

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE PARISH ROOM, MILL LANE, GREAT BLAKENHAM ON WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012**

**PRESENT:** A. Beckett, Mrs S Fairburn, Miss L Martin, Mrs P Robinson, Mr R Simpson and District Councillors J Field

### **1.9 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no members of the public present.

### **2.9 REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Councillor J. Field's report was laid round at the meeting.

Councillor Field reported that he had contacted SCC Highway's regarding the pedestrian crossing on Stowmarket Road. He reported that an additional crossing would not be installed outside the Parish Room and they cannot re allocate one of the zebra crossings proposed at the Hackney's Corner area to the Mill Lane location.

### **3.9 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER**

PCSO Phil Brill's report was circulated prior to the meeting. No Police Officer was in attendance.

**4.9 Apologies:** R Edrupt and P McLauchlan

**5.9 Declarations of interest appropriate to any item on the agenda** – None were declared.

**6.9 MINUTES** of the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012 were approved and signed.

### **7.9 BABERGH AND MID SUFFOLK'S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Chairman welcomed Louise Rawsthorne from the District Council along with District Councillor John Field. They were attending the Parish Meeting as part of an exercise to communicate with Parish Councils and local organisations within Suffolk. Since the joining of Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council's officers had been considering economies and was looking to ensure that the new configured Council is meeting the community's needs. The Government is pushing localism and therefore the Council were looking to find out the needs of the community. Louise explained that the Council will need to cut costs of £7m over the next three years so therefore were looking to make sure the resources are spent in the correct areas.

Following a pre prepared question and answer sheet the Parish Council were asked a number of questions about Great Blakenham's community and how the District Council is helping or areas where they felt they could improve or need assistance. Councillors gave a number of examples of areas where they felt the District Council could have done more or provided a better service, especially in the areas of planning and customer care.

Louise explained that the information gathered from these meetings will be discussed by the District Council by the end of November and the results will be forwarded to the Parish Council. Louise asked if there were other organisations in the village that would be willing to participate. The Chairman advised that the Clerk would forward a copy of the Parish

Council's Directory that contained details of all the organisations in the village so that she could approach them direct.

The Chairman thanked Louise and John for their attendance.

### **8.9 WORKPLAN**

Councillors were an update on the outstanding matters.

The Chairman reported that the Directory had now been printed. Mr Reg Barton had agreed to deliver a copy to every household in the village for a cost of £25. It was agreed that Mr Barton deliver the Directory for £25.

### **9.9 FINANCE**

- a. Monthly Payments – It was agreed to sign cheques to the value of £1,721.55.

### **10.9 SUMMER FETE 2013**

It was agreed to set up a working group to consider the summer fun day. Once this meeting had taken place and discussions about what was needed the Chairman would advertise in the In Touch magazine for help with the event.

### **11.9 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- a. Village Hall Management Committee – The Chairman reported that the grant application to Sita UK was close to completion and would be sent by the end of the week. A decision by Sita UK will be made by March 2013.

The Chairman reported that she had been approached by some children in the village asking permission for a bmx track behind the cycle speedway track on the recreation ground. The children will be prepared to install the ramps using compacted soil. At the Village Hall Meeting they agreed to a bmx track on the recreation ground but all finances to be met by the families concerned.

- b. Neighbourhood Planning Workshop – the Chairman reported that she had attended a workshop run by Mid Suffolk District Council.

Chairman

Date