

Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council
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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 27th MARCH 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 Laura Gwynne
Cllr Mark Stewart	

In attendance: 0 members of the public.

Welcome by the Chairman.

12118 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.

12119 Reports

Report by County Councillor Richard Smith

Richard Smith commented that the report from Cllr Weaver regarding Sizewell C was very comprehensive and there was nothing more to add. Lion Link is a concern as it is proposed to come onshore at Walberswick and go through to Saxmundham. SCC have passed a motion on the energy projects coming ashore. Richard aims to represent all the villages affected by this. Saxmundham have proposed an objection, as has most of the residents in Walberswick. None of these comments have been taken into account, they have been ignored. The effects on Friston are disastrous, and now it appears that there may be an application for a large solar farm of 1,000 acres in Friston. There are to be jobs generated at Sizewell, but the windfarms create no jobs. London and the Southeast will benefit from the wind farm electricity. Hinkley currently has 10,000 workers not 8,000 as first thought. Will Sizewell C have the same issue. The huge interconnectors will create issues. The proposed wind turbines to be placed offshore are to be 400m high. Richard hopes to attend the APM.

Cllr Gwynne asked for clarification, SCC has not objected to the energy projects, but Richard does object?

Richard Smith commented that it was the case, Richard would continue to object to these projects to support his constituents. Sea Link and Lion Link should work together to reduce the impact on the area, but they do not wish to do this. Lion Link should come ashore at Aldeburgh. SCC view on Lion Link is to object.

Cllr Buttle asked if Nautilus is to go to the North or the South.

Richard Smith was unable to answer that question.

Richard Smith left the meeting at 7.10pm.

Report by District Councillor Ewart

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

The Chair formally opened the meeting at 7.11pm.

12120 To receive apologies for absence – Cllr Weaver, Julia Ewart and the Clerk.

12121 To accept apologies for absence – Accepted.

12122 To record absence without apologies – None

12123 Declarations of Interest – None

12124 To consider any dispensations – None

12125 To consider the Approval of the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th February 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 Galloway, Seconder Cllr Reynolds, with 2 abstentions.

12126 Parish Clerk's Report

Advertising revenue – the total amount received from advertising this financial year is £700, this is £250 down from last year. Coffee morning – a resident informed me that the road sweeper came from the Main Road but turned round at Rosemary Lane and didn't come any further down the road. Grit bins – a letter was sent to the resident that requested the grit bin on Carlton Road. D-Day Commemoration – the risk assessment has been shared with a member of the committee. No additional cost request has been made from the insurance company. Clothing bank – this raises about £950 per year. Annual Parish Meeting – invites have been sent to the representatives of the village. Policies – the internal control statement needs to be re-adopted; the Chair has already had a copy of this to look through. Audit – the internal audit has been booked with SALC for the week commencing the 6th May. SALC Forum – this was held on the 20th March and was very informative. The main topic was the need for EV charging points. SCC wish to have any suggestions regarding sites for the charging points, these do need to be accessible to all. A number of PC's attending have offered to share there environmental impact assessments regarding Lion Link. Bank holiday – there are a couple of bank holidays and the Clerk will not be working those days.

12127 Clerk's Report on urgent decisions

None

12128 Matters arising from the Clerk's report.

Cllr Revell said that more advertising revenue suggestions are required.

Cllr Harker said that she would approach some of the businesses on Carlton Estate.

Cllr Revell commented that more copies of the newsletter are required due to the new houses on the Main Road.

Cllr Ransome stated that there are only two free copies of the newsletter placed in the village hall.

Cllr Revell said that more adverts are required to keep the newsletter going. The Clerk should query the road sweeper only undertaking to clean part of the road. The clothing bank raises a good amount of money so it is important to support this. The internal control policy has been looked at, it is basically a tick chart to say that the PC handles the finances correctly.

Cllr Galloway proposed that the PC adopts the internal control statement, this was seconded by Cllr Ransome and agreed by all the Council.

ACTION: Place the additional copies of the newsletter as an item on the next agenda. Clerk to speak with the ESC regarding the road sweeper not completing the road clearing.

12129 Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 28 February 2024.

10.1 Power Projects – Cllr Revell commented that Cllr Weaver had circulated a updated document concerning the power projects.

Cllr Galloway said that Cllr Weaver needs the PC to vote on the draft constitution.

Cllr Ransome noted a typo within the constitution, which affects the understanding. This will be sent through to Cllr Weaver so that she may amend the document.

Cllr Galloway proposed that the draft constitution be adopted with the amendment, this was seconded by Cllr Ransome and agreed by the full Council.

Cllr Gwynne commented that she had attended a meeting related to the power projects, this was well supported and all the PC's represented had the same views.

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

10.2 Carlton Meres – Cllr Revell said an email response has been received from a resident near to the Carlton Meres. There has been no change to the entrance of the site.

Cllr Harker noted that there was a HGV sign on the quiet lane sign near the site.

Cllr Revell said that the kerbs and the grass verges are being destroyed where the vehicles are trying to widen the road, because it is a problem for two vehicles to pass. Julia Ewart continues to work with the PC, the resident and a planning representative from ESC to resolve the issue.

ACTION: Ongoing, place on the next agenda.

Cllr Stewart arrived at 7.30pm.

10.3 Verges – Cllr Revell reported that some comments have been made about having flowers in the verges.

ACTION: Place on the next agenda.

10.4 D-Day Commemoration – Cllr Buttle reported that a meeting had taken place with Adnams and they have agreed to run the beer tent and will give a percentage of the takings to the committee. The insurance is covered for the tug-of-war as long as the teams are of equal size. This needs to be a fun event and not competitive. The stage is being provided by the school. There is a follow up committee meeting next week.

ACTION: Place on the next agenda.

10.5 Highway Signage – Cllr Revell said that the HGV signage is ongoing due to the funding not being available from the Sizewell Community Fund.

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

10.6 Speeding on Main Road – Cllr Holden commented that an idea to slow the traffic down would be to plant flowers in the verges and the drivers will look at these and slow down; this may not work. Some flowers could be planted in the verges from Curlew Green through to Carlton Road.

Cllr Buttle said that the first 1m of the verge must be left for the Highways department to cut the verge. The hedges have grown, and this does not allow room for planting. Could wooden box planters be placed in the road as chicanes?

Cllr Harker said that there may be funding for this from the Sizewell C fund.

Cllr Ransome said that there would be a need for reflective posts near the planters.

Cllr Harker commented that a pedestrian crossing would slow the traffic down.

Cllr Buttle said that if the planters were placed on the road, there would need to be a change in the road markings.

ACTION: To continue to place on the agenda. Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Highways engineer to look at the possible ideas for the Main Road.

10.7 Recreation Ground – Cllr Revell said that this is ongoing, there has been no update on whether the Highways department can enforce the clearing of the culvert from the recreation ground to the Fromus.

ACTION: The Clerk to contact Highways to see if an enforcement can be put into place.

10.8 Speaker for the APM – Cllr Revell said that the invites have been sent. Cllr Buttle, Weaver and Gwynne are to assist with the refreshments.

Cllr Galloway had placed something in the Community News to encourage residents to attend.

10.9 Village Hall Proposals – Cllr Ransome said that some of the designated CIL funding may be used for alterations to the village hall. The electrical work, which is the wiring etc, will cost around £4,800. There is no estimate as yet for the new wall in the kitchen. The cost of the new kitchen floor will be in the region of £748. To sand and seal the committee room floor would cost £964. The new fitted kitchen itself will cost £8,200; this does not include a new oven. There is no quote for the outside area. There is no quote for the moving of the door near to the old post office cubicle. This would allow for a larger storage area. The roof has been repaired.

Cllr Revell asked how this is to be progressed.

Cllr Galloway commented that the Clerk requires a list of the village hall proposals to submit to the CIL team. This will ensure the correct use of the CIL funding.

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 Stewart said that some areas of the ditches have been cleared, as has the clearing of some of the footpaths.

Cllr Ransome commented that there is no list of volunteers as yet.

10.11 Advertising Revenue – Cllr Revell said that this has already been discussed.

12130 Parish Council Matters

11.1 Kelsale Village Hall: Cllr Harker reported that an Easter wreath making evening has taken place, this was well supported. There is a tabletop sale to take place on the 20th April. A teddy bears picnic and musical bingo is also to take place later in the year.

11.2 To re-adopt the Internal Control Statement.

Please see item 12128.

12131 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:

None

Notifications:

Cllr Stewart commented that the solar park is to be going ahead.

Cllr Holden said that the PC should gain around £20,000 from that development. Could this be used for the traffic calming?

Cllr Stewart stated that some of the residents had complained about the solar park due to the loss of good agricultural land.

12132 Financial Matters

13.1 Financial Statement since the February meeting. See Updated Finance Report of 22nd March 2024.

Cllr Holden 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 29th February 2024 plus financial reconciliations would be presented to the Council at the next meeting and signed by the Chairman.

13.3 Asset Register: Due to the absence of the Clerk this item will be taken to the next meeting.

ACTION: To place on the next agenda.

12133 To Receive Reports from Portfolio Holders and Liaison Representative

A4: KcC Biodiversity Group Representative

Cllr Gwynne commented that she had attended a food and farming event. This was very inspiring. An email was sent to the Highways department to see who had cut the hedge near the recreation ground. No response has been received. The Biodiversity Group has created a document about the village. This is good to read. The group spoke about the grass cutting on the recreation ground. The group are keen to have some beavers in the area. The new constitution may mean that the Group is separate from the PC. NALC are organising a course related to climate change, the cost is £30, would this be permitted for Cllr Gwynne to attend.

Cllr Revell asked if this training would assist the community in any way.

Cllr Harker commented that the Biodiversity Group are very knowledgeable.

Cllr Revell said that what the Group is achieving for the community is a great help.

B7: Trees and Green Spaces

Cllr Harker commented that there was a lot of broken glass on the recreation ground near to the small goal. Cllr Harker has been clearing this and placing it in the glass bank.

Cllr Revell commented that there are groups of children listening to music in the evenings on the recreation ground.

Cllr Reynolds said that there are several bottles left lying around the area.

Cllr Revell said that the glass could be a concern for dog walkers, although dogs are to be kept on leads. There is a lot of dog mess around as well, owners are not clearing it up. The policy should have been that dogs are not permitted on the recreation ground.

Cllr Buttle said that there are some of the signs missing on the recreation ground as well, these

need to be replaced.

Cllr Revell commented that the grass has had one cut and the Carlton Road site has been cut as well. Would Cllr Buttle meet with the grass cutting person and explain the map which shows the areas to be left for wildlife.

Cllr Reynolds said that a copy of the map had been received by the grass cutting person, but the code to the recreation ground gate would be an advantage.

Cllr Buttle said that she had met with a resident close to Spinney Pocket. Three trees have been identified that require some work. There is a company that can complete work for £100 plus remove the wood. The brushwood will be left for wildlife. The recent tree survey also shows the same three trees as needing attention. CTS have been asked to send their certification through to the PC.

Cllr Buttle proposed that CTS undertake the work in the Spinney Pocket, this was seconded by Cllr Holden and agreed by the full Council.

Cllr Buttle added that some of the residents have been keeping the footpaths tidy in Spinney Pocket.

Cllr Revell said that the PC has paid for the footpaths to be cut back.

A2 & A3: Community, Energy & Health

Cllr Reynolds reported that she had attended a meeting and a film show. The PPG meeting discussed the storage of equipment, film afternoons, and the change of the appointment system. This will create more flexibility in the appointment system. There are 28-35 Doctor appointments each day. The surgery has also had some problems with flooding in the car park as well as some staff vacancies.

12134 Items for consideration for Inclusion on the next agenda

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

12135 Correspondence

12136 To consider excluding the public and press.

No considerations were necessary.

12137 Excluded items

There were none.

12138 Date of the next meeting

The next Meeting is to be held on the 24th April 2024 at 7pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on the 3rd April 2024 at 7pm in the Main Hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Signed: Chairman Dated: