

**SANTON DOWNHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
IN THE ROTARY ROOM, VILLAGE HALL, SANTON DOWNHAM
MONDAY, 13th FEBRUARY 2017 AT 7.00PM
MINUTES**

**Present: Mr Michael Mackender, Chairman
Mrs Sylvia East, Parish Clerk
Mr Malcolm Finch
Mr George Radford
Mr Gareth Rees**

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies

Apologies had been received from Dr Derek Toomer

Declaration of Interest

There were no Declarations of interest on the items on the Agenda

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5th December 2016

The Minutes of the meeting were proposed as being correct and duly signed

Parish Clerk's Report

- An update of the current state of the accounts were given and the Parish Clerk commented upon the fact that the Parish Council accounts have never been as healthy as they are at the moment, and reminded the Parish Council that this had a lot to do with the help given by the Village Hall and indeed to the hard work undertaken by the Chairman with regard to the village green upkeep and the filling in of potholes.
It was decided that the time has come for a further swathe of the privately owned roads to be resurfaced and the Parish Clerk was asked to call in at least 2 or 3 companies to quote. The chairman and Parish Clerk agreed to walk the roads and make a decision which swathe should be tackled and once we have the quotations to hand, the Parish Council will then make the decision to proceed.
- The Parish Clerk passed around a letter received from the Rotary with regard to the agreed Pitch and Putt day in May, and advised that it is the intention of the Rotary to give a donation towards a defibrillator that will be housed in the Telephone Kiosk.
- The Parish Clerk advised that BT had send a contract for signature and that as soon as this has been accepted and the £1 paid, they would remove the equipment from the telephone kiosk and we could then begin the work on making good.
- The issue of plane noise remains outstanding despite the fact that the Parish Clerk has passed on an enquiry. We are likely to be rather low on the list but of course the matter would be pursued.
- The issue of the help from Suffolk County Council with regard to some work at the top of the road to assist hopefully with drainage is ongoing and it is hoped that we will fall within the 2017-18 budget

Parish Councillors Reports

Mr East raised an issue on behalf of Dr Toomer with regard to the work that has been carried out by Colin Young and partner on land not owned by themselves. It was agreed that since the work was not carried out on Parish Council land this was not a Parish Council issue, however, it was queried if Mr Young and partner had indeed received permission to do all that they have done. The Chairman said that he would see if he could have a chat with the Land Agent.

It is accepted that in fact Mr Young and partner have tidied up this area but on the other hand there were a lot of trees felled and therefore the question of permission is a justified one.

Malcolm Finch mentioned the new Forestry Signs and it was generally agreed that the positioning of these were maybe a little over the top considering the village sign is merely a few yards away. However, there is no damage done.

Chairman's Report

- The Chairman advised that he had received a request for consideration to be given to road signage from Mr Macreath. The Parish Council have already discussed this once before and had conceded that it was unlikely we would take this course of action. The Parish Clerk advised that if we did wish to take this route we would need to register the roads, give those roads that currently have no name a name and would then need to put up a sign at each end of each road, making another 10 signs minimum. The general consensus was that this village does not need to take this action given the costs involved and the fact that for such a small village we would be somewhat buried beneath signs. It was agreed we could put something into the next Newsletter on this subject and see if we received any other requests.

ANY OTHER ISSUES

Gareth Rees asked if the large plane tree opposite his house could be cut back a bit as any car parking by this tree is affecting his access. It was agreed that something would be done about this.

The Chairman stated that the laurel bush belonging to Zala is now very overgrown. The Parish Clerk will see if she can get a letter to Zala to see if this can be cut back.

The next meeting as agreed for the 10th April.

The Meeting ended at 7.40pm

SDPC/13.2.17(2)