

MARKET WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Market Weston Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 17th January 2019 7:30pm in Market Weston Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: D Fulcher, G Hatten, R Hood, S Austin, S Allen, B. Cllr Bull & C. Cllr J Spicer

1. Apologies: Cllr: M Martin & A Hall

2. Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

2.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None.

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests. None

2.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act. None

3 Minutes - Minutes of Tuesday 13th November 2018 meeting agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. Meeting open to the public

The owner of Liberty House came to the meeting to talk about concerns that have been raised by residents in the village. Regarding the increase in size to the extension, Mrs Hargraves reported that this was done for structural reasons and that she understood that St Edmundsbury Borough Council did not see this as an issue. With regard the sound attenuation fence, the Parish Council were told, considerable tests were carried out and its erection is considered to be an effective way to reduce any potential noise. Mrs Hargraves said she is keen to address any problems that have arisen from renting out the house. As soon as she realised that there had been a problem with noise, she implemented a noise policy and spends time with clients going through this on their arrival. There is still some confusion regarding the need for change of use, but Mrs Hargraves said that she would consider applying to SEBC for this in a bid to put things on a more formal footing.

5. Report of County Councillor: J Spicer

Cllr Spicer reported that, due to the legal framework surrounding the offer of school places, only an indication of places can be used for planning future school transport arrangements.. Firm plans are not allowed to be made until the offers have been officially made in March. The School Transport working party, of which Cllr Spicer is a member, are keeping the lines of communication open and looking at options which will can be finalised later in the year. Cllr Spicer offered up to £500 towards the cost of the defibrillator.

6. Report from B. Councillor: C Bull

The caravan at Thelnetham has now gone and the land cleared of all the rubbish that had accumulated there. Suffolk County Council towed the caravan to the road and St Edmundsbury Borough Council gathered up and removed all the rubbish. Gratitude was extended to all those who worked together to resolve this issue. There was a man attacked and robbed in Hepworth. Anyone who saw anything are being encouraged to contact the police. Cllr Bull will be able to make a financial contribution towards the defibrillator, she will confirm how much once she has looked at her other commitments.

7. Report from Police:

A survey for a proposed increase of £2 per month on police precept has been sent out. No report received.

8.1 Chairman's report.

No report this month.

8.2 Clerk:

8.2.1 3 County Lines, information following presentation

County lines is when criminals from major cities such as Liverpool, Manchester, London and Birmingham expand their drug networks to other areas of the country. This activity brings violence, exploitation and abuse to rural communities.

The crime is called county lines because a single telephone number is used to order drugs, operated from outside the area.

County line networks are having a massive impact on rural counties. Vulnerable children and adults are being recruited to transport cash and drugs all over the country. This keeps the true criminals behind it detached from the act and less likely to be detected or caught.

There are several signs to look out for when someone has been lured into this activity, these include:

Change in behaviour

Signs of assault and/or malnutrition

Access to numerous phones

Use of unusual terms e.g. going country

Associating with gangs

Unexplained bus or train tickets

School truancy or going missing

Unexplained gifts (clothes, trainers) and cash

Something else associated with County Lines is 'Cuckooing' This is a form of crime in which drug dealers take over the home of a vulnerable person in order to use it as a base for drug dealing or for the storage of weapons. No Town or Village is immune, and communities need to know the facts.

Facts

There is a rise in violence which is mostly between offenders.

The majority coming here are between 18 and 20 years old but be broadminded regarding age.

It is a priority in Suffolk and the West, so what is being done?

Monthly meetings

19 County Lines are known (tip of the iceberg) – medium risk. Each line is prioritised based on threat type. Every quarter there is liaison over the weeks of action. Multi-agency response > details to each section > tactical actions. Hotspots change daily/ weekly.

The Police are not solving this problem but they their aims are to disgrace and disrupt so we are no longer a soft target. Liaison takes place with the Metropolitan Police, London – (the Police Gangs Unit) In the last 6 months there has been zero high risk and some medium risk issues.

Some local youths are going to London to collect drugs and return. Suffolk is becoming very hostile to the County Lines process. This is the main aim. There are fewer young people turning to drugs than 10 years ago. If you have any information on county lines drugs networks, you can contact us anonymously on 0800 555 111

8.2.2 Market Weston United Charities, nomination for Trustees

Rosie Coutts, Clerk to Market Weston United Charities has written to inform the Parish Council that the terms of office of two of the nominative trustees for the above charity will finish in 2019.

They are: Darryl Fulcher, 13 March 2019 and Miranda Martin, 19 November 2019. It was proposed and agreed that Darryl Fulcher should complete another term of office and that we would discuss Miranda Martins position closer to the end of her term of office.

Action Clerk

9. Finance.

9.1 Payments. The following payments were approved and signed by two signatories.

9.1.1 Office expenses £547.27

9.1.2 Defibrillator £1580.00*

*See under item11

9.2 Budget, to consider 2019/20 budget, to include election costs

After discussion it was proposed to precept for £5990. This would see a £500 increase on last year which amounts to an annual increase of £4.51. The Clerk will submit the relevant paperwork to St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

Action Clerk

10. Planning Matters

10.1 DC/18/2556/CLP | Application for Lawful Development Certificate for Proposed Use or Development – Horse riding ménage | Beaconsfield New Common. For information only.

11. Defibrillator

Update on application for funding

The Clerk has managed to secure some funding which would provide all the equipment and training at a cost of £1580.00. It was agreed that we would go ahead with the purchase of the defibrillator but would like to be assured that the ongoing costs, including annual appliance checks, are not going to be prohibitive first.

Action Clerk

12. Data Protection

Ongoing.

13 Councillors reports and items for future agenda

The pothole in Church Road is due to be dealt with by resurfacing the road in the at area shortly. There is a big pothole outside Mulberry on The Street and one in New Common Road outside Orchard End. The Clerk will report these.

Action Clerk

14. Correspondence for information

14. 1_Knettishall Heath project 2019, Suffolk Wildlife Trust. SWLT are introducing some Bagot Goats on to the Heath.

14.2 Groundwork free support service for community buildings. This information will be forwarded on to the Village Hall.

15. Date of next meeting: 25th March 2019

16. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:

16.1 Personnel Issues. The Clerk has a new pay spine, noted.

16.2 Legal Issues. None