**EDGEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall,**

**Monday 18th January 2016, 7:00pm**

 **Present:** John Seymour (Chair) Anne Harrup

 Mark Cook Suzanne Longe

 Kirsty Cotgrove (Clerk)

 + 3 parishioners

 There were no public comments.

1. **Chairman’s welcome & apologies for absence** – JS welcomed everyone. Apologies were received and accepted for DR, EC, & HM.
2. **Statement of pecuniary or prejudicial interests** – JS (Item 11).
3. **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Monday 14th December 2015** – the minutes are approved and signed (prop. MC & sec. AH).
4. **Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda** –Pond – An invoice has been received and a cheque raised from the Environment Group account. The Clerk advised that VAT may not be recoverable, unless there is documentation to show that the Environment Group account is a Parish Council account. She will investigate further. All agreed to change the bank account from Nationwide to Barclays, as the nearest Nationwide branch is in Sheringham. The Clerk will open an account with Barclays, then the money can be transferred.

Hedge on Holt Road – Stody have been contacted and will deal when the mornings are lighter.

There is a tree across the footpath beyond Richard Brooks’ field, near the converted barn. There was a discussion as to who owns the land. The Clerk will investigate and contact the owner to request removal.

Phone box – There was only 1 response to the newsletter article regarding the phone box on Ramsgate Street, this being from the parishioner who originally contacted the PC.

 **5. Police Report** – PCSO Keith Clarke was unable to attend, but telephoned the Clerk earlier in the day to advise that in the last month there were two calls to the Police, but no crimes were reported.

1. **Finance**

**(a)Payments**

The following payments were approved and cheques were signed. (Prop SL, Sec MC)

1. Kirsty Cotgrove – Clerk net salary (Jan) £ 186.55

 (ii) EDF energy – electricity direct debit £ 35.00

**(b)Receipts** – None.

 **7. Planning**

**(a)Permission for Development** –None.

**(b)Refusal of permission** – None

**(c)Applications** – (i) PF/15/1789. Loke House, The Green, Edgefield, NR24 2AL. Subdivision of single detached dwelling into two semi-detached dwellings & creation

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of new vehicular access. The plans were looked at in depth, and concerns were expressed regarding fire engine access to the new dwelling, due to the driveway

being partially obstructed by a chimney flue for a neighbouring property. Concern was also expressed that the new access will only have parking for one vehicle, and that the access may be obstructed by current road parking. It was agreed by all to object to the application for these reasons, and that the drawings are not clear given knowledge of the site and elevation of land for parking in the new access. In addition, there is inadequate space off site to park.

(ii)PF/15/1223 (amended plans). Land off Rectory Road and Holt Road, Edgefield. Erection of 22 residential units (class C3) with associated highway and landscape works. The Development Committee meeting for this application is on 25th February, and JS has been asked to attend. All agreed to fully support the application.

**(d)Development committee decision** – None.

**(e)Decision notice** – None.

**(f)Additional information on applications** – None.

**(g)To consider late planning applications** – None.

**(h) To ratify applications made between meetings** – PF/15/1800. Aldergrove, Ramsgate Street, Edgefield, NR24 2AX. Alterations and erection of first floor extension to front of dwelling. No comment.

1. **Highways issues – (i) Ramsgate Street culvert** – JS reported that the culvert has a history of becoming blocked, and causing flooding, as was the case in the recent heavy rains. The current grill on it is inadequate and JS is meeting with a Highways technician to see what improvements can be made. To date, they have quoted for a new grill which would cost the parish £9378. All agreed this would be too expensive. AH suggested contacting the Norfolk Rivers Trust who have funding available for some projects. Responsibility for the maintenance was discussed and although Highways are responsible for clearing the culvert, branches and leaves will still wash into it and cause blockages when the weather is bad. JS will meet with Highways to see if there is another more cost effective solution, and will contact the Norfolk Rivers Trust to see if funding is available. The Clerk will email DR to see when the next applications for the Parish Partnership grant are open.

**(ii) Fly tipping** – There has been another incident of fly tipping in the village, on Rectory Road. Information has been passed to NCC to look into. The Clerk will report to NCC to ask for the rubbish to be removed.

1. **An update on the village pump –** The pump has been installed, but the well head couldn’t be found, so it couldn’t be checked for safety purposes. There was a discussion whether to excavate or leave it, as there is a possibility that the well head is on a different piece of land altogether. The Clerk will speak to an archaeologist to see if there is anything he can do. The area around the pump is not very tidy, and covered with dead leaves. There was a discussion about what could be done with the area, which is always in the shade. It was agreed to leave it for now, and AH will have a look at the area. An article will go into the newsletter to ask villagers what they would like to see there.
2. **To discuss the SAM2 statistics** – JS moved the SAM2 to the south of the village today. There were two weeks of statistics provided, but due to a software glitch, the

2.

unit reset to 2008 at the New Year. JS downloaded a software update. Of the 2 weeks of available data, the 85 percentile figures show an average speed of 34-35mph. However, there were speeds of 60-65mph recorded. The Clerk will write to the village hall committee to see if the unit can be charged there. JS advised that should the Broadland Housing development go ahead, there is a possibility they could fund a second SAM2 unit for the village. The village gates will hopefully be installed soon. A parishioner asked if there were enough volunteers to operate a speed gun. The Clerk advised that EE was gathering volunteers, but she had heard nothing further. She will email EE to see how many volunteers he has, as six are needed.

**11**. **To discuss and agree the purchase of a laptop for SAM2 feedback purposes** – JS advised that he has purchased a laptop to download the data from the SAM2 unit. This will be used by whoever is doing the battery charge and changeover to obtain and distribute the information. It cost £150, with a backup USB for £34.99. MC proposed that JS be reimbursed, seconded by AH, all agreed.

**12. To agree the distribution of the wheelie bin speed limit stickers** – 100 wheelie bin s stickers have arrived. A newsletter article will advertise these to parishioners free of charge, and the Clerk will put notices up to advertise them. Phil Borley offered to distribute them.

**13**. **Report from David Ramsbottom, County Councillor** – None.

**14**. **Report from Georgina Perry-Warnes, District Councillor** – None.

**15**. **Correspondence** - None.

**AOB for information** – JS & HM have met with Karen O’Kane of Better Broadband for Norfolk. The fibre optic box is in, so the majority of the village will be able to get faster broadband when the changeover happens in the beginning of March. This will not cover Chapel Hill or Ramsgate Street, who are on the Saxthorpe exchange. Options were discussed for these houses with Karen O’Kane, who advised they may be on the February or April allocations, even then it could be as late as 2019. There is government funding available for satellite broadband, but this can’t be put towards fibre optic. Karen O’Kane was also asked if individuals can contribute to expedite the fibre optic connection, but this is also not possible. JS will prepare an article for the next newsletter to update everyone.

**16. Date of next meeting** – Monday 15th February 2016, at 7pm.

**17**.  **To close the meeting** – There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:42pm.

Signed: Dated:

3.