



Mutford PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

held at Mutford & Rushmere Village Hall

on Monday 5th December 2022

Commencing at 7.00pm

111/22 Present

Cllrs Neil Glendinning (Chair), David Greenacre, Richard Read, Herbert Tonkin, Theresa Robinson, Martin Warnes, Angela Colbridge (Clerk), Members of the public x 3

112/22 Apologies for absence

MPC Cllr Sheahan, SCC Cllr Cloke, ESC Cllr Rivett, ESC Cllr Ceresa

113/22 Declarations of Interest

None

114/22 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council of Monday 7th November 2022

It was proposed by Cllr Warnes, seconded by Cllr Tonkin that the minutes of the meeting of 7th November 2022 be accepted as a true record. This was agreed. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

115/22 Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda

None

116/22 Chairman's item

None

117/22 Correspondence

117/22/1 Email received from ESC - Cycling and Walking Strategy

The Clerk informed councillors that an email had been received from ESC that the Cycling and Walking Strategy has been adopted and that the full document can be viewed online.

117/22/2 Email from ESC - Renewal of Public Space Protection Orders

The Clerk informed councillors that an email had been received listing the PSPO's being proposed for renewal in 2023. A consultation is now open inviting people to give their views on the proposed renewals. The consultation closes at 5pm on 8th January 2023.

117/22/3 Email from resident - Fireworks and Bonfires

The clerk informed councillors that a resident had brought forward their concerns over the amount of fireworks going off and also asking for a curb on bonfires. A piece on this issue was included in the December issue of Mutford News

117/22/4 Suffolk Police - A146 Road Closures

The Clerk read out an email response from Suffolk Police to the Parish Councils recent query about diversions and positioning of road closures. The councils query has been forwarded to the locality Inspector. They have also suggested that we communicate with Suffolk Highways on this matter. The clerk informed councillors that Suffolk Highways have been contacted.

Signed Chairman _____ Clerk _____ Date _____

117/22/5 Email received from The Village Hall Committee

The Clerk informed councillors that The Village Hall Committee had asked for advice on the possible installation of WiFi in the village hall. An option suggested by councillors was TP Link. The Clerk will look into this option and liaise with The Village Hall Committee.

117/22/6 East Suffolk Council - Electoral Register

ESC have sent out correspondence with regards to the option of the Parish Council receiving a copy of the full Electoral Register upon request. After a brief discussion, it was decided that the Parish Council would not need a copy of the full register at this time.

117/22/7 SAAA (Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments) - External Auditors

The Clerk informed councillors that notification has been received to confirm that our external auditors for the five year period 2022-23 until 2026/27 will be PKF Littlejohn LLP.

117/22/8 Email from resident - On-road parking in the vicinity of the crossroads

The Clerk informed councillors that an email had been received from a resident regarding the white van that is regularly parked in the lay-by on Church Road near to the crossroads, concerned that it causes a hazard by blocking the view to the right if you are trying to exit Mill Road in any direction. A discussion was held and councillors agreed that it did hinder visibility when exiting Mill Road and that it also blocked access to a public amenity (the telephone box book exchange). It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Suffolk Highways for advice.

118/22 Finance

118/22/1 Approval of Outstanding invoices

Waveney Norse provision of play area inspection - £78

SALC - Provision of Clerk training - £72

Jenny Sheahan expenses - Mutford News distribution and spare part for SID battery connectors - £21

Robin Mills Playground Maintenance November - £50

Proposed by Cllr Glendinning, seconded by Cllr Warnes

118/22/2 Account Balance - Rolling Estimate

The Clerk noted an estimated current balance of £10,171.21

118/22/3 Budget Approval

The Clerk put forward a proposed budget for the financial year 2023-24. This was agreed by the council. Proposed by Cllr Tonkin and seconded by Cllr Warnes

118/22/4 Precept

The Clerk informed Councillors that East Suffolk Council had sent a formal request for Mutford Parish Councils precept for 2023/24. This would need to be received by no later than 27th January 2023. After a brief discussion, where councillors were conscious of the current cost of living crisis and the benefit to parishioners of not increasing the precept, it was agreed by full council that the precept request would be set at £6496.04. This would be representative of a 0% change on the 2023/24 council tax bill. This was proposed by Cllr Tonkin and seconded by Cllr Warnes.

119/22 Planning

To consider any planning applications

119/22/1 DC/22/4434/FUL - Oakland Lodge, Mutford Wood, Mutford, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 8HG - Rear extension and materials

It was agreed that council had no objections to the proposed application. The Clerk will make comment on the planning application to this effect.

119/22/2 DC/22/4639/FUL - 40 Mill Road, Mutford, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7UR - Single Storey Rear Extension

It was agreed that council had no objections to the proposed application. The Clerk will make comment on the planning application to this effect.

To receive outcomes of planning applications from ESC

None

120/22 Reports

120/22/1 ESC - No report

120/22/2 SCC – Cllr Cloke, via email November 2022 - East Suffolk Council will begin engagement with local communities following the launch of consultation on two major energy projects. National Grid Ventures (NGV) and National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) have launched consultations on the EuroLink and Sea Link projects. Sea Link is a domestic interconnector between Suffolk and Kent, required for network reinforcements, while EuroLink is an international, multi-purpose interconnector between the Netherlands and Suffolk. Both are informal and non-statutory consultations, followed next year by formal, statutory consultations. NGV and NGET are seeking comments and feedback on their potential landfall, cable route and converter station options. The consultations will last eight weeks until 18 December 2022. They will include some face-to-face events and webinars.

The East Suffolk Greenprint Forum is hosting an event to hear about the need for community resilience in the face of climate change, how communities are already making positive changes to become more resilient, and what more communities want to do. If interested, you can register via [Forthcoming events > East Suffolk Council](#). A flyer has been published [Climate-Resilient Communities-21-November-2022.pdf \(eastsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#) along with this press release [Environmental forum to focus on Climate Resilient Communities » East Suffolk Council](#).

On October 11th the Council's Cabinet agreed to a new wave of funding to continue its programme to provide places for children and young people with SEND. The £3million agreement marks the start of Phase 3 of the Capital Programme to create three additional specialist units providing 42 additional places for students with special educational needs and disabilities. This follows Phase 1 of the programme which created 825 new places across Suffolk and Phase 2, which was signed off in June 2022, and will create up to 73 new places.

Suffolk County Council is asking anyone with spare space to consider signing up to host a Ukrainian family.

Some Ukrainian guests, who arrived in the UK via the Homes for Ukraine scheme, have now been with their sponsors for six months. Sponsors of the Homes for Ukraine scheme originally signed up to host guests for at least six months, with the option for those who are willing and able to continue beyond this. Not all hosts are able to continue to offer accommodation to guests beyond six months and some of those guests are not yet ready to move on to private rented accommodation. The county is now in need of new hosts to offer them a safe haven while the war in Ukraine continues. The council is looking for a wide range of homes for single people, mothers with children, and larger families. Areas in particular need of new hosts are Bury St Edmunds, Felixstowe, Haverhill, Ipswich and Lowestoft. Self-contained accommodation is particularly helpful, for instance an annexe, holiday let or second home. It is now possible to register with Suffolk County Council if you are interested in hosting a Ukrainian family – visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/ukraine to find out

Signed Chairman _____ Clerk _____ Date _____

more. In partnership with the County Council, Community Action Suffolk are holding a number of drop-in sessions over the coming weeks, for potential new hosts to find out more about hosting a Ukrainian family. There will be opportunities to ask questions and understand more about what is involved, including what makes a suitable property, what checks they will need to undertake and more information about the matching process. The events are aimed at anyone who is interested in hosting Ukrainian guests, either in their own home or a separate property that they own.

120/22/3 Police – no report

121/22 Playground update

121/22/1 FreeRide

The Clerk informed council that Matta Products have attended the Play Area site to rectify the air gap issue with this piece of play equipment. They have uplifted the Matta and relaid it lower.

121/22/2 Covid Sign on Play Area Fencing

A discussion was held on whether Council thought it was time to take down the 'Covid Regulations' sign on the play area fencing. It was agreed that, as social distancing and self-isolation rules have now changed, the sign could be taken down. This was proposed by Cllr Tonkin and seconded by Cllr Robinson.

122/22 Adjournment for questions from members of the public

122/22/1 A member of the public asked the Council for assistance with an issue with the Bridleway that is situated between Mill Road and Holly Lane which is narrow in places due to hedgerow overgrowth. After a discussion it was agreed that, in the first instance, the Clerk would contact SCC Footpaths and Bridleways to identify who is responsible for the hedgerows with a view to asking for them to be cut back.

122/22/2 A member of the public brought to the attention of the Council an issue with fly-tipping at and around the allotments in the village. Concerns were discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the local authorities to make them aware of the issue.

123/22 Any other business of which due notice has been given

123/22/1 An update was received prior to the meeting from Cllr Sheahan on the proposed new Speed Indicator Device. Based on the previous application, it could take 3-4 months before the new post is installed.

123/22/2 Planning Reference SCC/0124/22W Construction and operation of anaerobic digestion plant and associated infrastructure - Land at Copeland Way, Ellough, Beccles, NR34 7TL

Details of this consultation were forwarded to Mutford Parish Council on Saturday 3rd December, comments on the application to be made by 23rd December 2022. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that MPC would strongly object to this consultation. The possibility of raising awareness of this amongst parishioners was discussed with a view to informing residents via the community chain email. It was agreed that the Clerk would make contact with MP Peter Aldous and ESC Cllr Rivett to voice our concerns. This was proposed by Cllr Glendinning and seconded by Cllr Greenacre.

124/22 Requests for items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting

None

125/22 Date and time of next meeting. The next meeting of the Council will be Monday 6th February 2023 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8:18 pm.

Signed Chairman _____ Clerk _____ Date _____