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**MINUTES OF THE SEDGFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON THE  
19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2018 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**1. Welcome** Ms Crump welcomed all in attendance to the meeting.

**Public Session.** 4 members of the public present.

Mr Barber came to update the council on the poultry units and future programmes. He said that he was happy to show people around the site, although this needed to be organised into groups. He hopes to build a house on the site for the manager in the future to ensure the safety and welfare of the birds. It had been a good year and the site had done well through the extremes of the cold winter and the beast from the east and a very hot summer. The systems they have installed worked well to ensure the birds were kept in a controlled atmosphere. The chair thanked Mr Barber for the update.

Mr John Lefever from Hastoe Homes came to inform the council he had secured an exception site in the village on which they can build another set of affordable homes. The landowner has agreed the sale and the Borough Council have agreed there is a need in the village for further development. A draft plan will come to the Parish Council for ideas to be shared and there will be a consultation in the village before plans are submitted to the planning office. He said that he has programmed the work into the 2019/20 schedule of works. He informed the meeting that he retires in March and will hand the project to Mr Salisbury to carry it through. Mr Richard High, Neighbourhood Plan Consultant, came to update the Parish Council on the current progress of the plan and the stages it will go through in the coming months. The plan is almost ready for submission to the Borough Council who then take charge of the final stages as it moves through to adoption. When it is approved it provides the Parish Council with a good tool to help in the evaluation of planning applications. The council need to be in agreement with the plan as once it has gone to the Borough it can't be changed.

Mr High hopes to lodge the plan with the Borough before the end of January. The Borough then has to advertise the plan for 6 weeks for further public consultation. The Borough will then appoint an independent examiner to study the plan and make a report. At this point minor changes can be made. Following this, the report will be ready to go to referendum. The referendum will be held in the village with all residents on the electoral roll able to vote. The plan needs a simple majority to be passed and approved. It is hoped that the end point will be sometime in June/July.

Mr High said that one important piece of work still to be completed is to get a better understanding of the number of second and holiday properties in the village. It was agreed this would be carried out at the end of the meeting. He also hopes to look at the current listed buildings in the village and consider others of historical interest that are worthy of being recorded. The chair thanked Mr High for his input tonight and throughout the life of the plan.

**Apologies Accepted.** Mrs J Hipkin and Councillor Mr I Deveraux

**Present,** Mr Clark, Mr Head, Ms Crump, Mr Frost Mr Curry and Ms Crosley.

**2.Minutes for approval.** Minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> November General Meeting were proposed by Mr Clark seconded Mr Frost and carried.

**3. Matters Arising**

**3.1 Anglia Water river flow.** Mr Head agreed to talk to a resident and find out if they have contacted Anglia water recently.

**3.2 Defibrillator.** The clerk is still waiting to organise a meeting to discuss this matter.

**3.3 Budget.** See item 10.5

**3.4 Village Gates Ringstead Road.** It was agreed that this matter be deferred till a later date as the Parish Partnership Grant period had now ended.

**3.5 Bush on B1454.** This matter was reported to Highways and has been cleared.

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#### 4 Standing Agenda Items.

**4.1 Police Matters.** The Police have sent warnings out about various scams, one poster is on the notice board.

**4.2 Meetings Attended. None**

**4.3 Village Hall Matters.** Mr Frost reported that there is a table top sale on the 12<sup>th</sup> January from 10 to 3pm It is £7 a stall and refreshments will be served all day.

#### 5 Planning matters

##### 18/02145/RM Land next to Chimneys.

The Parish Council wishes to register their objection to this application, under reserved matters. The size of the properties has been increased, with rooms in the roof making them significantly larger. The plan is not consistent with the emerging Neighbourhood Plan being produced by the council, which favours smaller 2/3-bedroom properties. The roof lines look much higher than those of the surrounding properties. None of the proposed windows have glazing bars which is common in other properties in the area. Windows overlook the properties in the area especially the roof windows. The block is a continual line of development with no spaces, again not the same as many in the setting.

##### 18/02165/F Wisbech House

The Parish Council would like to register its concern that the builders ignored the condition when it started to build and that the planning department did not monitor the site to ensure the condition was met before building commenced. The council hopes that better monitoring will not allow this situation to happen again. The council approved the application

##### 18/02107/F Field Barn Cottages

The Parish Council urges the Planning Department to reject this application for a property in open countryside. The council considers there is no justification to demolish an historic farm house that fits the landscape and to replace it with a building the scale of which is totally inappropriate for the area. The council considers this to be classed as a new build in the countryside and hopes that national and regional planning conditions will reject this property as being contrary to these regulations. Although out of the village envelope the plan does not fit with the emerging Neighbourhood Plan being finalised by the Parish Council and its high-end housing policy.

This property completely out of character with any other property in the area in size and design and the Parish Council urges the Planning Department to reject the application and not allow the demolition of a character farmhouse on this site. This plan was not approved.

**Outcome of planning.** None

**6. Questions for the County Councillor.** Not in attendance

**7. Questions to the Borough Councillors.** Not in attendance

#### 8 Finance

##### 8.1 Bills.

| Name         | Business      | Net     | VAT    | Gross    | Non Recoverable VAT |
|--------------|---------------|---------|--------|----------|---------------------|
| Eon (DD)     | Electricity   | £ 22.49 | £ 1.12 | £ 23.61  | None                |
| K and M      | St Lighting   | £ 13.29 | £ 2.66 | £ 15.95  | None                |
| CGM          | Grass Cutting | £265.15 | £53.00 | £ 318.18 | None                |
| Mole Catcher | Cemetery      | £ 50.00 | £ 0.00 | £ 50.00  | None                |
| Parish Clerk | Data Overtime | £102.51 | £ 0.00 | £ 102.51 | None                |
| HMRC         | Tax           | £ 25.60 | £ 0.00 | £ 25.61  | None                |

The bills were proposed by Mr Clark and seconded Mr Head and carried.

**8.2 Financial Statement.** The clerk reported the figures for December. There were no questions.

#### 9. Correspondence.

9.1 Ranger visit. The clerk will request the cleaning of the path on the Docking Road, cut the verge on the Heacham Road and look at the overhanging hedge beside 1A Parkside

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9.2 Precept application forms. Deadline for application 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019

9.3 EON price changes

9.4 Norfolk Access Forum. No suggested name for representatives.

9.5 Village gates Email from Highways re Docking Road. The clerk read an email from Highways following the demolition of both signs at the entrance to the village from Docking by road traffic accidents. Highways are suggesting village gates be placed on this entrance to the village. A grant from the County Councillor would leave a balance of £269 to be paid by the Parish with Highways doing all the ordering and installation at no cost to the Parish. After a short discussion it was agreed to ask for the gates to be put in place. One concern to be passed to Highways is the need for the gates to be level and there may be a need to move the signs closer to Docking to get a wider verge. The clerk will email the Highways advisor.

9.6 NALC pay scales

9.7 Police newsletter

**10 Council Decision.**

**10.1 Neighbourhood Plan Update.** See report under the public section of the minutes.

**10.2 Parish Clerk Update.** The chair reported that interviews had taken place and Karen Orgill had been selected for appointment. The chair went through a set of terms and conditions for the post and these were approved by the council. The chair proposed that the appointment be confirmed: this was seconded by Mr Frost and carried. Mrs Orgill will have a two-month hand over period with the current clerk.

**10.3 Development of Land in the Village.** No further matters to discuss under this item. It was agreed to discuss the ideas given to the Parish by a resident at the next meeting.

**10.4 Cemetery Regulations.** The clerk had made the suggested changes to the regulations. It was proposed by Mr Head seconded Mr Clark they be adopted. This was carried. The clerk will do an item for the next newsletter to alert resident to the new regulations and place them on the website.

**10.5 Budget 2019/20** The clerk had prepared the budget for the coming year. It was agreed subject to minor changes. The clerk will bring it back to the next meeting with any other comments to be formally adopted.

**11. A.O.B. and items for the next Agenda.** It was reported that the police had placed wires across Docking Road in 2 places, presumably to monitor traffic numbers and speed.

**12. Any Further Public Comments on the Meeting. None**

**The meeting closed at 9.25 pm**

**Date of next meeting 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 6.00pm**