

IKEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 17 November 2014

Venue: Snape Village Hall at 6pm

1. Present Hugh Waterer(Chairman)(HW) , Richard Mann(RM), John Hailes(JH), Colin Chamberlain(CC), Charles Thompson(CT) Loulou Cooke (LC) and Mel Waterer (Clerk)
2. Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were circulated and agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman proposed by CT and seconded by RM
3. **Matters arising** -Dominic Kilburn had spent time clearing the weeds and ivy from the village hall, HW had fixed the manhole cover and it was suggested that keeping the gutters clear would be beneficial. The council showed their appreciation to Dominic. The future of the village hall was briefly discussed with no conclusion.
4. The Iken Emergency plan was circulated and the councillors agreed it would have to be updated on an annual basis and that High Street, The Common and Sudbourne Road all needed a person to take responsibility of informing residents if an emergency occurred. CC was going to continue to seek permission for the use of Hardy's Barn at Iken Barns as an Iken Emergency Centre. CC had not had a chance to enquire about the funding available but was going to contact the SCDC.
5. Planning application- a letter was written by the clerk to the Planning Department confirming that they were happy with the responses given by the council on planning applications. However, after a brief discussion, LC proposed that we also indicate how the voting split, seconded by CT the motion was carried forward.
6. HW suggested that we have a public forum at the beginning of every meeting so the Parishoners have an opportunity to get more involved. It was agreed to try it at the next meeting
7. The Citizens Advice Bureau request for finance was discussed and the council concluded not to give them a donation.
8. The telephone box on Swallows Corner is apparently out of order so the SCDC who had previously requested the Parish Council's permission for its removal decided they had no way of knowing if it was used. The future of it is inconclusive.
9. The future of the website was discussed and the council agreed to accept Dominic Kilburn's kind offer to continue running it.
10. The Clerk asked the council if she could attend a course run by the Local Council Public Advisory Service on Elections, By-elections and Co-options. The council discussed using the services of a professional clerk and the cost involved. It was agreed the clerk continue with training. No decision was made on the Local Council Administration book as it quickly goes out of date.

11. Code of Conduct-HW reminded councillors of the importance of respecting others' opinions with no abuse , threats or casting of asperions. RM referred to the Nolan principles and the Model Code of Conduct including bullying, intimidating and allowing councillors to speak uninterrupted.
12. Any other business- CC was dissappointed with the lack of support by the Parish Council for the democratic process of calling for an election. He wanted the support of co option for a member of the parish before the bi election notice had expired. The clerk explained that the notice of a bi election had to run its course before there was an opportunity to co opt . The council discussed how co option would have been a better choice .
13. HW was going to look into the standing orders .
14. A vote of thanks was given to JH for getting the Suffolk Coastal Highways to deal with the overhanging branches in the forest.
15. The state of the local flooding on the road into Iken, specifically the puddle by Iken Hall, was discussed and the Clerk agreed to send a link to councillors to remind the District Council of the continued maintenance required.
16. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 26 February, Snape Village Hall at 6pm.
There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.10pm