

Cookley & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday, October 17th 2017 in the Pavilion, Walpole at 7-30pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. Z. Mair (Chairman); Cllr. A. Thomas (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. S. Moore; Cllr. I. Newton; Cllr. M. Porter; Cllr. David Whitwood; Cllr. M. Wenham and Cllr. J. Winter:

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk) and District and County Cllr. S. Burroughes:

1) Apologies:

Cllr. R. Chase; Cllr. N. Jarvis;

2) To receive declarations of interest:

Cllr. Z. Mair and Cllr. M. Porter declared interests in CEA and Cookpole.
Cllr. S. Moore declared an interest in the Cookpole.
Cllr. M. Porter declared an interest in Item 10.
Cllr. A. Thomas declared an interest in the CEA.

3) Requests for dispensations:

There were no requests for dispensation.

4) To receive a report from the County and District Councillor:

County and District Cllr. S. Burroughes reported that Suffolk Coastal District Council are asking for the dualling of the new A12 'Four Villages' Bypass and for the Government/Sizewell C to pay for it. Cllr. A. Thomas asked County and District Cllr. S. Burroughes if Sizewell C would be built. He said that the Council hoped that it would be built in order to bring growth to the area.

Cllr. M. Porter said that he did not like the new houses' design that are to be built where the old District Council Offices were in Woodbridge. County and District Cllr. S. Burroughes disagreed saying he liked the design. Councillors had some concern over the size of the lorries that are travelling along the smaller roads. Councillors also asked for an update on West House and social housing. County and District Cllr. S. Burroughes said that he would look into these issues.

Finally County and District Cllr. S. Burroughes promised to contribute to the Council's Speed Indicator Device (SID) and to the defibrillator.

5) Public Session: Members of the public have fifteen minutes to ask questions on topics on the agenda.

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

6) To confirm the Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on August 29th 2017 and the Parish Council Meeting held on September 19th 2017:

The August 29th 2017 Minutes were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Thomas: Proposer: Cllr. S. Moore:

The September 19th 2017 Minutes were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. D. Whitwood: Proposer: Cllr. J. Winter:

7) Initiatives to cut Speeding: Councillors to continue discussing progress on the initiatives.

Cllr. S. Moore reported that she had been working closely with Bramfield and Thorington Parish Cllr. A. Niven and had also spoken to Peasenhall Parish Council. She said that as Walpole had multiple sites, their strong view was that Cookley and Walpole Parish Council should own its own Speed Indicator Device (SID). Cllr. S. Moore said that the Police had passed three sites for poles in Walpole and she hoped that a post on the bridge would also be approved.

Cllr. S. Moore said that she had researched several suppliers and recommended that Westcotec were the best supplier. She said that the Speed Indicator Device (SID) would cost around £2665; Data Collection Equipment £250; Hi-Viz Jackets for two people to move the SID would also be needed. Cllr. S. Moore said that the use of solar power would increase costs substantially.

Councillors agreed to buy its own Speed Indicator Device (SID) and to delegate Cllrs. Moore, Mair and Chase to lead in procuring the equipment of the Speed Indicator Device (SID), Data Collection Unit and Brackets with a budget of up to £3200.

Proposer: Cllr. M. Porter: Proposer: Cllr. M. Wenham:

8) Defibrillator: To update councillors on the availability of the defibrillator.

As Cllr. R. Chase was absent, the Clerk reported that over several emails, Cllr. R. Chase had said that he had finally got hold of Community Heartbeat to discuss whether it was feasible regarding having solar-powered defibrillator housing.

He said that the price for the solar-cabinet was £1400 + VAT (£1680) and the last quote earlier this year for the actual defibrillator was £2350 + VAT (£2820). Cllr. R. Chase calculated that the Parish Council had £1675 in the bank, courtesy of Heveningham Hall Country Fair Trust which he calculated left a balance of £1145 for the defibrillator plus £1680 for the cabinet. He said that a pole for the defibrillator would also be needed and as the prices/quotes are still fluid, the only way of confirming costs is to have an invoice raised.

However using these figures, Cllr. R. Chase calculated that the shortfall was therefore £2825 including VAT so he wondered if that the Parish Council might get agreement from District and County Cllr. Stephen Burroughes that he can promise the council that he will fund the shortfall of £2825.

It was noted the electricity to the Walpole Phonebox could perhaps be restored and councillors discussed this possibility.

Councillors agreed for Cllrs. Winter and Porter to investigate the feasibility of restoring the electric supply to the telephone box and if practical, to progress the restoration. It was agreed to ask Cllr. R Chase to delay until further notice but to get quotes for electrical and solar defibrillator.

Proposer: Cllr. S. Moore: Proposer: Cllr. A. Thomas:

9) Walpole Willows:

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On behalf of the Cookpole Energy Action, Simon Weeks sent the following proposal which was copied to all the councillors.

At it's meeting on 20th June 2017, the Parish Council agreed to negotiate a lease with Flagship Housing for the piece of land next to the children's play area, and to sub-lease the land to Cookpole Energy Action for the Walpole Willows project.

Since then we have been expecting Flagship to provide a draft lease for consideration/negotiation by the Parish Council. Instead, Flagship's Regeneration Manager – Andrew Long, contacted us recently to ask for another meeting to discuss options. Anne Thomas and Simon Weeks met with Andrew Long on 2nd October, when he put forward a new proposal.

Flagship has decided that the electricity pole is too much of a problem for them. They believe it would be expensive to divert/underground the cable and so they don't want to develop the site for housing. They also do not want to lease out the site, as they believe they might still have residual responsibilities for public safety. They would now prefer to dispose of it completely.

So, the new proposal is that Flagship sells the land to the Parish Council for a nominal sum (£1). The Council would then lease it to Cookpole Energy Action for the Walpole Willows project. Through this report, CEA is asking the Council to approve this proposal in principle, and subject to agreement on the details.

After some discussion, councillors agreed to the proposal that Flagship sells the land to the Parish Council for a nominal sum (£1) and the Council would then lease it to Cookpole Energy Action for the Walpole Willows project with the extra proviso that Flagship pay all the legal costs of the transfer.

Proposer: Cllr. J. Winter:

Proposer: Cllr. I. Newton:

10) Suffolk Coastal Local Plan:

After some discussion, the councillors believed that as the Parish Council has four areas of possible development within Cookley and Walpole, the Council had not had long enough time to consult with the local community to gain their views.

Councillors agreed that Cllr. Z. Mair would organise a drop-in/consultation meeting between 6pm and 7-30pm for parishioners to give their views about the parishes' development with a map and flyer before November 21st. The Clerk was asked to submit to the Local Plan Review that as the Parish Council has four areas of possible development within Cookley and Walpole, the Council had not had long enough time to consult with the local community to gain their views and therefore after public consultation, the Council would give their views by the end of the year.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Thomas:
Whitwood:

Proposer: Cllr. D.

11) Planning Matters:

There were no planning applications.

12) Clerk's Report and Correspondence:

The Clerk reported that he had received the notice of the Suffolk Association of Local Councils AGM. He had also received a request for the number of rough sleepers. Finally the Clerk said that Halesworth Town Council had asked for a donation in keeping the Free Car Parking Hour in the Thoroughfare Car Park.

It was agreed to donate £130 to keep the Free Car Parking Hour in the Thoroughfare

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Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair:
Wenham:

Proposer: Cllr. M.

13) Financial Report:

a) Balances at the Bank on October 7th 2017:

Business Community Account	£10 364.96
Business Savings Account	£1 096.20

b) Cheques for payment:

Cllr. M. Wenham confirmed that the Cheque No. 100950 paid by the Parish Council to him in payment for stationery on March 21st 2017 had gone missing in the post. The Clerk confirmed that the cheque had not been cashed and said that he had tried to stop the cheque through the internet banking but it could not be stopped. Despite common perceptions that cheques expired after six months, the Clerk said that he had been told that this was not the case. It was agreed to reissue the cheque as the Cheque No. 100974.

Proposer: Cllr. M. Porter:
Newton:

Proposer: Cllr. I.

Chq. No. 100974	Cllr. M. Wenham	£60-00
Chq. No. 100975	Halesworth Town Council - Donation	£130-00

Proposer: Cllr. A. Thomas:

Proposer: Cllr. S. Moore:

c) Receipts:

Second Precept Payment	£4000-00
East of England Funerals	£25.00

14) To receive reports on the:

a) Village Green;

It was suggested that the area near the river needed to be cut back. It was agreed for Cllr. J. Winter to ask Will Austin to cut back this area.

b) Flagship Affordable Homes;

Cllr. A. Thomas reported that she had met with Flagship and the tenants over the heating in Flagship's local houses.

c) Highways;

There was no report. Cllr. M. Porter said that he was still concerned over the number of hedges overhanging the roads.

Cllr. A. Thomas noted that the Police Locality Meeting was meeting in Wrentham soon.

d) **Footpaths;**

There was no report although Cllr. J. winter was still pursuing the County council over paths that needed attention.

e) **Trees;**

There was no report.

f) **Cemetery;**

It was reported that an inscription had been added to a gravestone in the cemetery.

g) **CEA & Allotments;**

Cllr. A. Thomas reminded the meeting that the Craft Barns Event would take place on November 11th and 12th and that the 'Willows Land' had been cleared in an excellent job done by Community Payback.

h) **External Meetings & Training;**

Cllr. S. Moore and Cllr. M. Wenham reported that the 'New Councillors Course' was very good and they had both learnt much from the two days. They said that there were eight councillors on the course.

The Meeting ended at 9-43pm.