

Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council
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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2024
AT 7:00PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present at the meeting:

Cllr Alan Revell (Chair)	Cllr Edwina Galloway (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Claire Buttle	Cllr Rob Holden
Cllr Simon Ransome	Cllr Helen Reynolds
Cllr Caroline Harker	Cllr Traci Weaver

In attendance: 0 members of the public.

Welcome by the Chairman.

12097 Public Forum

Democratic Quarter-Hour/Public Question Time – Residents are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. Members of the public, whilst welcome to attend, may not take part in the meeting itself.

0 members of the public.

12098 Reports

Report by County Councillor Richard Smith

Richard Smith reported that the County Council has passed the budget on the 15th February. A 4.99% increase will be shown on the Council Tax bill. This is the highest amount that Richard Smith has voted on in 14 years of office. The County Council are using some of their reserves, within 3 to 4 years all the reserves will be gone. Looking after the children and the older generation are using vast sums of money. Sizewell C, thank you Cllr Weaver for your informative reports relating to Sizewell C. The Northern Forum meeting was very chaotic. EDF were not prepared. The community has opposed Sizewell C for many years, EDF feel they can get away with out doing homework. Their may be a case that the SCC requires legal advice regarding Sizewell C. Cllr Weaver commented that the Sizewell C document has a section contained in it which shows legal advice may not be necessary.

Richard Smith said that he had attended a meeting at Theberton. More expertise is required at all levels. There are going to be difficulties in the years ahead. The final round of investment for the Sizewell C site is likely to be announced in April/May. The final costs may go awry as did Hinkley's costs.

Cllr Galloway commented that the PC submitted an email regarding the Community Fund. Aldeburgh were given a response that the funding will go elsewhere not directly to the community that s being affected by all the power projects.

Richard Smith reported that the Community Fund should be spent in areas affected. He will investigate this and comment.

Report by District Councillor Ewart

Julia Ewart submitted her apologies for the meeting, but had submitted a written report.

Richard Smith left the meeting at 7.12pm.

The Chair formally opened the meeting at 7.13pm.

Cllr Revell wished to welcome back Cllr Claire Buttle to the Council.

12099 To receive apologies for absence – Cllr Stewart, Cllr Gwynne, and Julia Ewart

12100 To accept apologies for absence – Accepted.

12101 To record absence without apologies – None

12102 Declarations of Interest – None

12103 To consider any dispensations – None

12104 To consider the Approval of the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 31st January 2024.

The draft minutes of the meeting had been circulated and the version now on the website were approved with abstentions from those that did not attend. Proposer: Cllr Ransome, Seconder Cllr Galloway, with 4 abstentions.

12105 Parish Clerk's Report

Advertising revenue – There are still two outstanding invoices, I have chased both. Coffee Mornings – Julia Ewart attended a session and informed the community how they can oppose the closure of the Barclays Bank in Leiston. A previous Councillor has passed onto me a couple of box files that have various documents in. Flooding – Julia Ewart has written a letter to the SCC and the Environment Agency regarding the oil leak into a resident's pond. Grit bins – the cost ranges from £94.95 to £133.11. There is no section for purchasing grit bins in the budget. D-Day Commemoration – the new marquee has arrived, and St Johns have been booked to cover First Aid. Clothing Bank – this has been reported a couple of times as it was overflowing. Dog waste bin – this has been reported as it was overflowing. Policies – there are three to be re-adopted, the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, and the Electronic Communications & Social Media Policy. CIL funding – the amount available to spend is currently £63,311.78. Correspondence – an email has been received regarding a piece of hedge on the edge of the recreation ground which has been cut back and has put the Sandy Stilt Ball at risk. Suffolk Devolution – I attended a webinar related to this subject.

12106 Clerk's Report on urgent decisions

None

12107 Matters arising from the Clerk's report.

Cllr Revell commented that the Environment Agency should be investigating the oil leak into the watercourse with the assistance of the Highways department, there has been no further correspondence from the resident concerned. Grit bins, there is not much of this winter left, it would not be good practice to install one now, this could be revisited later in the year. It was suggested that a local business may sponsor the grit bin. The new marquee has arrived and it would be a good idea to erect this a few weeks ahead of the event in June, just to make sure it is all in place. The clothing bank is always overflowing, should a request be made for a larger one?

Cllr Buttle said it would be interesting to know what the funding is that is received from the clothing bank.

Cllr Ransome thought it would be very little.

Cllr Revell said that the dog waste bin would be monitored. The cutting of the hedge next to the recreation ground would also be monitored.

ACTION: Clerk to respond to the resident regarding the grit bin. Clerk to investigate the amount of funding raised from the clothing bank.

12108 Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 31 January 2024.

10.1 Power Projects – Cllr Weaver had circulated a report to the Councillors. The National Grid has received many objections to the interconnectors. There is a petition going around at the moment which needs to gain 10,000 signatures. The Northern Transport Forum was chaotic. HGV's which are 3.5ton or above will be monitored and cars will be parking in the park and ride sites. LGV's will be an issue and will need monitoring. It has been suggested that the traffic management plan may be amended if required to allow for the monitoring of the additional traffic. The B1122 is going to be hit hard by the quantity of traffic. A meeting has been requested with two representatives of the Sizewell C team. Comments are being monitored from the wide load information that is being placed on social media sites.

Cllr Revell stated that the LGV's should be pre-registered to the site and should stick to the named routes which are checked by ANPR system.

Cllr Weaver said that this is possible to have the vehicles monitored, and it has been raised as a concern. There are no available minutes from the Forum meeting on the 6th February. The Delivery Management System will monitor the traffic. Cllr Weaver will write some questions to ask the Sizewell C team if anyone has anything to add please let her know. There is a community event at Trinity Park on the 9th April.

Cllr Galloway commented that the PC are looking for funding from the Sizewell C Community Fund to assist with the purchase of two signs for the end of Tiggins Lane stating 'unsuitable for HGV's'.

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Suffolk Community Foundation to enquire when the funding would be available and was informed that it would be late spring or summer.

ACTION: Clerk to monitor the emails regarding the Community Funding.

10.2 Carlton Meres – Cllr Revell said that as there has been no recent update it may be worthwhile contacting the nearby resident. This was agreed by all the Councillors.

ACTION: Ongoing, place on the next agenda. Clerk to email the local resident for an update.

10.3 Verges – Cllr Galloway reported that the daffodils planted are coming up. The resident who offered to assist with the flowers in the verges is looking for some guidance from the PC. It maybe that more bulbs are required. It is worth getting one plant to establish first and then encouraging more. Cllr Revell reported that the PC has been encouraged to let the verges grow, but they do look a mess. Is it better to have the verges cut.

Cllr Ransome said that it takes a long time for interesting flowers to grow through the grass.

Cllr Buttle said she has some hollyhock seeds that could be sprinkled at the back of the car park.

Cllr Revell proposed that the PC gives £75 for the purchase of some bulbs, these could be planted around the car park and at the Carlton Road green.

All of the Councillors agreed to the £75 expenditure for the bulbs.

ACTION: Place on the next agenda.

10.4 D-Day Commemoration – Cllr Revell reported that the marquee has arrived.

Cllr Buttle stated that it is proving a problem to find a stage, or a curtain sided lorry for the event. They have approached a scaffolding company, but the cost is too great. This is for the band to perform from.

ACTION: Place on the next agenda.

10.5 Highway Signage – Cllr Revell reported that the PC are continuing to wait for some funding to become available before the purchase of the signage may be made.

ACTION: To continue to investigate the funding via Suffolk Community Foundation.

10.6 Speeding on Main Road – Cllr Holden reported that this investigation work is ongoing.

ACTION: To continue to place on the agenda.

10.7 Recreation Ground – Cllr Ransome said that he had spoken with Cllr Holden and will look at the gate when the wood dries out.

Cllr Revell reported that the end of the recreation ground became flooded the other day as a result of the water from the ditch along the recreation ground being unable to drain away. It appears that the culvert that runs from the recreation ground through to the River Fromus is blocked. It requires this section being cleared.

Cllr Ransome commented that the water does drain away very slowly as the area of ditch between the recreation ground and the River Fromus is not sufficient to take the volume of water and requires clearing. This area of ditch is on private land.

Cllr Holden said that the recreation ground ditch is quite often full of at least 18 inches of water.

Cllr Ransome said that he has spoken with the owners of the land, and they seem unwilling to clear the ditch in their garden.

ACTION: The Clerk to contact Highways to see if an enforcement may be put into place to clear the ditch.

10.8 Speaker for the APM – Cllr Galloway reported that having spoken with William Kendall, he has agreed to speak at the APM in April. It was agreed to ask him to speak about his career.

10.9 Village Hall Proposals – Cllr Ransome said that some renovation work has been proposed for the village hall. There is a need to spend some money on the electrics in the building, this could cost several thousand pounds. The committee room is to be rejuvenated, with a new coat of paint, some work has already been completed. The original fireplace remains behind a wooden cover, the plan is to tidy this and open it up again.

Cllr Revell commented that the fabric of the village hall needs to be taken care of, some of the CIL money could be used for this. It was agreed by the full Council that the Village Hall Committee should send a list of items that require work and the Clerk would check this with the CIL team to ensure it is

the correct expenditure for the fund.

ACTION: Cllr Ransome to send the Clerk a list of the proposals and the Clerk to check this with the CIL team and report back to the Council.

10.10 Community Self Help/Emergency Group – Cllr Revell commented that this is ongoing.

ACTION: To place on the next agenda.

10.11 Advertising Revenue - Cllr Reynolds confirmed that she was able to add a new advertiser to the Community News.

Cllr Galloway also confirmed that she had found a company willing to advertise in the newsletter.

Cllr Harker reported that due to the completion of some of the houses in the new development on the main road, some extra copies of the Community News are required.

ACTION: The Clerk to notify the Editor of the Community News of a new advertiser. Cllr Galloway to investigate the cost of some additional copies of the newsletter.

10.12 Grass cutting – Cllr Revell reported that he had met onsite with a local resident who has the equipment and is willing to cut the grass on the recreation ground and Carlton Road play area. The resident would be willing to keep an eye on the grass and cut when required depending on weather etc. The resident will undertake to cut the areas three times to see how long it takes and will report back to the Council.

It was agreed by the full Council to allow the resident to perform three cuts of the grassed areas and report back to the Council.

Cllr Harker left the meeting at 8.50pm.

10.13 Outreach Post Office – Cllr Revell stated that it appears Therese Coffey is on the case of supporting the outreach Post Office. Any further information received will be circulated to all the Council.

12109 Parish Council Matters

11.1 Kelsale Village Hall: Cllr Ransome reported that this item was covered under 10.9.

ACTION: To place as an agenda item in March.

11.2 To re-adopt the Standing Orders, the Financial Regulations, and the Electronic Communications & Social Media Policy.

Cllr Galloway proposed that the PC adopts the above policies, this was seconded by Cllr Weaver and agreed by all.

12110 Planning Matters

12.1 Planning Report - The Planning Report had been circulated in advance and there was no change since the circulation.

12.2 New planning applications since the last meeting:

AP/23/0066/NONDET – Apple Tree Barn, North Green, Kelsale-cum-Carlton, IP17 2RL

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State by Mr Alan Ambrose against non-determination by ESC of the application for planning permission for Erection of 1 no 1.5 storey dwelling - Change of dwelling design for DC/20/1127/FUL and APP/X3540/W/3270972 - 1.5 storey design.

AP/23/0067/NONDET – Apple Tree Barn, North Green, Kelsale-cum-Carlton,

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State by Mr Alan Ambrose against non-determination by ESC of the application for planning permission for erection of 1no. single storey dwelling - change of dwelling design for DC/20/1127/FUL and APP/X3540/W/21/3270972 - single storey design.

The Council agreed that there was no further comments that could be made on the appeals.

Notifications:

12111 Financial Matters

13.1 Financial Statement since the January meeting. See Updated Finance Report of 28th February 2024.

Cllr Galloway proposed the payments, this was seconded by Cllr Ransome and agreed by all, with no abstentions.

13.2 To approve and sign the bank statements: The Bank Statement to 31st January 2024 plus financial reconciliations were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

12112 To Receive Reports from Portfolio Holders and Liaison Representative

A2 & A3: Community, Energy & Health

Cllr Reynolds reported that she had not received any information about the PPG.

ACTION: Clerk to resend the email information.

B1: Energy Development Projects

Cllr Weaver commented that she is unable to attend the next Northern Transport Forum in August if anyone else is able to attend it, it would be appreciated.

B7: Trees and Green Spaces

It was agreed that Cllr Buttle would rejoin this portfolio.

Cllr Holden reported that a few young trees have died, the Jubilee Oak is one of them, was Cllr Revell still able to obtain some replacements.

Cllr Revell confirmed that he still was able to obtain some replacement trees at no cost to the PC.

12113 Items for consideration for Inclusion on the next agenda

As listed within the minutes, Clothing Bank, Email address and website domain,

12114 Correspondence

SARS – an application for a donation has been received but it was agreed by all that the PC could not offer a donation at this present time.

12115 To consider excluding the public and press.

No considerations were necessary.

12116 Excluded items

There were none.

12117 Date of the next meeting

The next Meeting is to be held on the 27th March 2024 at 7pm.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.19pm.

Signed: Chairman Dated: