

Culford, West Stow and Wordwell Parish Council

MINUTES

of the Parish Council Meeting held at Culford Village Hall on

Wednesday 26th July 2023

Present: Councillors: Rachael Salt (Chair), Paul Turnill, Andrew Miller, David Fisher, Paul Luke

In attendance: Christine Mason (Clerk to the Council) and three members of the public.

20. Apologies

All councillors were present.

Apologies were received from Cllr Susan Glossop, Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger.

21. Declarations of Interest

a. None received.

b. None received.

22. Minutes

Proposed and seconded that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 25th May 2023 be approved, and the Chair authorised to sign them as a true record.

23. County & District Councillor Reports

An email received from Cllr Glossop pointed out financial contributions to the church for Coronation Celebrations were given from Cllrs Glossop and Hopfensperger's locality budgets and not from the parish council. Furthermore, it was agreed the balance of the unspent grant will be earmarked for future social events.

The Chair asked it to be minuted that Cllr Hopfensperger again did not attend the parish council meeting. A town/parish report from Cllr Hopfensperger was previously circulated.

Local issues included a) the FOI request of data for accidents and those provided by SCC - due to late receipt of the report, statistics held by the Traffic & Justice Unit from 2009 to date will need to be checked against the SCC collision database; Cllr Salt to consider submitting a FOI request to the Fire Service b) HGV concerns and Lorry Route Review - criteria definition of a lorry route to be Obtained; Andy Moore has agreed to meet to discuss HGV concerns, suitable dates to be provided c) Signage and availability of monies for replacement signs and to fix broken signs - councillors to provide a list d) Self Help Scheme run by SCC, working parties who clean signs etc with equipment offered by SCC, training is also available to work on the highways and get work completed that does not meet the intervention criteria – an expression of interest to learn more about the scheme to be made.

With regards to the lorry access route, Cllr Salt proposed a day is scheduled to count the HGV's coming through Culford and West Stow, photographs can also be taken. Data will be forwarded to both SCC and the lorry operator. Rather than wait until the next meeting, Cllr Salt suggested a working group be set up to discuss the lorry issues – agreed this option to be deferred until after the meeting with Andy Moore. A question was raised concerning what action is being taken by the police in relation to speeding - data from the speed cameras to be downloaded and forwarded to the police for analysis.

24. Public Forum

Matters included the availability of the online traffic reporting tool, Cllr Salt to forward the relevant link for adding to the website; gravel lorries speeding day/night inside the 30mph sign at Chimney Mill, following confirmation of the company in question, a letter to be sent from the parish council; speeding in Ingham Road was similarly reported.

With written evidence of speeding required, it was proposed and agreed that Andy Moore be asked for the cost of an automated traffic survey on the three main routes.

25. Lorry Route Review / FOI Request

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

26. Clerk's Report & Administrative Business

a. Decisions taken under delegated powers since the last meeting.

Concerning the war memorial repairs, the handyman would like further information on what is required (general cleaning only).

b. Following protracted discussions with Lloyds bank, the cheque book has finally arrived, statements have yet to be sent. End of year financial audit has been completed.

27. Planning & Environment

DC/23/1121/TCA: Proposal Trees in a conservation area notification - one Poplar (blue on plan) remove lateral branches by two metres to clear over roof, Location White House Icklingham Road West Stow Suffolk

Advice from the tree officer to be taken.

28. To update items relating from the January 2022 meeting

Grants: The clerk to double check whether the approved grants have been paid.

Replacement tree by Toad House: A tree to replace the removal of a dangerous mature oak was agreed to be planted in the November planting schedule. The clerk to check whether this has occurred.

High Visibility Vests: The decision to purchase 6 Hi-Viz vests, litter pickers and bag hoops with a cost limit of £100 was not actioned. The clerk to purchase the appropriate equipment.

Post on West Stow village sign: Ongoing, the clerk to ask the handyman for a quotation.

Other items relating from previous meetings:

Speeding in West Stow and whether the speed limit could be extended: still current.

Changes to the appearance of Pine Tree House and Woodland View: The clerk to check for emails from the planning enforcement office.

The Old Post Office: The clerk to check with the planning enforcement office whether planning permission was obtained to sub divide into two dwellings.

Going forward, a rolling action log to be set up by the clerk.

29. Financial Matters

Proposed by Cllr Salt, seconded by Cllr Fisher that the Receipts and Payments schedule for June and July 2023 be approved – all in favour.

30. Councillor Training

The clerk to send Cllr Miller details of future training dates.

31. Councillor reports and items for future agendas

Project Gigabit: With some villages in rural Suffolk due to benefit from a government investment for better broadband, Cllr Hopfensperger to be asked ' what can be done to ensure Culford is included on the list'. An agenda item at the next meeting.

For information only: A syndicate to keep the parish magazine going needs interested persons to look after one or two editions per year.