

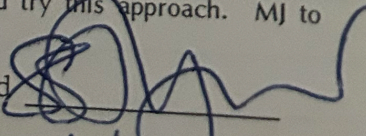
MINUTES of MEETING of Assington Parish Council
held in Village Hall on Monday, 29th March 1993 commencing 7.00pm
Present: Mr S S Thorogood, Mrs G Derwent, Mr C Heseltine, Mrs M Jerrold, Dr J Symons

Apologies for absence received from Mr E Nichols (business)

The Minutes of the 25th January 1993 meeting were approved & signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

1. MATTERS ARISING

- a) **SOCIAL HOUSING.** The Clerk reported there had been no response from Orbit re general tidying of site & was requested to chase soonest. Concerning the grassed pavement area in The Street, SCC Highways (letter 4/3/93) had advised the revised junction arrangements were considered safer & a marked improvement on the previous layout. Whilst a large vehicle may have misjudged the verge they did not consider same would be a persistent occurrence & hence were unable to recommend the provision of hard surfacing or posts to the area in question, although the situation would continue to be monitored.
 - b) **HIGHWAYS.** SCC (11.2.93) had confirmed that remedial *repairs/drainage* works were to be undertaken within their 93/94 budget & intimated likely cost was in the region of £20,000 & this had accounted for the delay. Concerning *gritting* section of Bures Road at Dows Hill, the Area Surveyor (17.2.93) had advised for financial reasons alone it was not their policy to grit such roads unless there was a prolonged period of frost or snow. Grit heaps were however placed at strategic points for volunteers to spread during icy conditions. *Warning signs* SCC (24.2.93) had advised Mr Boutcher would be inspecting the relevant section of Bures Road & such signs as considered necessary in order to identify the hazard would be provided. There was however a delay on ordering & it would probably be May before the signs were actually erected on site.
 - c) **PARKING/9 The Gurdons.** BDC (1.2.93) had confirmed the formation of a vehicular access required the specific grant of planning permission by the Local Planning Authority & the occupiers of the property concerned had been contacted accordingly & the PC would be kept informed of the outcome of the matter.
 - d) **PLAYING FIELD** Clerk advised Charity Commission had intimated confirmation that this had been officially vested in The Official Custodian could be expected within two weeks.
 - e) **STREET LIGHTING** The proposal to replace Post Office fitting & possibly one other was not straightforward. To make photocell work on Post Office fitting + another, new fittings would have to be wired to the main which would involve actual cost of lamp plus additional wiring costs which could add another £100. Clerk had been advised timeswitch on this section at present would override photocell. Eastern Electricity's reply/recommendation (9.3.93) had thus been to replace all four fittings on this section which the existing timeswitch controlled for which the overall cost would be £747.85 + VAT. This they considered a more economic proposition. After some discussion the PC decided the current solution would be to replace the lamp fitting at the Post Office location only using the existing timeswitch for which it was understood the cost would be approx. £190. (Pr. CH, scd JS).
- Notification had been received from EE advising Maintenance Agreement charges from 1 April were to be increased by 4%.
- f) **TELEPHONE BOX** Despite a poor response from the village, the PC unanimously agreed to retain the existing red box (pr. CH, scd GD) & the Clerk was requested to make the necessary arrangements for same to be listed.
 - g) **SEWERAGE** A reply (9/3) had been received from Mr S F Schleip/Principal Engineer BDC confirming that The Gurdons cesspools required pumping out on approx. once a week basis & should collections not be timed correctly the tanks would overflow. They would thus endeavour to improve the pumping out arrangement. Whilst consideration had been given to installing a permanent pumping arrangement to discharge direct to the Assington Treatment Works the proposal was felt to be far too expensive for the tenants & householders concerned. As a matter of policy the Council did not propose any first time sewerage schemes and it was therefore unlikely that Assington would be main sewered in the near future. In response MJ commented that the tanks had been a temporary solution 21 years ago. CH felt it required the engineer on site to inspect & advise why they do not work with recommendations to improve & suggested the residents should try this approach. MJ to follow up.

Signed 

Date 24/3/93