

**Notes of a Special Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Friday 8th February 2008 at 7.00pm at Shotley Village Hall**

In attendance: Cllrs R Wrinch (Chair), D Armes, G Steel, J Catling, J Peters, N Bugg and T Ingram.
Clerk: L Rowlands, RFO: D Bedwell and seven members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence** - Annette Robinson (SCC), Cllrs Matthews (family illness) and Connell
2. **Declarations of interest** - None
3. **To discuss and consider quotation for repair of Breached Stour footpath and funding thereof**

3.1 It was resolved by 6 votes to 1 to accept the quotation of £12,500 subject to sight of suitable evidence of indemnity insurance upto £500,000 and a health and safety certificate as required by SCC – these items to be provided prior to work commencing. Clerk to progress.

3.2 It was noted that it would be difficult to demonstrate best value to our auditors as we have not obtained other quotations but it was felt that the urgency of the situation justified this.

3.3 It was also noted that SCC were statutorily responsible for the repair of Public Rights of Way, but they had let it be known that they considered this repair to be of low priority and their budget was severely limited although they were prepared to offer advice and contribute £5,800 towards the cost of repair. It was agreed therefore that the SPC needed to move this forward and apply for funds elsewhere.

3.4 The clerk advised that the funding position was as follows:

<u>POTENTIAL FUNDS FROM:</u>	£	<u>STATUS</u>
SCC	5,800	Available until end of March 2008
BELSP	3,000	Confirmed
Suffolk ACRE (Biffa)	?	Cllr Steel progressing - awaiting response
Locality Budget	500 to 1,000	To be confirmed
Haven Gateway	?	Cllr Clarke progressing
S106 Marina Development	?	Annette progressing
SPC	To cover any shortfall	Confirmed
Suffolk Coasts and Heaths	?	Clerk progressing - awaiting response
TOTAL	9,300	

This left a shortfall at the present time of £3,200 which it was resolved that SPC would provide in the event of no further funding being available.

4. **To receive comments from members of the public** – It was noted that several of the owners of properties in Estuary Road had approached SCC on many occasions in order to request a repair and had received assurances that the breach would be repaired. Not only had this not happened, but indeed the breach has got worse with the result that the path was closed during the summer of 2007.
5. **To consider any further urgent items** - None
6. **Date of next Parish Council meeting: 21 February 2008, 7.15pm, Shotley Village Hall (Large Committee Room)**