

**Parish Office, Sports Pavilion, Hundred Acre Way, Red Lodge, Suffolk, IP28 8XR**

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Minutes for the ordinary meeting of Red Lodge Parish Council held on 11th March 2014 at the Red Lodge Millennium Centre at 7pm.

**Present:**

Ben Graveston Chairman

Clare Bloomfield.

Andy Younger

Andy Drummond

Carol Downs

Clive MacLeod BEM

Angie Sewell

**Apologies:** Cllr R. Dicker – Family commitment

Cllr L Chambers – Family commitment

**Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Drummond declared an interest in Planning.

Cllr Graveston declared he is on the Police Commission panel

Cllr Bloomfield declared that she works for BSAS

Before the meeting starts Cllr Graveston announced that Cllr Lee Holman resigned his position as Chairman of Red Lodge Parish Council, Cllr Graveston would like to thank Cllr Holman for the fantastic job that he did in the last 19 months that he was Chair of Red Lodge Parish Council. He did a lot of good for the community & he will be missed.

Cllr Graveston announced that at the next meeting a new Vice Chair would be nominated.

**Guest Speakers**

**Police** – Did not attend

**County Cllr L Chambers** - Unable to attend

**District Cllr R Dicker** - The district council last week voted to maintain a 0% rise in the district part of the council tax and so along with the county and police along with the hard work the previous chairman lee Holman did in proposing the red lodge precept level there is NO rise in band d properties in red lodge.

I presented Jeff pynes ideas regarding the dog fouling issue to about 50 forest heath and st Edmunds bury councillors last Thursday.

I got a round of applause afterwards. Either they like it or happy when I finished.

**District Cllr A Drummond** – Nothing to report

**Sports Pavilion** - The New doors have been put in & are working well. Due to an accident at the pavilion (a car mounted the kerb & rammed into the fire doors) a structural engineer will be visiting to make sure that the building is safe. As per last month, bookings are up & profits are up on this time last year.

**Millennium Centre** - Since taking over as Interim Centre Manager in December 2013 the Centre has gone through a busy period with several events having happened. The RLEG held the over 65’s Festive Lunch & NYE Party. Of which both where an outstanding success. We have had several large conferences & held Mrs Coopers Wake.

We are on par with last year’s bookings & have recently taken new block bookings from 6 different company’s/group.

We are in the process of changing our electric supplier as our present agreement ends on the 5th May 2014. Our new supplier is predicting a saving of £1,400 per year on a 2 year deal.

Coming up, Kennet School will be hosting the children’s Easter egg hunt & the RLEG will be hosting their first of many events of the year, a family race night. This will consist of virtual horse racing & even snail racing.

**St. Christopher’s School** – Building work has started on the extension, currently the school has 275 pupils but having the extension built which is due to be finished by August 2014 in September 2014 the school will have 305 pupils attending.

The pupils at the school will be doing a lot of fund raising this coming year.

The School will be totally full by 2017 the head teacher is working with a similar school in Haverhill to see how they coped & the pit falls they faced.

Some of the pupils have been learning all about Cyber Wisdom with the Crucial Crew, the pupils have also been give poppy seeds to grow. There is an Easter Service on the last day of term which local people are welcome to attend. Also the school website is updated daily with the events that the school have done a photos of the pupils, please feel free to have a look & contact the school if you have any questions.

**Public Questions –** A member of the public asked if there was a better way that the minuets couple be made available to the public at the Millennium Centre, it was suggested that the minuets where laminated & left at the Millennium Centre in a folder marked that it was not to be removed.

A member of the public asked if it was possible for the Parish Clerk could work more hours. They were told that it is something that would be looked at in the future.

**Minutes from 3rd December 2013, 11th Feb 2014 & 24th Feb 2014 to be confirmed -**

Minutes from 11th Feb 2014

Proposed – Cllr MacLeod

2ND – Cllr Bloomfield

All Agreed

Minutes from 24th February to be amended & confirmed at the next parish council meeting on 8th April 2014

Proposed – Cllr MacLeod

2ND – Cllr Bloomfield

All Agreed

Minuets from 3rd December 2013

Not enough council members were in attendance to confirm minuets, so will be done at next meeting.

**Setting up of a finance committee** –

Proposed - Cllr MacLeod

2ND – Cllr Sewell

All Agreed

**Rent to be paid by the Parish Council to the Sports Pavilion for use of office** –

No one to propose or 2ND

Not Actioned

**Better deal for the phone lines & internet at the Sports Pavilion –** Cllr Bloomfield asked BSAS to do a breakdown of the BT bill & see if they could give the Parish Council a better deal. On a 2 year deal with BSAS the Parish Council could save an average of 32% per year.

Proposed – Cllr Sewell

2ND – Cllr Downs

All Agreed (Cllr Bloomfield did not vote)

**Correspondence** – Feed In Tariff Annual Declaration was done online by Cllr Sewell

New contract from 1Stop Accountancy & Tax Ltd signed by the Chair & sent out by Parish Clerk. The Standing order mandate has been filled out & will be taken to the bank by Cllr Sewell.

Commercial Services contract has been filled out & sent back by Parish Clerk

**Planning Application –**

No Comments

**Finance & Resource Management** – All cheques signed

Date of next Parish Council meeting will be held on 8th April 2014 at the Millennium Centre, Red Lodge, commencing at 7pm

Signed ………………………………… Date…………………………..

Chairman

Meeting closed at 7.50pm