equipment will be stored up there. Next month a small piece of the allotment at the back of the hall will be advertised to anyone who is interested in gardening. A small lockable room in the pavilion will be available for letting out. A jumble sale will take place on February 11th in the village hall.</p> <p>iii. Coastal Protection Update: a) Bawdsey Coastal Partnership: The BCP is holding an information meeting and its AGM on Saturday February 11th at 11am in the village Hall. Theresa Coffey will be in attendance. BCP is seeking £1,000 from the parish council to fund a study to identify measures of tackling coastal erosion at East lane. b) Deben Estuary Partnership: A new study entitled Deben Estuary Entrance Review has been published. (See website) It concludes that there are significant issues building up which need addressing urgently. The mouth of the estuary is very important for the rest of the river with a real risk of flooding upstream. Bawdsey frontage is also in danger with considerable erosion having taken place. The width of the beach in front of the boat park is narrower than it was threatening the boat park itself. The piles on the Bawdsey side of the river are “lacey” and there is a need to ascertain if they are tipping. Monitoring the flow at this point is necessary. Flood Cell 1 needs to be kept in good condition and it is likely to cost in the region of £1 million. Landowners, Adeanes and Manns are likely to look for Enabling Development to meet the costs. The resilience of Flood Cell 1 is key to protecting Woodbridge. This needs to be done as a matter of urgency, in the next two years. The</p>	<p>BJ</p>

study of Tranquillity in the area is going ahead. Volunteers will be asked to monitor a stretch of the river in order to map and define the concept of tranquillity which could be used as a material consideration in planning applications. A review of the Shoreline Management Plan has started. It is likely that the current Hold the Line designation will change. **c) Alde/Ore:** This partnership is also starting Enabling Development in the Iken/Butley area. Architects have been appointed and are in the preliminary stages of identifying suitable sites.

- iv. Emergency Planning:** On 11th January the EP group held a desk-top exercise when an imaginary emergency was projected. Procedures were tested whereby volunteers were phoned to see if they would have been available in a real emergency. A dozen would have been available. Emergency lighting was also tested. This was very timely given the real emergency faced two days later when there was a danger of a tidal surge. The Joint Emergency Planning Unit at SCDC asked Bawdsey to open up the hall on the morning of Friday 13th and it continued open until 1am on Saturday. Shingle Street residents were alerted by Chair BJ. Fortunately the surge was less than anticipated although a third of Bawdsey Quay was under water after the evening high tide. The water flooded the bridge at Oxley Dairy and made it impassable at morning and evening high tides. The police visited the hall as well as our district councillor. **The day's response by The Emergency Planning Group was a good learning experience** and showed the groups's state of readiness.
- v. Scottish Power:** Cll Richard Tricker gave the following update and gave out SP information brochures, The East Angle. SP has published its Code of Practice for EA1, a tome of 317 pages. Questions concerning this doc were raised by RT and Sandra Carter at the SP Open Morning on 7th January at Martlesham. Joanne Young and new employee Bridie Casey answered their questions which have been circulated among councillors. (See website) Concerns continue about the road management plan. Cll Andrew Rouse agreed to assist Cll Tricker and Sandra Carter in their future monitoring work. Plans for road improvements are being formulated including road widening and lay-byes for heavy vehicles to stop in to allow traffic to pass. A contractor to carry out this work has not yet been appointed. Cll Chris Mann told the meeting that archaeological digs are starting very soon.

- 8. BQVC Update:** SCDC is deferring its decision to transfer the amenity site to Bawdsey Parish Council. However SCDC has asked Bawdsey PC and Peter Wain to continue with the installation of the water main at the amenity site. Houses 5-9 Ferry Road have agreed to be connected to the main if the pipe is extended beyond the amenity site. The order for this extension has been placed. A date in March is anticipated for the start date since further permissions have to be sought. No mention of the installation of a sewage system has been mentioned by SCDC. However they are keen to have the toilets in operation for the summer season since the provision of Portaloos is costly. Any decision is dependent on the outcome of the sale of the Manor. Expressions of interest had to be made by 18th January. Regrettably the parish council now has limited funds available. The offer of the balance remaining from the £180,000 set aside for the water/sewage has been withdrawn because of the perceived funding gap for the build. However any money already spent on investigations into water and sewage systems could be reclaimed from this pot of money. The Leader grant application has foundered on the failure of the business case in the light of the unexpected sale of the Manor. The Coastal Revival Fund grant may have to be withheld from the project because of the lack of discernible progress on the build. This is government money dependent on

<p>completing the project in a given time frame. It may be possible for the money to be transferred to the radar trust which was also a recipient of the CRF.</p> <p>SCDC has asked for the council to continue with the outdoor classroom which they are willing to provide a licence for. However it is still the case that with rising visitor numbers anticipated this year a visitor centre is needed. Serious fundraising will be necessary if BPC still intends to pursue the project. It might be necessary to re-launch the project if support is still strong. Local fund raising has contributed to the BQVC project over a number of years and residents should be told of the current situation. Chairman BJ will write a report for the Bulletin to explain the present situation.</p> <p>9. Finance: a) Payments listed below were authorized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Clerk's wages: £480.00 (£384 after tax) ii. Rent of Village Hall: £250.00 iii. SCDC Bulletin and Emergency Plan Survey costs: £123.36 iv. Cll Tricker (expenses): £40.22 v. Clerk's travel expenses: £8.10 <p>b) To approve rise in precept of 5.5% to £7,280.00: Chairman BJ proposed this rise based on the budget passed at November's meeting. Cll Saunders seconded this and it was passed unanimously.</p> <p>c) To approve donating £1,000 to Bawdsey Coastal Partnership: Councillors wanted more information about the study proposed by the BCP before they agreed to donate. Details should be forthcoming at the AGM on Saturday February 11th. Brian Johnson will write to Nick Crick of BCP telling him of this decision.</p>	<p>BJ</p> <p>BJ</p>
<p>10. To review Highways Issues including consideration of measures to control speeding: This item was deferred. A list of possible measures was distributed amongst councilors for their perusal at March's meeting.</p>	
<p>11. To review situation at East Lane and consider measures to counter damage to wooden posts and rubbish bin: Low levels of vandalism have been discerned at East Lane. Clerk was asked to contact the WSNT police unit regarding damage to posts and the scattering of rubbish from the bins showing photos of the damage caused.</p> <p>12. Decorative Sign: This item was deferred until the next meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>13. To receive any updates on Planning Issues or any new Planning Applications received after the publication of the Agenda: i. Clerk has responded to the application to change use of 1-4 Ferry Road from boarding school to four residential units. Issues of parking for these houses were clarified. ii. To consider DC/16/5092/CLE Application for Lawful Development Certificate for Existing use of Beach Ranger's Cottage, Residential Class C3: No objections were raised. It was noted that the name of this cottage used to be Engineer's Cottage at a time when the steam ferry operated in Sir Cuthbert Quilter's time.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>14. To consider measures to safeguard wild life at Shingle Street beach during nesting season: It was agreed unanimously to support a SCDC review of their Dog Orders with relation to the two kilometres of beach from Shingle Street to East Lane following the destruction of avocet chicks last summer. Cll Rouse has spoken to the AONB, RSPB and</p>	

<p>SCDC who all support the action to erect notices ordering dogs to be kept on leads from May-September. Notices put up by individuals have no authority in law.</p>	
<p>15. To consider participating in a survey of wild life at Bawdsey: Suggestions by Gary Lowe of Wild Villages were disseminated to councillors who due to the lateness of the hour were asked to contact Gary to express individual interest in forwarding any of the suggestions he has laid out.</p> <p>16. To receive HNS results with addition of data from Alderton and consider possible future actions: It was agreed that a concerted approach to Local Housing among all parishes on the peninsula is necessary. District Cll Block told the meeting that Hollesley PC was intending to set up a meeting on all aspects of housing to discuss affordable housing, new properties, housing association units and CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) at which members of the SCDC planning team would be present. Clerk was asked to contact Judi Hallet, Clerk to Hollesley to signal their interest in such a meeting.</p> <p>17. To decide which charities should be awarded a grant from BPC: Councillors agreed to donate £100 to each of the following charities: Ipswich and District CAB; East Anglia Air Ambulance; Disability Advice Service; Suffolk Accident Rescue Service (SARS); Felixstowe Volunteer Coast Patrol Rescue Service.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>18. To discuss arrangements for Clerk's leave of absence: Correspondence from SCDC will be sent to Chair BJ; Cll Andrew Block will hold the cheque book and financial records; Cll Saunders will put notices on notice board; Rob Johnson will be in charge of the website.</p>	
<p>19. Matters to be brought to the attention of the council: Due to the lateness of the hour no other matters were raised.</p>	
<p>20. Dates of next meetings: 15th March at 6pm, Annual Parish Meeting 26th April at 7pm, 17th May, 19th July, 20th September, 15th November.</p>	
<p><i>Meeting ended 9.15 pm</i></p>	

Signature:

Date:

Brian Johnson - Chair of Bawdsey Parish Council