

COOKLEY & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at 7-30pm at the Pavilion, Walpole on Tuesday, October 22nd 2024.

Minutes:

Present:

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

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk) and District Cllr. J. Ewart (Left 8-20pm):

1) Apologies:

Cllr. L. Andrews gave his apologies which was accepted by the Councillors.

County Cllr. S. Burroughes also gave his apologies.

2) To receive declarations of interest:

Cllr. J. Henson declared an interest in the Allotments, Neave Close and the Pear Tree Centre.

Cllr. J. Lewis declared an interest in Suffolk County Council.

Cllr. Z. Mair and Cllr. M. Porter declared an interest in the Walpole and Cookley Playing Fields Trust.

3) Requests for dispensations:

There were no requests for dispensations.

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

It was noted that County Cllr. S. Burroughes had sent a written report.

District Cllr. J. Ewart reported that construction of a new roundabout in Yoxford was about to start and there was some discussion on speeding and the new roundabout.

District Cllr. J. Ewart said that the river was being cleared with much work taking place in Heveningham. She said that the Environment Agency had attended a recent meeting on flooding and a leaflet on emergencies was being distributed to parishioners. A Councillor said that the rivers needed clearing and they said that there were still fallen trees from the 1987 storm still in the river.

District Cllr. J. Ewart reported that Community Action Suffolk was conducting a Health and Wellbeing survey on behalf of East Suffolk Council and if a locality has a poor mobile signal, it should campaign for a better one. She advised that the Parish Council should be working on the project now to raise the Pavilion above the Flood Level and

in order to apply for money from the Community Infrastructure Levy Fund held by East Suffolk Council. District The Chair believed that advice was needed regarding the project and Cllr. J. Ewart agreed to ask for advice from the County Surveyor.

District Cllr. J. Ewart said that on November 2nd, a bus would be going to Aldeburgh and Southwold at 9-30am and would be returning at 3-30pm. Councillors asked that perhaps Walpole and other villages could have a weekly bus to Halesworth.

District Cllr. J. Ewart reported that there was a development planned nearby which could bring more traffic and on January 18th, she was planning a meeting for councillors and clerks from all her local Parish Councils to meet at the Huntingfield Hub at 3-30pm.

A Councillor said that some ambulances took too long to get to parishioners. Some councillors agreed but others had found ambulances had not taken long to reach them. It was also asked how the parishes could have a flood plan. Cllr. Z. Mair said that the parishes could get a notification of flooding.

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

There were no parishioners at the meeting.

6) To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on September 17th 2024:

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on September 17th 2024 were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. R. Chase:

Seconder: Cllr. J. Winter:

7) Highways and B1117 Traffic:

It was noted that County Cllr. S. Burroughes had contacted Suffolk County Council asking how much traffic surveys cost in response to a parishioner at the last meeting concerned about speeding traffic. The response was that traffic surveys cost £435 for the first one and £200 for subsequent ones placed out in the same area on the same day, so it was suggested doing all required surveys at the same time. Finally, it was reported that County Cllr. S. Burroughes would be looking for at least a 50% contribution from the PC.

Councillors discussed looking at a 40mph speed limit on the Peasenhall Road from the end of the 30mph speed limit in Walpole to the past the bends and that the Bramfield Road needed to perhaps have a speed limit as well. Councillors agreed to pay 50% of the cost of the traffic surveys on the understanding that County Cllr. S. Burroughes would contribute the remainder of the cost.

Proposer: Cllr. M. Porter:

Seconder: Cllr. J. Henson:

8) Cemetery Fees Review:

Councillors reviewed the Cemetery Price List and agreed a new Cemetery Price List to begin on November 1st 2024.

Proposer: Cllr. C. Leggett:

Seconder: Cllr. J. Lewis:

9) Neave Close:

It was reported that Flagship had organised a 'Drop-In' between 4-30pm and 6pm on Thursday, October 24th at the Pavilion, Walpole and

It was also reported that turning the Willows into a biodiverse area was being discussed.

10) Training:

Cllr. Z. Mair reported that she was completing her report on the Emergency Planning Course run by the Suffolk Resilience Forum and that she was continuing to plan the First Aid Course.

11) Planning Matters:

There were no planning applications.

Cllr. Z. Mair reported on the Buildings at Risk.

12) Clerk's Report and Correspondence:

The Clerk reported that he had received a brochure from Glasdon and letters from the Lighthouse Women's Aid who would like a donation, HMRC notifying that the Penalty Notice had been cancelled and from Barclays Bank informing the Parish Council that the Business Premium Account Interest Rate has fallen from 1.5% to 1.4%.

The Clerk said that the Insurance Renewal had been accepted and he had received emails regarding the ownership of land, potholes, grit bins and Flooding and Highways Forums. He also reported that councillors had met with Flagship and as noted earlier in the meeting, Flagship are hiring the Pavilion for a 'Drop-In' session.

13) Financial Report:

a) Balances at the Bank on October 7th 2024:

Business Community Account	£9 121-77
Business Savings Account	£11 298-38

b) Payments and Receipts:

Payments:

Internet Banking	Will Austin Contact – November 2024	£220-00
Internet Banking	Will Austin Contact – December 2024	£220-00
Internet Banking	Clerk's Salary – July until September 2024	£1166-10

Internet Banking	Clerk’s Expenses – July until September 2024	£43-75
Internet Banking	SALC Six-Months Payroll Service	£22-80
Internet Banking	W & C PFT Meetings at Pavilion Invoice	£220-00
Internet Banking	W & C PFT Flagship Meeting at Pavilion Invoice	£20-00

Receipts:

BACS	Precept Second Payment 2024-2025	£5500-00
200102	Cemetery Additional Inscription	£65-00

Councillors agreed to accept the Financial Report.

Proposer: Cllr. R. Chase: Second: Cllr. Z. Mair:

14) To receive reports and to agree matters regarding

Footpaths:

It was reported that a footpath had been blocked by a fence.

Trees:

There was nothing to report.

Cemetery:

The Clerk said that an additional inscription was being added to a gravestone.

Allotments:

Cllr. J. Henson reported that around 120 bottles of apple juice had been produced from apples from the allotments and from other villages nearby.

She also reported that a Basket Weaving Event was taking place on November 9th 2024.

15) To receive agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting:

The Clerk said that the Budget and Precept would be on the agenda.

The Meeting ended at 9-22pm.