

Semer Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held by e-mail and telephone on Wednesday 13th January 2021.

Councillors Contacted:

Richard Keens (Chairman), Robert Thorogood, James Pitcher, Jackie Barraclough.

1. Minutes of the meeting of 13th October 2020 were distributed by e-mail and approved.
2. Planning –
 - Cosford House Union Hill - Demolition of existing small tin constructed 'barn' and erection of a 3 Bay Cartlodge. (Babergh Planning advised that Semer Parish Council have no objection – approved 19.10.20)
 - Hollow Trees Farm Shop - Erection of a new Farm Trail Kiosk and Education Room and Relocation of Existing Vehicular Access to the Car Park. (Babergh Planning advised that Semer Parish Council have no objection – approved 4.1.21)
 - Foxglove Cottage, Ash Street - Extension to Garage to form a Workshop and Store. (Babergh Planning advised that Semer Parish Council have no objection approved 18.12.20)
3. Speed Limit of 40mph on Union Hill – After 18 months of trying The Clerk has been unable to get Highways to agree to a 40mph speed limit. They have agreed to notices to slow the traffic which Robert Lindsay has said he will pay for. The Parish Council are disappointed and frustrated by Highways who frankly cannot be bothered to come and talk to the residents or even drive up and down the road to see the problems even though the road has been closed on 3 occasions in the last few months following serious accidents. They seem to forget who is paying their wages.
4. The 'Heavy Goods Vehicles' Sign at the bottom of Watsons Hill is in poor condition. Richard thinks he will be able to straighten the sign and will clean it.
5. Repair of the Village Sign – Richard has rebuilt the oak frame (Oak donated by Thorogood Timber) and Sally has painted the Village Scene. It looks fantastic. Richard will ask Dairy Farms to help lift it back into place with their teleporter in the next couple of weeks.
6. The bench seat in the Church Meadow - the meadow has been flooded of late but Richard has all the materials and will install the seat on a concrete base in the next 2/3 weeks.
7. The Church Meadow Bank Account - Richard will transfer the remaining balance in the account to The Parish Council Bank Account leaving £1 in the account to keep it open. The Church Meadow Account is listed on our registration with the Charities Commission,
8. Cutting of Hedges and the Grass at the Church Meadow – Dairy Farms have not as yet cut the hedges. The Clerk will ask them again.
9. Annual precept for 21/22. The Parish Council agreed a precept of £3,500 (+ £500 on last year as there will be additional expenditure this year for signage for the Green Lanes initiative (if the lanes are approved) even though this is part funded by Suffolk CC. That cost could be around £800.)
10. The Clerk has registered Overgang Road / Ash Street, Semer Road from Naughton to Whatfield and Rectory Lane leading up to Whatfield from the Overgang. Nedging and Naughton and Whatfield Parish Councils will pay for the signage at their end of these roads. I have also advised where new signage needs to be placed.
11. Councillors agreed to ask around the village to see if anyone would like to join Semer Parish Council as a Councillor or as Parish Clerk.

Signed.....

Dated