



Mutford PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

held at Mutford & Rushmere Village Hall

on Monday 5th February 2024 at 7pm

130/23 Present

MPC Cllr Warnes (Chair), Cllr Greenacre, Cllr Read, Cllr Wilby, Cllr Simpson,
In attendance Angela Colbridge (Clerk), ESC Cllr Scrancher
Members of the public x 3

131/23 Apologies for absence

MPC Cllr Glendinning, SCC Cllr J Cloke, ESC Cllr Rivett

132/23 Declaration of interest personal or prejudicial to this agent

There were no declarations of interest

133/23 Councillor Vacancy/Co-option - Update

An expression of interest in the remaining councillor vacancy had been received and a co-option form had been completed by the interested party. It was agreed that John Armstrong would be co-opted onto the Parish Council. **Proposed by Cllr Simpson, Seconded by Cllr Greenacre.**
The new councillor signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.

134/23 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council of Monday 4th December 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr Read, seconded by Cllr Wilby, that the minutes of the meeting of 4th December 2023 be accepted as a true record. This was agreed. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

A discussion was held on publishing draft minutes within a month of the meeting in which they were taken. It was agreed that draft minutes would be published once agreed by the Chair. **Proposed by Cllr Greenacre, Seconded by Cllr Read.**

135/23 Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda

None

136/23 Chairs Item

The Chair reported that the handover of responsibility of the Speed Indicator Device should happen by the end of the month.

137/23 Reports

137/23/1 East Suffolk Council

ESC Cllr Scrancher reported the following:

The Lowestoft Tidal Barrier project has been halted as further funding is sourced. There is currently a £124 million funding gap.

Seafront improvement is set to progress this spring with monies from the Government Towns Fund.

A redevelopment project at Jubilee Parade is due to begin this month. More information can be found on the ESC website.

ESC has introduced a further route for Planning Applications to be determined by the Planning Committees. This is known as the 'Planning Committee Member Call-In process'.

The Clerk has detailed information on this new process after attending a recent Town and Parish Forum and will forward this information to councillors.

Signed Chair _____ Clerk _____ Date _____

137/23/2 Suffolk County Council - No report

137/23/3 Police – The Clerk reported the following updates from the Police.Uk website: November 2023 - 1 x reported crime on or near Mutfordwood Lane (Criminal damage and arson), 1 x reported crime on or near Mutfordwood Lane (Violence and sexual offences). December 2023 - 1 x reported crime on or near Mutfordwood Lane (violence and sexual offences).

138/23 Correspondence

138/23/1 Suffolk Highways - Safety works at crossroads

The Clerk informed council that Suffolk Highways have confirmed that works will be delivered on site within 14 weeks of 04/01/2024, to include warning signs and SLOW road markings.

138/23/2 Suffolk Highways - Holly Lane Bridleway

The Clerk reported that the planned works on the Holly Lane Bridleway were due to start Week commencing 25/12/2023. Cllr Simpson confirmed that the works had been completed.

138/23/3 East Suffolk Council - Guidance on nuisance caused by noise

East Suffolk Council have provided information on who to contact in the event of noise disturbances in the village, specifically relating to noise from aircraft, following reports from residents of issues. This information will be included in a future edition of the Mutford News.

138/23/4 Suffolk Highways - Junction re-instatement costings

The Clerk gave details of estimated costings to re-instate a gravel triangle, and subsequent installation of 'ghost' traffic island road markings on Mutford Wood in Mutford.

138/23/5 Suffolk County Council Passenger Transport - Bus Service Improvement Plan

The Clerk informed council that Mutford has not been successful in receiving funding for a bus route through the village at this round of funding from the Department of Transport. The total funding 'ask' of all the schemes combined came to more than double the amount of the grant from the DfT over the next two years. An application for funding may be considered in the future if it can be demonstrated that the parish council could fund the service after any grant allocation is used up and if it is shown that all current options, including community transport, have been explored.

138/23/6 BACT - Community transport information

The Clerk relayed information received from BACT on local transport options for residents. This information will be included in the next edition of the Mutford News and on the website.

138/23/7 SALC - DDAY 80

SALC have forwarded suggestions for commemorating DDay 80 on 6th June 2024. The Clerk will forward the information to the Village Hall Committee.

138/23/8 Potters Bridge - Petition

The Clerk informed council that a petition has been started asking Therese Coffey MP to intervene and compel both the Environment Agency and Suffolk County Council to work together to establish a regular maintenance scheme around the Potter's Bridge area of the B1127, so keeping it open. It was agreed that MPC would sign the petition and write to Therese Coffey MP and Peter Aldous MP regarding this matter. **Proposed by Cllr Simpson, Seconded by Cllr Greenacre.**

138/23/9 Sizewell C - Planning Forum

Mutford Parish Council have been invited to nominate one elected councillor or clerk to attend the Sizewell C Forum in Ipswich on 9th April 2024. This will be discussed further at the parish council meeting in March.

139/23 Finance

139/23/1 Approval of Outstanding invoices

R Sawyer Playground Maintenance December 2023 £42.50 / January 2024 £42.50 (the clerk noted some adjustments to the monthly payments)
Clerks wages December 2023/January 2024 £500
Mutford and Rushmere Village Hall Committee Hire of Hall £130 (the clerk noted there will be a price increase from April 2024 to £15 per session)
Roberts & Son newsletter printing February 2024 £40
D. Benham Newsletter expenses x 9 months £36.08
Proposed by Cllr Greenacre, Seconded by Cllr Simpson

139/23/2 Account balance

The Clerk noted a rolling estimate of £10,735.63

140/23 Planning

140/23/1 To consider any planning applications

None

140/23/2 To receive outcomes of planning applications from ESC

DC/23/4323/FUL - Single storey side extension, Peacehaven, 92 Mill Road, Mutford, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7UP **Application Permitted**

140/23/3 Other Planning Matters

i) SCC/0124/22W - Construction and operation of anaerobic digestion plant and associated infrastructure, Land at Copland Way, Ellough, Beccles, NR34 7TL -

Cllr Warnes attended a meeting with representatives of other local councils on 3rd January 2024 where concerns were discussed on this application.

The Clerk noted that this matter will go to a Planning Committee Meeting, the date of which is currently unknown. MPC will look to send a representative to this Committee.

ii) V.C.Cooke - Application for an environmental permit -

The Clerk informed council that an environmental permit to operate a small waste incineration plant was issued by ESC on 20/12/23 with conditions on the permit.

141/23 Ayers Acres repeated flooding/Blocked ditches

Reports have been made to the Parish Council of blocked ditches in the village and repeated flooding in Chapel Road by Ayers Acres. Some research has been done on the Environmental Agency website to determine who is responsible for issues concerning blocked ditches and flooding. The Clerk will contact the relevant persons/authorities.

142/23 Telephone box/Book swap - Update

The Clerk has contacted those residents who expressed an interest in helping with the Book Swap facility in the old Telephone Box to ask if they would consider working together as a small team. This will be progressed as soon as possible to improve this village amenity.

143/23 Community Litter Pick - Update

The Clerk updated council that equipment has been arranged for the community litter pick which is taking place on Saturday 24th February 2024. The event has been advertised in the Mutford News, in the noticeboard and on the Parish Council website.

144/23 Paddy's Pit

A discussion was held on how this area might be maintained going forward and whether Suffolk Wildlife Trust might be able to offer some advice.

Adjournment for questions from members of the public

No questions

145/23 Any other business of which due notice has been given

The council has been made aware of issues with blocked culverts, particularly one on Mill Road. After a short discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk would report this to Suffolk Highways.

The Parish Council were made aware of a concern which had been raised that the allotments might be being used for commercial purposes. It was suggested that this matter be taken up with the Mutford Welfare Trust. No action required by the PC at this time.

146/23 Requests for items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting

None

147/23 Date and time of next meeting. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 4th March 2024 at 7pm

The meeting closed at 20:07 pm.