Denham Parish Council

MINUTES

Wednesday November 28, 2018 at 7.30pm in St John the Baptist Church

1/281118	Apologies and Approvals of Absence
	None
	In addition to Parish Councillors Tania Farrow (in the chair), Nick Farrow, Margaret Reeves and Carol Rose, six members of the public were present, together with District Councillor Elizabeth Gibson-Harries
2/281118	Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation
	None
3/281118	To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on September 26, 2018
	The Minutes were approved; it was noted that the proposed governance review by the District Council will not proceed at least until after the local elections in May, when the status of the Parish Council will be clearer.
4/281118	Members of the public are invited to make any comments on items on the Agenda or to raise issues for consideration at future meetings. Reports may be presented by County Cllr Guy McGregor and District Cllr Elizabeth Gibson-Harries
	No matters were raised by members of the public. Cllr Gibson-Harries said she was interested in learning about progress on the Village Hall. She also mentioned the need for a roundabout at the A140 Eye junction opposite the old Swan pub. There are ClL funds available from Mid Suffolk for suitable projects.
	Cllr Gibson-Harries is not standing for re-election to the District Council in May. The ward boundaries have changed and it now covers a much larger area.
5/281118	To consider an update on the Village Hall project, including steps necessary to re-constitute Denham Community Council as a registered charity, and the architect's report on the structure
	A presentation was made outlining the recent architect's report

and the following issues were mentioned as needing further attention:.

- The chimney vent should be retained as a heritage feature
- The drainage arrangements should be furter investigated and checked.
- The buttresses should be retained as a feature of the building.
- Both toilets should be provided with seats, rather than including a urinal in the gents'
- Some wall protection should be added to prevent damage by chair backs
- The windows need to be checked and possibly restored to their original metal frames
- A disabled access ramp should be included
- Parking arrangements need to be clarified and identified.

Cllr Gibson-Harries recommended not being afraid of the price of the work as suitable funds are available. It was suggested that once prices have been identified, a public meeting should be held so that residents can offer detailed feedback on the plans. It was suggested this might be combined with the January 30 Parish Council meeting, to which Gillian Hilder from Mid Suffolk and Jon Eaton from Community Action Suffolk could be invited.

The Clerk explained a meeting had been held with Jon Eaton and it was now clearer what steps are needed to set up the Denham Community Council as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), which could raise funds and take on responsibility for the Hall in due course. Trustees would be needed who were able and willing to play a significant active part in the running of the CIO and the Hall.

6/281118

To consider recruitment and co-option of further Parish Councillor(s) in the light of the local elections on May 2, 2019

Efforts will need to be made in this respect in order to ensure that the Parish Council survives the retirement of long-standing Councillors Carol Rose and Margaret Reeves, who have both made major contributions to the village.

7/281118

To consider any current or new planning applications

None

8/281118

To receive a report from the Clerk on the current financial position and any payments due, including consideration of the budget for 2019/20 and appointment of auditors for 2018/19

A bank reconciliation was presented showing a balance after

	accounting for uncleared cheques of £6,686.13. The current year's budget performance was noted, £2,579.76 having been spent against a budget for the year of £5,040. Payments were made to: Community Action Suffolk (web hosting, £60); HMRC (PAYE, £49.60); Rod Caird (Clerk pay, £197.62). All payments were made under the General Power of Competence conferred by the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8 and in the case of the Village Hall the Local Government Act 1972, s.133
	It was agreed to confirm the 2019/20 budget and the 2019/20 precept requirement at the January meeting.
	It was agreed to transfer some funds from the current account to the savings account.
	SALC was appointed Internal Auditor for 2018/19.
9/281118	Correspondence and urgent matters to the brought to the attention of the Parish Council
	None at this time
10/281118	To confirm the venue for the Parish Council meeting on January 30, 2019 at 7.30pm
	The meeting is likely to be held in Hoxne but this will be confirmed.