

COOKLEY & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at 7-30pm at the Pavilion, Walpole on Tuesday, September 19th 2023.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. R. Chase (Chair); Cllr. C. Leggett (Vice-Chair); Cllr. L. Andrews; Cllr. J. Henson; Cllr. Z. Mair; Cllr. M. Porter and Cllr. A. Thomas:

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk); District Cllr. J. Ewart (Left 7-45pm) and County Cllr. S. Burroughes (Left 8-25pm):

1) Apologies:

Cllr. J. Clark, Cllr. J. Lewis and Cllr. J. Winter all gave their apologies which were accepted.

2) To receive declarations of interest:

Cllr. Z. Mair and Cllr. M. Porter declared an interest in Community Energy Action (CEA) and the Walpole and Cookley Playing Fields Association.

Cllr. J. Henson declared an interest in CEA and Allotments.

Cllr. A. Thomas declared an interest in CEA.

3) Requests for dispensations:

There were no requests for dispensations.

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

District Cllr. J. Ewart reported that the Community Partnership Meeting had been very good and she hoped that the Project Manager and the Parish Councils would now have a close partnership. She said that there had been some thefts recently and reported that the Police have a Police Officer assigned to the area and a list available online if the thefts that have taken place locally.

District Cllr. J. Ewart said that there was a list of grants available and that if the Parish Council had a large project for Cil Money to be used, the paperwork needed to be completed by February. She said that she could add the Parish Council to the list for Electricite De France (EDF) to visit with their presentation on Sizewell C.

Cllr. J. Henson asked about Social Housing. District Cllr. J. Ewart said that East Suffolk Council had a scheme where they could buy houses to be rented out as social housing. It was noted that there had been problems with the Neave Close Properties. District

Cllr. J. Ewart reported that if the Parish Council made a response that was different to the Planning Officers decision, it would be looked at by the District Councillors.

County Cllr. S. Burroughes reported that he had a Locality and Highways Budgets and therefore could pay for projects in the two parishes. He said that Suffolk Trading Standards had set up its 200th 'No Cold Calling Zone' and that Speeding was an issue too. County Cllr. S. Burroughes reported that Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) were returning and Suffolk County Council had won an award for its Social Care which he said was well-deserved as the staff worked very hard. He said that Suffolk County Council had opened a new Fire Training Centre and the Suffolk Fire Call Centre had been taken back under Suffolk County Council control.

County Cllr. S. Burroughes reported that Suffolk County Council wished to dispose of the Old School Building and was currently conducting a structural survey. He said that all County Councillors had £3000 in their budget to spend on signs and pictures of signs that needed to be replaced could be sent to Suffolk Highways. Cllr. R. Chase said that Church Hill had no signs warning of the sharp bend by Walpole Church. After some discussion, County Cllr. S. Burroughes said he would get a quote for signs and white paint for road warnings from Suffolk Highways. Buildings at Risk and Road Closures were also discussed with County Cllr. S. Burroughes.

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 July 18th 2023 and the Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on August 14th 2023.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on July 18th 2023 were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. J. Henson:

Seconder: Cllr. Z. Mair:

The Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on August 14th 2023 were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Thomas:

Seconder: Cllr. C. Leggett:

7) Highways:

It was agreed that the Highways had been discussed in the County and District Councillors' Report.

Cllr. M. Porter reported that potholes were being filled in.

8) Buildings at Risk and Village School Building:

It was agreed that Buildings at Risk and the Village School Building had been discussed in the County and District Councillors' Report.

It was noted that Walpole and Cookley Playing Fields Association would discuss holding a public meeting with a view to developing a plan for the use of the Village School Building.

9) Proposed Footpath through Walpole:

It was reported that a Parishioner had asked for Parish Council support for a new pathway. It was agreed that the Chair would reply to the Parishioner and would ask County Cllr. S. Burroughes to consult Suffolk Highways.

10) New Bulb Planter:

Councillors agreed to buy a new bulb planter and for Cllr. M. Porter to continue managing its community use. It was reported that one could be purchased from Amazon for £36-48.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Thomas:

Seconder: Cllr. J. Henson:

11) David Cask Commemoration:

Cllr. Z. Mair reported that the commemoration was on the wall in the Pavilion. She said that an invoice would be received soon.

12) Noticeboards:

It was agreed to pay the invoice for the refurbishment of the four noticeboards.

Proposer: Cllr. C. Leggett:

Seconder: Cllr. L. Andrews:

13) Training:

It was noted that Cllr. J. Henson was booked on a course and Cllr. Z. Mair reported that she was still organising a First Aid course.

14) Planning Matters:

There were no planning matters.

15) Clerk's Report and Correspondence:

The Clerk reported that he had been informed that the Halesworth Climate Action Conference was taking place from September 29th until October 1st 2023. He said that he had received the 'Clerks and Councillors Newsletter', a letter from Barclays Bank asking for the Parish Council's details and that East Suffolk Council were holding a 'Custom and Self-Build Housing Consultation'.

The Clerk said that it had been suggested that the Parish Council could discuss a 'Criminal Behaviour Order' with the Police. It was agreed that Cllr. C. Leggett would talk to the Police about the possibility of a 'Criminal Behaviour Order' for the Cookley and Walpole Parishes.

Proposer: Cllr. R. Chase:

Seconder: Cllr. A. Thomas:

16) Insurance Renewal for 2023-2024:

Councillors agreed to renew the Community Action Suffolk Insurance for 2023-2024 and agreed to pay the premium of £434-10.

Proposer: Cllr. C. Leggett:

Seconder: Cllr. A. Thomas:

17) Financial Report:

a) Balances at the Bank on September 7th 2023:

Business Community Account	£5 769-49
Business Savings Account	£11 133-80

b) Payments and Receipts:

SO	Will Austin Contact – September 2023	£200-00
Internet Banking	Clerk's Exps for July until September 2023	£43-75
Internet Banking	Information Commissioner 2023-2024	£40-00
Internet Banking	Insurance Renewal 2023-2024	£434-10
Internet Banking	Refurbishment of the Four Noticeboards	£1894-45

Receipts:

BACS	Bank Interest – September 2023	£27-29
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The Financial Report and the Payments and Receipts were accepted.

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair:

Seconder: Cllr. L. Andrews:

18) To receive reports and to agree matters regarding:

Footpaths:

Cllr. Z. Mair said that there was no report.

Trees:

Cllr. C. Leggett said that there was no report.

Cemetery:

The Clerk reported that he had asked a Gravedigger for an estimate to lay out the Cemetery and have a number for each plot. He said that he was awaiting the estimate.

The Clerk said that he had received a request for a burial reservation and the Parish Council had been asked for their agreement to an inscription for a gravestone. Councillors gave their approval to the words.

CEA & Allotments:

Cllr. Z. Mair said that the Community Energy Action (CEA) was being wound up although this would take some time. She suggested that the Parish Council could perhaps take on the Willows which would need to be mown. It was noted that the leases needed to be found. Cllr. Z. Mair also said that the website needed to be rejuvenated and Suffolk Cloud needed to be contacted.

Cllr. J. Henson said that the Allotments would be taking over from the CEA the organisation of the Annual Fruit Pick with the proceeds going to the Allotments.

19) To receive agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting to be held on October 17th 2023:

It was agreed to review the Cemetery Fees at the next Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday, October 17th 2023 at 7-30pm.

The Meeting ended at 9-41pm.