



Mutford PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

held at Mutford & Rushmere Village Hall

on Monday 7th November 2022

Commencing at 7.00pm

94/22 Present

MPC Cllrs Neil Glendinning (Chair), David Greenacre, Jenny Sheahan, Richard Read, Herbert Tonkin, Martin Warnes, ESC Cllr Rivett, Angela Colbridge (Clerk), One member of the public

95/22 Apologies for absence

MPC Cllr Robinson, SCC Cllr Cloke

96/22 Declarations of Interest

None

97/22 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council of Monday 3rd October 2022
It was proposed by Cllr Sheahan, seconded by Cllr Greenacre that the minutes of the meeting of 3rd October 2022 be accepted as a true record. This was agreed. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

98/22 Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda

New Speed Indicator Device

Councillors have been discussing this subject at recent meetings and are researching the cost and possible position of a new SID on the Western end of Hulver Road.

99/22 Chairman's item

None

99/22 Correspondence

99/22/1 Email received from Defibrillator contact

The Clerk informed councillors that confirmation had been received to say that the replacement pads for the defibrillator were now fitted with a new expiry date of 28/12/2024 and that, for future reference, the defibrillator will work with out of date pads but shows red on the indicator. Replacement batteries, at a current cost of £300, will need changing in two years time, along with the pads.

99/22/2 Email from Suffolk Police Community Engagement Officer

The Clerk informed councillors that Suffolk Police had replied to the Councils query on A146 road closures and subsequent diversions taking traffic through Mutford. Suffolk Police stated that their main priority is dealing with the incident and, unless a member of the public asks, they do not normally advise a diversionary route, advising that we contact Highways. After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would contact Suffolk Police to ask about the location points of the road closures and whether they can be positioned so as to encourage traffic to divert to a major road rather than through Mutford village.

Signed Chairman _____ Clerk _____ Date _____

99/22/3 Letter from Mutford & Rushmere Village Hall Committee

MPC Cllr Glendinning shared with the Council that a letter had been received from the Village Hall Committee following Mutford Parish Councils reply to a behavioural complaint in Mutford Play Area in July.

99/22/4 Email received from Headway Suffolk

The Clerk informed council that Headway Suffolk were appealing to Parish Councils to support them via making a donation. Council discussed the request and it was agreed that, although it would be nice to support the charity, Parish Councils are not permitted to make financial contributions to charities.

99/22/5 Email received from ESC with Estimated Election Costs

The Clerk shared with Council information received detailing the estimated costs for the elections to take place in May 2023.

99/22/6 Email received from ESC regarding Precept for 2023/24

The Clerk informed Councillors that ESC have requested Mutford Parish Council's Precept requirement by no later than 27th January 2023.

100/22 Finance

100/22/1 Approval of Outstanding invoices

Roberts & Son Newsletter printing October £40
Roberts and Son Newsletter printing November £40
Robin Mills Playground Maintenance October £40
SALC payroll service provision 6 month period ending 30/09/22 £9
Clerk wages September/October 2022 £500
Clerk expenses - Stationary £34.94
Proposed by Cllr Sheahan, seconded by Cllr Glendinning

100/22/2 Receipts

ESC Neighbourhood CIL payment October £99

100/22/3 Account Balance - Rolling Estimate

The Clerk noted an estimated current balance of £10,835.14

101/22 Planning

To consider any planning applications

None

To receive outcomes of planning applications from ESC

DC/22/3480/FUL - Rear extension following part demolition of existing conservatory - Willow Lodge, Hulver Road, Mutford, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7UL

Application permitted

102/22 Reports

102/22/1 ESC

ESC Cllr Rivett stated that it had been announced that Chris Bally had been appointed as new Chief Executive of East Suffolk Council, taking over from Stephen Baker who is retiring.

ESC's customer services have temporarily been relocated to Lowestoft Library.

Digital champions are now on hand to help East Suffolk residents to get online, volunteers can help residents with online needs such as using East Suffolk Council online services and online shopping.

Free-to-use public Wi-Fi has been launched in Beccles, an addition to the previous launch in Lowestoft.

A 'Become a Councillor' is being held on Monday 14th November at East Suffolk Council's Riverside building in Lowestoft at 6pm.

Colin Law Way at Gull Wing Bridge in Lowestoft was formally opened on Friday November 4th.

A drop-in session for information about hosting Ukrainian guests is being held in Lowestoft on Wednesday 9th November at the Kirkley Centre on London Road South.

East Suffolk Council is offering free festive parking after 4pm in council-owned car parks on certain dates over the coming weeks including Lowestoft on Saturday 3rd December and Beccles on Friday 25th November.

Cllr Glendinning took this opportunity to thank Cllr Rivett for ESC's recent contribution to the repairs of the Rotabounce at Mutford Play Area.

102/22/2 SCC – Cllr Cloke, via email October 2022:

Budget - Suffolk County Council is keen to hear from Suffolk residents, businesses and local communities as it decides its budget for next year. An online survey has been launched and a number of focus groups will be held for you to have your say on the services which are important to you. A summary of your responses will be included in the report considered by the council when agreeing the budget in February 2023. The Suffolk County Council Budget Survey can now be accessed via the Suffolk County Council website.

Speeding Traffic - Speeding motorists are to be targeted with a mobile number plate recognition system to be rolled out across Suffolk. ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) and SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices) will be rotated around sites where there is a problem with speeding or rat-running on roads with a 20 or 30mph speed limit. The devices, 10 in total, will display the speeds of drivers to them as they approach, encouraging them to slow down. If they continue to ignore the speed limit the ANPR camera will take a picture of them and record the date, time, speed, vehicle registration and photo of the vehicle. The information will be shared with Police. This project is part of the Suffolk Roadside Partnership between Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Constabulary. Suffolk County Council provided £400,000 from the 2020 Fund to support a two-year trial. A grant of £30,000 has also been awarded by the Road Safety Trust to evaluate the project and establish whether the camera scheme is effective in reducing speeding.

Registry Office - From Tuesday 4th October, registrations of births and deaths, together with Notices of Marriage/Civil partnerships and Early Bird ceremonies will take place at Endeavour House.

102/22/3 Police – no report

103/22 Playground update

103/22/1 Rotabounce repairs

The Clerk informed council that the repairs to the Rotabounce were carried out on 13th October and the piece of playground equipment was now up and running.

103/22/2 FreeRide seat clearance issue as raised on annual playground inspection report from Waveney Norse

The Clerk informed councillors that, after contacting the matting company to make them aware of the insufficient air gap on the FreeRide (as set by British Standards) since their installation of the matting, they had replied to suggest that we replace the chains, as they are getting worn, and adjust the length at the same time. As the chains are not requiring replacement at the moment it was agreed that the Clerk would go back to the matting company with a request that they rectify the situation as a matter of urgency. It was also agreed that the insurance company would be copied in on the correspondence with the matting company.

This was proposed by Cllr Sheahan, seconded by Cllr Tonkin.

103/22/3 Play Area Signage

A discussion was held on acquiring signage for the play area to cover Location Postcode and 'What 3 Words' to assist in the event of emergency services being called to the facility and Facility contact information for maintenance issues.

It was agreed that the Clerk will investigate the cost of signage. This was proposed by Cllr Sheahan and seconded by Cllr Tonkin.

Signed Chairman _____ Clerk _____ Date _____

104/22 On-road parking in the vicinity of the crossroads

It was reported to the Council that a number of residents had complained about the issue of on-road parking in the vicinity of the crossroads and the dangers this presents. After a discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would write to all houses in the area to remind them not to park vehicles within the immediate vicinity of the crossroads (Hulver Road/ Church Road/Beccles Road/Mill Road) as this is in breach of the Highway Code rule that requires people to park at least 10 metres away from a junction. As a longer term solution, it was agreed that the Clerk would investigate the cost of having location appropriate 'yellow lines' painted on the road in this area. This was proposed by Cllr Warnes, seconded by Cllr Greenacre.

105/22 Clerk Training opportunities

The Clerk informed Councillors of two training opportunities which are available via SALC at a cost of £30 plus VAT per session. These would be beneficial to a new Parish Council Clerk with regards to finance. It was agreed that the Clerk should attend these training sessions. Proposed by Cllr Glendinning, seconded by Cllr Warnes.

106/22 Mutford Crossroads Signage

Following discussions regarding the current signage on Beccles Road, Hulver Road and Mill Road in the vicinity of, and approaching the crossroads, it was decided that the Clerk would contact Highways to discuss the possibility of further signage in the area.

107/22 Adjournment for questions from members of the public

Following receipt of a letter from a resident, Councillors discussed several issues raised and agreed to include an item in the next issue of the Mutford News newsletter about home security following recent burglaries, and to contact Suffolk Highways regarding improved road signs. It was also agreed to investigate the possibility of siting an additional post for the Speed Indicator Device (SID) at the western end of Hulver Road.

108/22 Any other business of which due notice has been given

Cllr Warnes reported to Council that, as Mutford Church Warden, he had taken on the responsibility of maintaining the Millennium tree. Cllr Glendinning thanked Cllr Warnes.

109/22 Requests for items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting

Precept and budget

110/22 Date and time of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Council will be Monday 5th December 2022 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 20:14 pm.

Signed Chairman _____ Clerk _____ Date _____