

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
CONEY WESTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 1 JULY 2021 AT 7.00PM
AT CONEY WESTON VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors P. Clarke, F Craig, S Duncan, C. Flood, J Ladell, G. Mihr (Vice Chair) and 2 members of the public.
A. Morris (Clerk).

Councillor Mihr, Vice Chair, opened the meeting at 7pm.

ACTION

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies received from Councillors Hindry on medical grounds (previously accepted by Council), and from District Councillor Smith.
2. **Declaration of Interest:** None declared.
3. **To approve the draft minutes of the last Parish Council meeting (3 June 2021)** - the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 3 June 2021 had been previously circulated and were agreed – proposed by Cllr Clarke and seconded by Cllr Duncan. Carried with a vote of 5 for and 1 abstention.
4. **Scheme of public speaking about a particular agenda item** - no requests to speak at particular agenda items from members of the public were received.
5. **County Councillor's report** – Cllr Spicer thanked the meeting for their support during her recent re-election campaign and formally introduced herself to the 2 new Councillors.

Agreed to join in with agenda items 8.6 and 12 when they are tabled.

Discussion took place regarding Knettishall Heath anti-social behaviour involving Thetford Police. Cllr Spicer has donated £2,000 towards the Heath for work to dampen noise on the cattlegrids. Parking charges are now active.

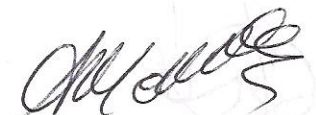
6. **District Councillor's report** - none received.
7. **To agree and note revised Councillor responsibilities** – Clerk to amend Cllr Craig's responsibilities to 'village initiatives'. Noted.
8. **Councillor Reports:**

8.1. **Defibrillator, village & volunteers groups** – no updates on the village defibrillator. Work is scheduled by the volunteer group prior to the Open Garden's day on 17 July. The Village Hall formally opened on 17 May and will be used for the Open Garden's day. The Bowls Club has resumed play; 2 Playing Field Committee members present reported that they have applied for a National Lottery grant of £50k and Thetford Wanderers football club have expressed an interest in using the field for their home games.



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8.2. New residents, community engagement – new resident's introduction letter draft continues to be work-in-progress.

8.3. Environmental initiatives, neighbourhood watch – Cllr Duncan reported that the neighbourhood watch are currently holding their Annual meeting. Landowner's permission required to put up signs. Suggests seeking village ideas for environmental initiatives at the Annual Parish meeting.

8.4. Website, Facebook page and publicity – Cllr Flood reported 498 visitors to Facebook in the last 28 days, with 342 actively engaged and 169 followers. 281 active users on the website.

8.5. Planning, monitoring of notice boards – Cllr Ladell has cleared the notice boards of all but Parish Council information. CCllr Spicer requested that DCllr Smith be kept informed of any planning applications that the Parish Council responds to.

Clerk

8.6. Highways, hedges and footpaths, speed device – Cllr Mihr reported that the work carried out by WSC in relation to clearing ditches has been satisfactorily completed and is following up with them on when phase 2 (replacement of drains) will be done. CCllr Spicer assured the meeting that Coney Weston is on the priority list for this work – probably in 2022.

GM

Cllr Mihr reported that the sinking of a portion of the Village Hall car park is an issue which Highways are aware of. The landowner's agent details have been passed to Highways.

Speed device – now working and has recorded several instances of high speeds in the village which has been reported to the Community Engagement Officer who will visit.

9. Financial Report

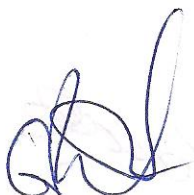
9.1. Cllr Clarke proposed to accept previously circulated bank reconciliation and statement dated 23 June 2021. Seconded by Cllr Mihr. Unanimously agreed.

9.2. Cllr Mihr proposed authorising all payments listed on the payment schedule as previously circulated, seconded by Cllr Flood, unanimously voted.

10. **To approve Clerk's extra hours** – 5.25 hours for the months of 24 April to 23 June 2021 – proposed by Cllr Mihr, seconded by Cllr Clarke. Unanimously agreed.

11. **To note the use of Clerk's Scheme of Delegated Powers (previously circulated)** – items 9.2.4 above (Financial Report) (under section 1.1) – power used due to missed invoice overdue from April 2021 and Planning Application DC/21/0860/HH (under section 4.1) – power used due to deadline of submission of PC input by 29 June 2021.

12. **To update and approve capital expenditure for Thetford Road Bungalow project** – Cllr Clarke advised that 3 quotes had been received for the materials for the wood planters and that Clarkes of Walsham had submitted the most competitive and complete quote. He proposed to accept Clarke's quotation, seconded by Cllr Mihr and unanimously agreed.



Geoff Mihr, Vice Chair



Andrea Morris, Clerk

2 quotes had been received for the plants – Dutch Barn Nursery quote was agreed with the exception of the peat based compost – Cllr Duncan will supply topsoil and CWPC will purchase 1 bag of peat free compost - proposed by Cllr Clarke, seconded by Cllr Mihr – unanimously agreed.

ACTION

13. **To discuss the replacement of the village 4 crossways signpost** – Cllrs Mihr & Flood have reported this to WSC on a number of occasions. CCllr Spicer asked Cllr Mihr to put this in writing to her to expedite the issue.

14. **To consider ideas for welcoming new residents to the village** – this was previously discussed at item 8.2,

FC

15. **To approve full membership of SLCC organisation** – proposed by Cllr Mihr, seconded by Cllr Clarke and unanimously agreed.

Clerk

16. **To approve Councillor training for Cllr Craig** – proposed by Cllr Clarke, seconded by Cllr Ladell and unanimously agreed.

17. **To discuss potential dates and format for the 2021 Annual Parish Meeting** – it was noted that this item has purposefully not been discussed before now due to the uncertainty surrounding current lockdown issues. Council agreed to hold the meeting on Thursday 9 September 2021 at 7pm in the Village Hall. The format will be similar to previous years where a guest speaker will be invited (suggestion of Knettishall Heath representative) and village groups will be invited to present their up-to-date status. This item is work-in-progress and further details will be available on the website when confirmed with Councillors.

GM


18. **To note Clerk's successful completion of the ILCA course** – congratulations from the floor and duly noted.

11. **Correspondence received and matters for Council's attention since publication of the agenda** – there were no matters arising.

12. **Date of next meeting** – Thursday 2 September 2021 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm

*Clerk's update – due to Coronavirus Health and Safety issues related to meeting premises (Village Hall Risk Assessment version 3), Council will re-consider this at its meeting on 2nd September. Note dated 16 August 2021.



5/9/21.

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Geoff Mihr, Vice Chair



Andrea Morris, Clerk