

DRINKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th January 2022

- Present: Councillors: Richard Edmondson (Chair), Peter Holborn (Vice Chair), Janet Elnaugh, Emily Elnaugh, Tim Moss, and Paul Selvey. Councillor pending co-option Christine Emery. One member of the public.
Clerk: Jane Hill.
1. Penny Otton sent apologies prior to the meeting. All other Councillors were present.
 2. Cllr Selvey highlighted that he had expenses to claim (Agenda item 9) otherwise there were no declarations and interests to note.
 3. Resolved, the Council agreed that the minutes of the ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th December 2021 were a true record.
 4. It was resolved that Mrs Christine Emery be co-opted on to Drinkstone Parish Council to serve forthwith, be appointed as Community Engagement Officer and be authorised as a signatory to the Unity Trust Bank.
 5. Portfolio reports and updates from the Councillors.
 - i) There was no matters arising from Cllr Otton's report.
 - ii) Tree Warden – Cllr Holborn highlighted the tree planting at Burts Farm and Hall Farm. He also highlighted a triangle of land in Garden House Lane that would be suitable for tree planting to celebrate the Queens Jubilee. It was highlighted that there was a high voltage electrical cable underground to take note of. Next steps include:
 - Clerk to look for information regarding the Way leave and send to Council.
 - Cllr Holborn and Cllr Edmondson to meet at the site to consider its suitability for tree planting.
 - Cllr Holborn to contact people in the Parish who would like to plant trees on their land
 - iii) Parish Assets - Cllr Tim Moss noted the following:
 - The mole hill problem at the Cricket was close to being resolved.
 - Delivery of the football nets was delayed from the supplier but expected before the end of January.
 - The defibrillator had been checked, noted that the pads needed changing in December this year.
 - The wood for the benches on the footpaths had been ordered and that a JD mail to the village asking for volunteers to install the benches was planned.
 - iv) Footpaths – Cllr E Elnaugh noted the following:
 - The footpaths are very wet and muddy at the moment, there is one with a deep puddle.
 - The Council discussed whether wood chippings or hay would be the most suitable material to stabilise the footpaths, and hard core was considered for the deep puddle.
 - It was agreed that Cllr E Elnaugh would try and source wood chippings from local tree surgeons in the first instance, and if this was not possible she would consider putting down the free hay offered by the Elnaugh's. Furthermore, Cllr Edmondson and Cllr Elnaugh agreed to move hardcore from Cllr Elnaugh's house to fill in the large puddle.
 - It was agreed that the broken footbridge on Rattlesden Road would be reported so it could be fixed.
 - v) Highways – Cllr Selvey noted the following:
 - The 30mph repeater signs were already placed at the minimum distance from each other, as such there was no scope for any further signs and the agenda item was closed.
 - The speed limit sign which has fallen over will be reported to highways to be fixed.
 - A company called JAC Ltd quoted £500-600 per gate without installation which is a higher price than the existing budget for the village entry gate project. Cllr Edmondson requested that this project continues and that a quote and survey is obtained from Highways.
 - The bridge on The Street needs to have two rails fixed prior to painting. It was noted that the bridge is due to be painted in the Spring and that the rails should be replaced just prior to painting.
 - vi) Allotments – Cllr Edmondson highlighted that the allotment holders are scheduled to have a meeting on 26th January.
 6. There was no public comment or questions when invited by the Chair.

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7. The Parish Clerk's report was received, the precept mandate signed, and it was agreed that the Parish Council meeting in May would be on Tuesday 3rd May, and not Monday 2nd May. It was noted that the May meeting would include the Annual Parish meeting and the Parish Council AGM.
8. The bank transactions and accounts were circulated to the Council prior to the meeting, the Chair confirmed they were supported by relevant Bank Statements. It was resolved that the following payments were authorised for payment by the Council:

	Description	£
UT1	Reimburse Cllr Selvey for hose clips and padlock for SID	46.97

9. The implications of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint local Plan (JLP) examination feedback regarding Matter 4 – Settlement Hierarchy, Spatial Distribution of Housing and Housing Site Selection Process was considered:
- The examiners have requested that the boundaries of the top 3 tiers of towns/villages be reconsidered, the Councillors remarked that as Drinkstone was a Hamlet this review was unlikely to impact the village, however it was noted this should be reviewed.
 - The Councillors highlighted that there is an issue in that the settlement boundary in the JLP does not fully correlate to that in the Drinkstone Neighbourhood Plan (DNHP); there are two sites which had agreed planning and were included in the DNHP but have not been added to the boundary in the JLP. In addition the development at Yew Tree Farm is in the JLP but not the NHP.
 - It was agreed that the map in the JLP and the DNHP would be overlaid to double check any further inconsistencies, the Clerk to investigate whether this is possible to do in Parish Online. Following this Cllr J Elnaugh, Cllr P Holborn and the Clerk to meet to draft a communication to MSDC to highlight any differences in the JLP and DNHP settlement boundary to try and avoid issues with future planning applications.
10. Planning update:
- i) One new application for a new grain store at Rookery Meade Farm (DC/21/06748) was considered: The Council reviewed this application and agreed that as it was an agricultural building outside the settlement boundary there was no reason for the Council to object. The Council did feel it was important to ensure that there was a landscaping and planting plan that was commensurate with the size of the new building which should be implemented no later than 12 months after building complete.
Resolved, the Clerk makes known the Council's comments on Planning Applications on this agenda to the Corporate Manager, Growth & Sustainable Planning at Mid Suffolk District Council.
 - ii) Cllr J Elnaugh gave an update on the informal meeting regarding Yew Tree Farm pre application plans. It was highlighted that the Council would like this application to be considered as a new planning application, and not an amendment to the original application, so any plans could be considered against the DNHP. It was agreed that the Clerk would send a mail to MSDC planners to request this.
 - iii) New application at Drinkstone Hall (DC/22/00038)
Following the publication of the Parish Council meeting agenda and prior to the meeting an application for a new vehicular entrance at Drinkstone Hall (DC/22/00038) was received. The Council discussed whether an extra ordinary meeting was required to consider this application, it was agreed that as the Council had no comment an additional meeting would not be necessary.
11. There was no comment or questions from the public when invited by the Chair.
12. There was no topics requested to be added to the next agenda.
13. It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for 8pm on Monday 7th March 2022 at the village hall.
14. The meeting closed at 9.25pm

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