

Reydon Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on 20th October 2022 at 7.30pm

Present

Chair – Councillor Pam Cyprien

Councillors R Cracknell, F Taylor, L Turner, L Vulliamy, J Gregson, D Panther,

P O' Hear, P Djahit,

Julie Jordan – Clerk

Gemma Fraser – Community Liaison Officer, East Suffolk District Council

District Councillor Beavan

The meeting was opened at 7.30pm

1 Public Forum

Gemma Fraser informed the Parish Council about her role as the Community Liaison Officer for East Suffolk Council. This was to help with Community Development, which includes help to build networking, funding and to facilitate community projects. Now a lot of work is being done regarding problems with the cost of living. She is also involved in anti-social behaviour but these are mainly neighbour disputes. At the moment, she is involved in several projects which include community centres, pubs and schools helping with funding and health partnerships.

This was taken up by Councillor Vulliamy who explained the current problems with the village hall and asked if help would be available for funding this. Ms Fraser explained that more information would be available from Community Action Suffolk who has a specialist site for village halls. There was also some discussion about ideas regarding the recreation ground and possible improvements to this. Gemma said that she could certainly help with community engagement and assist in writing an application for grant funding.

District Councillor Beavan

The following items were reported on

Potters Bridge

The bridge is now starting to flood again as anticipated in the autumn, the outfall is still blocked and so far, the landowners have not given access to the land so it can be cleared. He had contacted the Environment Agency and Theresa Coffey our local MP, it was agreed that the Parish Council would also write and request urgent action is taken. Mr Beavan then went on to explain that there were some technical issues with the depth monitor on the bridge. He is at present discussing the issues with the developers. At present there is about 20cm of water in the middle of the road.

Flood Board

District Councillor Beavan reported that this area had been chosen for a £9 million project to help local communities put a plan together to mitigate sea level changes and flooding. There will be walk in events in the near future and representatives will be invited to join a stakeholder group.

Harbour Management Group

This is going well with the new order being written however there was a problem with the order in that it would give the right to sell any land they thought fit. There is considerable discussion about this at the moment.

St Felix Development

District Councillor Beavan said that he was also concerned about the proposed new access to the site. He will be discussing this with Wayne Saunders from Suffolk County Councils Highways Department about the need for a roundabout on Halesworth Road

Anglian Water

He was concerned about the amount of combined sewerage and rainfall being released into the marshes and the need to improve the capacity at the plant.

Skatepark

This is going well with high hopes that it will be built next year.

District Council

He is actively promoting the need for the Council to pay the National Living Wage to all employees.

There followed some discussion about jet skiers using the upper reaches of the river, it was hoped they would be stopped from launching next year.

2 Declarations of Interest.

None

3 Receipts and Apologies for Absence

Councillor M Senior

Councillor K Friend

Councillor B Bailey

It was agreed to accept and note these apologies for absence.

4. Minutes – To read or take as read the Minutes of the meeting held on the 29th September and it was proposed, seconded and agreed to authorise the Chair to sign the minutes

5. Statutory Business

None

6 Clerks Report

13 reported crimes in August 22.

Burglary x 2, Other theft x 2, Criminal damage and arson x 3 Violence and Sexual offences x 3, other crimes x 2, robbery x 1

The Clerk also reported that Mr Burkill would not be able to clean the war memorial this year, Rev Perry had been informed. It was agreed that one of the Councillors would try and do this is no one else volunteered, the Clerk will check with Rev Perry.

The Clerk also drew the attention of the Councillors to the planned diversion which had been circulate for flooding at Potters Bridge

7 Cost of Living Crisis

Councillor Gregson explained that she and Councillor Senior had been actively working on producing a leaflet about what help exists already in the village and beyond. As a Phase 1 to this they intend to produce an A4 leaflet that can signpost people to all the help and community initiatives that are available at the moment, it was noted that there were quite a few of these. This would be put on the website and delivered in the next issue of the Reydon Robin. It was also intended to try and get the leaflet issued to the children at the local school so it can reach further afield. The next Phase would be to try and find out who needs help, what is working and currently exists and what further help could be provided. There was a number of initiatives including meal vouchers, a fridge pantry and the rural coffee caravan which could be investigated.

There followed a general discussion about possible alternatives which could be tried, including a dedicated phone help line, working with the church and the Sole Bay Care Fund. Councillor Gregson reported that one print run of the leaflet would cost approximately £241 for 1800 leaflets, and it was agreed that this should go ahead. Gemma Fraser confirmed that information was on the East Suffolk website and all front-line staff had received training.

8. Vision and Strategy for Reydon

Councillor O’Hear gave a brief report on the updated document which had been circulated to all Councillors. He said that if the Council thought it appropriate, he would keep it updated and would welcome comments as to its accuracy. He had added details about the Neighbourhood Plan and stated that the document should be a comprehensive guide to the aims of the Council.

It was agreed that the updated document should be published on the website and there followed a discussion regarding the allotments and the Recreation Ground. The Chair reported that she had been to look at the allotments and some were not well maintained and quite a few did not have any means of water capture and were reliant on the standpipe. She felt it would be useful to have a meeting with the allotment holders but even better if one of them could be appointed to liaise with the Council. The Clerk will contact the tenants and find out if any of them are willing to attend. There was the possibility of making the allotment site would better for the community by having one just for community use. It was also agreed that a group should be formed to progress work on the Recreation Ground.

9. Reydon Community Award

Councillor Vulliamy said he was disappointed that he had not yet received any nominations for this award and asked to Councillor to send some as soon as possible. He reported that the cheapest engraving quote that he had received was £20 which was going to make each “star award” quite expensive. He agreed to continue looking for cheaper alternatives.

10. Reydon Robin

Councillor Vulliamy reported that plans are going ahead and there will be a special item on the cost-of-living crisis and urging people to get out for exercise.

11. Reydon Village Hall

Councillor Vulliamy reported that work with the architect was continuing and hopefully an agreement for the work required would be concluded soon. He went on to talk about the problems encountered with noise and issues related to the noise limiter which had been installed. The hall was subject to an order by Environmental Health as to the noise that could be emitted and it was felt that not only was this out of date and rather draconian but was also badly affecting the finances of the hall. There had been a number of improvements to the hall since the order was issued and it was felt that this should be revisited. The Council will also look into the cost of a decibel meter for the hall so any alleged breaches of sound can be verified.

12. Website

Councillor Vulliamy reported that he and Councillor Gregson had met with Cathy Yeoman to discuss the website to find out how it works and to consider whether the Parish Council needs a Facebook, twitter and or next-door site as well. Councillor Gregson estimated that to get new hosting and to modernise and simplify the site would cost about £100 Councillor Vulliamy repeated his request for a picture of each Councillor together with a couple of lines about themselves and their interests to go on the site.

13. Reports from Councillors

None

14 Green Spaces Working Group

Councillor Djahit reported that all but one of the benches had now been built, however there had been some vandalism to a bench as well. Councillor Taylor reported that the tree planting will take place on the 19th November at 10.30am and any volunteers would be very welcome.

15. Neighbourhood Watch

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

16. Pill Box

Councillor Taylor reported that there had been no response from the owner of the pillbox. However, following an inspection by East Suffolk Council due to its condition two suggestions had been put forward, one was for full demolition and the other to infill it with soil which would preserve the structure. Following some debate as the Council had got nowhere with the owner it was felt that the best way to preserve the structure and prevent any accidents from happening a request be made for ESC to fill the structure with soil. This would mean no further damage and prevent people from entering and endangering their lives

17. Highways

Councillor Cracknell stated that the reports of the traffic survey had been received and thanked Councillor Panther for his work on the analysis. There was a significant amount of data and when Councillor Panther had finished, he felt that the information should be forward to County Councillor Ladd and Wayne Saunders the Highways Liaison Officer. There was obviously a number of questions regarding speeding on the Halesworth Road and this would provide guidance regarding potential traffic calming measures. There was also the continued problem of pedestrians crossing the road at Wolsey Bridge which was very dangerous, and he urged continued pressure for speed limits on this road. There would be a meeting on the 24th November, and it was hoped that a comparison could be made of the traffic surveys in 2019 and 2022.

The issues with Potters Bridge were also highlighted with no apparent progress being made on a long-term solution.

18. Public Rights of Way Working Group

Councillor Cracknell reported on a useful meeting with Southwold and Walberswick Councils and three main objects were achieved and ongoing.

A schedule of mowing

An excellent contact made with the Rights of Way Officer Annette Robinson

A good debate about signage for Public Rights of Way and a number of contacts with landowners. There was encouraging news on the idea of a circular walk and a

possible solution to Footpath 5. The Buss Creek bridge is falling apart, and it is owned by the local fishing group so hopefully this will be repaired.

There had also been conversations about cyclists and apparently landowners can give permission for cyclists to use the paths. It was hoped that a cycling and walking leaflet can be done, and work will start on this soon.

19 Planning

The report of the Planning Working Group had been circulated and approved by the Council.

Healthy Environments Supplementary Planning Documents – this had been completed and sent to East Suffolk Council.

Applications

- a) DC/22/2829/FUL - New artificial pitch for football usage with PE level hockey usage including the provision of 6 floodlight columns and installation of a dome over an existing block of tennis/netball courts.
St Felix School Halesworth Road

The full report is on the Parish Council website and while supporting the aims of the application and a number of concerns were raised.

- b) DC/22/3984/FUL - Rear single storey extension with some minor internal alterations.
Avocet 8 Gorse Road Recommended
- c) DC/22/4135/TPO - Front Garden 1 oak reduce outer crown by up to 2m
27a Halesworth Road Recommended
- d) DC/22/3970 - Rear and side extension
Hill House, Covert Road Recommended

3 Bridge Road – Councillor O’Hear had received a report that the proposed extension was being built contrary to the application, the plans and measurements did not correspond. It was agreed that he would contact the Planning Department at ESC and ask them to investigate.

Decisions

- a) DC/22/3250/FUL - New flat roof extension complete with lantern light to replace existing conservatory
18 The Drive Permitted
- b) DC/22/3069 - Single storey rear extension
54 Lowestoft Road Permitted
- c) ESC/TPO/127/22 A2 Group of three oaks trimmed
16 Kingfisher Cres Permitted

20 Finance

- a) Accounts awaiting payment

The following accounts were approved for payment

J Jordan Salary for Oct	£378.20
Paye	£55.40
Community Action Suffolk – website hosting	£60
G Graham – Litter picking	£95
EON – Jubilee Green	£15.12
A1 Clearance (Gym equipment rec)	£240.00
Joe Spurden – rodent control	£66.14
J Jordan – Computer	£432.99
J Elmes – lock notice board	£10.00
Janna Fleming – wool for bunting (Section 16)	£80.00
b) Receipts September 2022	
Interest £2.60, Southwold Arts Centre £300, Allotment Rent £144.50, East Suffolk Council Precept £14438.24, HMRC £2281.79 - Vat refund.	
Bank Balances at 31 st September 2022	£601, Treasurers £75842.52
c) Bank Reconciliation – Circulated to Councillors and agreed	

- d) External Audit – A question was raised about the notice period given to electors to inspect the accounts; this was not complied with due to the error made on the Precept which unknown to the Clerk contained a land charge as well. This had meant that the AGAR had been signed a couple of weeks late.
- e) Donations – The following donations were agreed and will be paid under Section 106
 - Christmas Lights £300
 - VHC £200
 - Sole Bay Care Fund £200
 - Air Ambulance £150
 - Churchyard Appeal £200
- f) Budget 2023/2024 - The Clerk reported that work would need to start on this soon and asked Councillors to consider any projects that they would like included.
- g) Budget to Actual – September, this had been circulated to Councillors

21 Allotment Rent

The water bill will not be available until December so this item was deferred.

22 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Christmas Lights Letter

A letter regarding the switch on was read plus a report about the concrete area surrounding the bus shelter at Jubilee Green. The Clerk will go and look at the problem and report back to the Council.

Dog Bins

The Clerk said she had asked Norse to provide a quote for the new dog bins and how much would be charged to empty them, this had not been received. It was agreed that as soon as the information was available the Clerk would circulate it to all Councillors

23 The meeting was closed at 9.30pm.