

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
CONEY WESTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 7.00PM
AT CONEY WESTON VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors P. Clarke, F Craig, S Duncan, C. Flood, G. Mihr (Vice Chair) and Lee Andrews-Pearce (Community Engagement Officer, Suffolk Police)
County Councillor J. Spicer, District Councillor A. Smith
A. Morris (Clerk).

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

ACTION

The Clerk advised that a Chair must be appointed for the meeting in order to comply with Standing Orders. Cllr Clarke nominated Cllr Mihr, seconded by Cllr Flood. Unanimously agree.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies received from Councillor Ladell due to a health issue. This was accepted by Council.
2. **Declaration of Interest:** Cllr Duncan declared an interest in discussions relating to the Playing Field as he has been appointed as a Trustee.
3. **To approve the draft minutes of the last Parish Council meeting (1 July 2021) -** the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 1 July 2021 had been previously circulated and with the exception of a change to item 14 on page 508 from GM to FC - were agreed – proposed by Cllr Mihr and seconded by Cllr Clarke. Unanimously agreed.
4. **To receive and note the resignation of Councillor Hindry** – received and noted.
5. **Scheme of public speaking about a particular agenda item** - no requests to speak at particular agenda items from members of the public were received.
6. **County Councillor's report** – Cllr Spicer congratulated Council on the successful completion of the Thetford Road Bungalow project.

Clerk

Cllr Mihr agreed to compile a list of outstanding issues that have been logged with Highways department and send to Cllr Spicer as she is planning a tour of her parishes with the Highways Engineer before our next meeting. Speeding issues in our and neighbouring parishes were also discussed along with various options.

GM

Cllr Spicer will give an update on the flooding issue before our next meeting in November and will plan a site meeting with Cllr Mihr.


JS

Cllr Spicer left the meeting at 7.30pm

7. **District Councillor's report** - Cllr Smith advised that the sum of £500 had been repaid to his budget from the Coney Weston Playing Field Committee (CWPF) after they had refused the grant the Parish Council had offered towards the cost of hiring a solicitor for work involved in vesting the land with the Land Registry.

Discussion took place on item 12 – the proposed Solar Farm at Firsfield Farm. There is no planning application at this stage. On Tuesday 7th September the Estates Director for Euston will be attending the Bardwell Parish Council meeting to discuss this. Cllr Duncan will attend and report back to Council.

SD



Geoff Mihr, Vice Chair

509



Andrea Morris, Clerk

Cllr Duncan asked Cllr Smith to find out how to make representation to Suffolk Council and central Government to ask for a policy on the placing and planning of solar farms. Cllr Smith will pass this to the Clerk for all Council information.

8. Councillor Reports:

8.6. Highways, hedges and footpaths, speed device – there were no updates on hedges and footpaths.

Cllr Mihr introduced Lee Andrews-Pearce, Community Engagement Officer from Suffolk Police who spoke about his role in the community and with neighbouring parishes on all community based police issues.

Officer Andrews-Pearce advised that he would try to attend Coney Weston with the speed gun but could not give a specific date. He is happy to attend our Annual Parish meeting to give a talk to residents on the impact and dangers of speeding in rural communities.

There is a Neighbourhood watch co-ordinators meeting scheduled for 5th September – Cllr Duncan advised he would try to attend.

Thanks extended to Officer Andrews-Pearce for his time and interest in our Parish.

SD

8.1. Defibrillator, village & volunteers groups – Cllr Clarke advised that a Trustee meeting with the new CWPFC trustees has been scheduled for Wednesday 8th September – both he and Cllr Duncan will report back to Council on the outcome of the meeting and, in particular, the financial position of the Committee.

PC/
SD

The battery has been replaced in the defibrillator and 2 electropads also need to be replaced. Cllr Clarke will make enquiries and gather quotations for this.

PC

It was agreed that Cllr Mihr will attend the next Coney Weston Bowls Club meeting on 21st October at 7pm and report back to Council.

GM

The Village Hall will celebrate their centenary year this year with an event – all details to be advised.

8.2. New residents, community engagement – Cllr Craig advised a quote of £146.00 plus VAT for the purchase of 200 3" x 2" fridge magnets for new residents. Council agreed the layout and pictures. It was also agreed that there were sufficient magnets for all households to have one (along with the A5 Information Sheet). Proposed to go ahead by Cllr Duncan, seconded by Cllr Clarke and voted unanimously.

FC

8.3. Environmental initiatives, neighbourhood watch – Cllr Duncan reported working on a list of initiatives for environmental issues and will put these forward at the Annual Parish Meeting. No updates on neighbourhood watch.

SD

8.4. Website, Facebook page and publicity – Cllr Flood reported 434 people reached on Facebook in the last 28 days, with 179 actively engaged and 181 followers. 251 active users on the website.

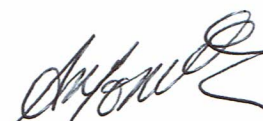
8.5. Planning, monitoring of notice boards – no report.

9. **To approve Councillor training (modules 2 & 4) for Cllr Craig scheduled for 2 & 16 November 2021 via SALC at a cost £25.00 each** – proposed by Cllr Mihr, seconded by Cllr Clarke voted unanimously.

510



Geoff Mihr, Vice Chair



Andrea Morris, Clerk

10. Financial Report

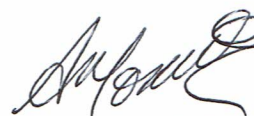
- 10.1. Cllr Duncan proposed to accept previously circulated bank reconciliation and statement dated 26 August 2021. Seconded by Cllr Flood. Unanimously agreed.
- 10.2. Cllr Duncan proposed authorising all payments listed on the payment schedule as previously circulated, seconded by Cllr Flood, unanimously voted.
- Council agreed to add projected year end financial position figures to future financial reports.

Cllr Mihr, as Chair, advised that the 2 hour duration of the meeting, as per item 3(x) of Standing Orders, had now lapsed. A unanimous vote was taken to extend the meeting for a further 30 minutes.

11. **To note the use of Clerk's Scheme of Delegated Powers (previously circulated at item 11 of Agenda) - noted.**
12. **To discuss the proposal for a Solar farm at Firsfield Farm – previously discussed at item 7.**
13. **To discuss the implications of the village hall's updated Risk Assessment on the Annual Parish Meeting currently scheduled for 9th September 2021 – it was noted that the Village Hall Risk Assessment (version 3) would restrict the numbers of members of the public to 40 (50 in total in hall). As there is no internet facility at the Hall, a remote or live streaming meeting is not an option. There would be a significant cost implication to hiring marquees and as masks would still be required to be worn the serving of refreshments would be curtailed. It was agreed to postpone the meeting pending an updated Risk Assessment by the Village Hall committee – proposed by Cllr Duncan, seconded by Cllr Mihr and unanimously agreed.**
14. **To discuss the Festival of Suffolk 2022 celebrations – due to time limitations, it was agreed to postpone this item to the next Council meeting.**
15. **To consider any correspondence received and matters for Council's attention since publication of the agenda**
- 15.1. Planning Application DC/21/1625/HH at Coney Meadows, Thetford Road, Coney Weston IP31 1DN to be discussed at an Extra Ordinary meeting on Friday 17 September (see item 16 below).
- 15.2. It was also agreed that the current process used to deal with residents' correspondence would be discussed at the forthcoming Extraordinary Meeting - a suitable agenda item would be included.
16. **Date of next meeting (Extra Ordinary Meeting) – Friday 17 September 2021 at 7pm in the Village Hall.**



Geoff Mihr, Vice Chair



Andrea Morris, Clerk