

WATTISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
THE CHAPEL, CHAPEL ROAD, WATTISFIELD
MONDAY 17 OCTOBER 2022
7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Geoff Wade (Chairman) (GW)
Councillor Michael Eiflain (ME)
Councillor Ann Telford (AT)
Councillor Cynthia Penn (CP)
Councillor David Dyer (DD)
Councillor Richard Meyer (RM)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Christopher Garman (Parish Clerk) (CG)
County Councillor Jessica Fleming (JF)

Five members of public present.

GW welcomed all to the meeting.

22/113 PUBLIC FORUM

There was a presentation from representatives of Walsham le Willows Community Council explaining the working of the foodbank and again seeking financial support.

There was a request for action to be taken in respect of the poor state of repair and the dangerous situation in respect of the footpath on the A143. It was explained that the Parish Council took this seriously and had reported the situation on many occasions to Suffolk County Council. It was reported that RM, SG and JF had met with an engineer on site and explained the situation. The response from the engineer was positive and hopefully the work will be done shortly.

The chairperson of the Village Hall Working Group reported on progress with the refurbishment project. It was explained that there had been a good response to the village consultation and now architects were being approached to provide concept drawings of possible options to deliver a wish list developed from the consultation responses. It was advised that the Parish Council will be asked in due course to fund the architect's fees.

22/114 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- a) A report from County Councillor Jessica Fleming had been previously circulated and this was noted.
- b) A report from District Councillor Richard Meyer had been previously circulated and this was noted.

22/115 APOLOGIES

Councillor Sarah Goodchild (SG) had offered her apologies and these were accepted.

22/116 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

22/117 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None.

22/118 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meetings held on 18 July 2022 and 4 October 2022 had been previously circulated.

It was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meeting.

22/119 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

22/120 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

a) The following payments were considered for approval:

£31.20 to SALC - training

£360.00 to Wattisfield Community Centre and Recreation Ground – hall hire 2020/2021

£1163.90 to C Garman – Parish Clerk salary April to September 2022

£290.80 to HMRC – PAYE

£22.80 to SALC – payroll administration

£161.27 to C Garman – expenses July to September 2022

£571.90 to Zurich Insurance – Parish Council insurance.

It was resolved to approve these payments.

b) The income and expenditure statement with bank reconciliation and bank statement for the year to 30 September 2022 had been previously circulated. The income and expenditure were reviewed against budget together with the bank reconciliation and bank statements.

It was resolved to confirm that the bank reconciliation agreed with the bank statement.

c) The renewal documents for the insurance policy with Zurich Insurance has been previously circulated. These documents were reviewed to confirm suitability.

It was resolved to confirm renewal of the insurance policy with Zurich Insurance.

d) The revised Code of Conduct had been previously circulated for approval. However, it was decided to defer this item until the next meeting.

22/121 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVEY (CIL) POLICY

A copy of the CIL policy adopted by another parish council had been previously circulated. This was considered with the view to having something similar. However, it was considered that the existing Grant Awarding Policy was adequate and CIL funds could be used for approved grants if appropriate.

22/122 HIGHWAYS, TREES, CEMETERY and CHURCHYARD

a) It was reported that approval had been given for a PWLB loan of £10,000 for the street lighting project so funding for the project was now in place.

It was resolved to formally place the order for the upgrading of the street lighting with Suffolk County Council based on their quotation.

b) It was reported that Suffolk County Council will shortly install the posts for the Quiet Lanes Suffolk signage. The signs will then be made available for collection and can then be installed as a community project. It was noted that a £100 contribution for signage was still required.

c) It was decided to proceed with the development of a series of village walks that could then be promoted using a quality leaflet. However, help was needed in putting together the walks and it was agreed to ask via the Wattisfield Warbler if a resident could help with this project.

- d) It was reported that the finger post for the ROW opposite Martineau Cottages in Walsham Road was in need of repair. CG will report this to SCC ROW officers.

22/123 PLANNING MATTERS

None.

22/124 WATTISFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE AND RECREATION GROUND

- a) A copy of the draft minutes of the Village Hall Working Group had been previously circulated. The Parish Council were supportive of the work of the group and appreciated the verbal update during the Public Forum.
- b) The matter with the disposal of waste from the community garden was considered following previous notification to the chairperson of the village hall trustees about these concerns. It was thought that perhaps the waste situation had improved however the agreed brown waste bins do not appear to have been provided.

22/125 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence had been previously circulated and was noted.

22/126 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

The situation with the possible Shepherds Grove planning application was considered. It was felt that the Parish Council should be supportive of Hepworth and others in making sure the proposed development was appropriate for the area.

22/127 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be Monday 7 November 2022 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Christopher Garman
Parish Clerk
19 October 2022