

COOKLEY & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, October 20th 2020 at 7pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. Z. Mair (Chairman); Cllr. C. Leggett (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. L. Andrews; Cllr. R. Chase; Cllr. J. Lewis; Cllr. C. Northover and Cllr. J. Winter:

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk) and District and County Cllr. S. Burroughes (Arrived 8-50pm):

1) Apologies:

Apologies from Cllr. M. Porter were accepted.

The Chairman and Clerk explained that former Cllrs. Cask and Whitwood have had to vacate office for not coming to a meeting for six months.

2) To receive declarations of interest:

Cllr. Z. Mair declared an interest in CEA and Cookpole. Cllr. J. Lewis declared an interest as an employee of Suffolk County Council.

3) Requests for dispensations:

There were no requests for dispensations.

4) To receive a report from the County and District Councillor:

District and County Cllr. S. Burroughes was not at the meeting but the Chairman said that he had said that he had other Parish Council Meetings to go to and he would arrive late. It was agreed to hear his report when he arrived. This was after Item 19.

5) Public Session: Members of the public have fifteen minutes to ask questions on topics on the agenda.

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

6) To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on September 15th 2020:

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on September 15th 2020 were agreed with the following words 'that caused flooding' deleted in Item 8.

Proposer: Cllr. J. Winter:

Seconder: Cllr. R. Chase:

7) Brass Plaque for the Bench:

Cllr. Z. Mair said that the words had already been added to the bench and that Cllr. C. Northover would send the invoice to the Clerk.

8) Village Green:

Cllr. Z. Mair reported that the river project had been cancelled as Heveningham Hall had dropped out of the project.

She said that she believes that some trees needed to be planted and that the Christmas lights needed to be put up. Cllr. J. Winter said that he still had the lights and would put them up in November. Cllr. Z. Mair wondered if carols could be sung on the Green.

9) Highways and Speeding:

Cllr. Z. Mair reported that parishioners are complaining about speeding cars despite the police speeding van often being parked outside the cemetery. Cllr. R. Chase said that the Parish Council had completed all that it could do by buying the Speed Indicator Device (SID). Cllr. Z. Mair said that there is an HGV survey next year and which she hoped would show that HGV vehicles drive too fast through Walpole. Finally she said that the road surfaces were a disgrace with many roads having deep potholes

10) Emergency Plan:

Cllr. Z. Mair said that the group had still not met but that the review was in hand.

11) River Blyth Sign:

Cllr. Z. Mair said that now the Village Green was mainly completed, the sign for the River Blyth needed to be completed. Cllr. C. Northover suggested a laser cut sign which would be placed on the bridge. He said that this would cost around £100/£120. Cllr. Z. Mair asked if there were any examples/designs of these signs but she liked the idea in principle. Cllr. C. Leggett said that some parishioners had asked for a second bench for the Village Green. Councillors said that they would discuss this proposal further.

12) Cookley Sign:

Cllr. R. Chase said that the sign had been retrieved and it was currently in a parishioner's garage. He reported that this parishioner was painting the sign with special paints. Cllr. R. Chase said that Easitron had completed excellent work and it was agreed to pay them on receipt of an invoice. It was also agreed to look at the Walpole Village Sign as well.

Proposer: Cllr. J. Winter:

Seconder: Cllr. L. Andrews:

13) Cemetery Fence:

Cllr. Z. Mair thanked Cllr. C. Northover for getting rid of the wood from the former cemetery fence. It was decided not to plant trees to keep the openness.

Regulations 2015 which include advertising the contract opportunity on the Contracts Finder website and in OJEU.

g) A public contract in connection with the supply of gas, heat, electricity, drinking water, transport services, or postal services to the public; or the provision of a port or airport; or the exploration for or extraction of gas, oil or solid fuel with an estimated value in excess of £378,660 for a supply, services or design contract; or in excess of £4,733,252 for a works contract; or £663,540 for a social and other specific services contract (or other thresholds determined by the European Commission every two years and published in OJEU) shall comply with the relevant procurement procedures and other requirements in the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016.

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair:

Seconder: Cllr. C. Northover:

19) To receive reports on the:

Footpaths:

Cllr. Z. Mair said that she had walked to Cookley and noticed that some footpaths are very overgrown. Cllr. C. Northover said that the landowner should be cutting back the hedges. Cllr. J. Lewis said that he would speak to the landowners. Cllr. Z. Mair said that she had found a broken handrail and had informed Suffolk County Council.

Trees:

There was no report.

Cemetery:

There was no report.

CEA & Allotments:

Cllr. Mair reported that the skip had been very well used and that the allotments proposed to lay a hedge. She said that that District and County Cllr. S. Burroughes would be asked if he could contribute to the cost of laying the hedge.

Item No. 4 was taken here - To receive a report from the County and District Councillor:

District and County Cllr. S. Burroughes said that he had sent the usual written report to councillors but he highlighted that his two Councils had similar concerns with the Sizewell C project but the County Council had rejected the current proposals whilst East Suffolk Council had decided not to reject them. He said that with electric cars much more power would need to be generated and that the UK needed a mix of energy methods in supplying the electricity. He said that Bungay Pool had been renamed Waveney Valley and the completely newly renovated pool and gym with new facilities would be open soon.

Cllr. Z. Mair asked if the Pavilion could be one of the hundred electric points for vehicles and Cllr. L. Andrews wanted more electric points at petrol stations. District and County Cllr. S. Burroughes said that the Parish Council needed to put a plan together. Other questions from Councillors were about the 'Gull Wing' New Bridge in Lowestoft,

travellers coming to the area and homelessness to which District and County Cllr. S. Burroughes said that East Suffolk Council were building houses.

20) To receive agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting to be held on November 17th 2020:

There were no agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting.

The Meeting ended at 9-14pm.