

# **Sibton Parish Council**

**A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Sibton & Peasenhall Methodist Church on Monday, January 22nd 2024 at 7pm.**

## **Present:**

Cllr. A. Dale (Chair); Cllr. A. Candler (Vice-Chair); Cllr. A. Cable; Cllr. S. Lear; Cllr. A. Levett-Scrivener and Cllr. D. Sims:

## **Also Present:**

Paul Widdowson (Clerk); District Cllr. J. Ewart (Left 7-22pm), County Cllr. S. Burroughes (Left 8-06pm) and one parishioner (Left at 9-03pm):

### **1) Apologies:**

There were no apologies.

### **2) To receive Declarations of Interest and confirm all Members have reviewed their Declaration of Interest Forms: Councillors to declare any Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests. Members may subsequently declare an interest at any point in the meeting:**

Cllr. A. Dale declared a personal interest in the planning applications DC 23 4864 FUL, DC 23 4866 FUL and DC 23 4867 FUL. It was agreed that he would not vote.

Cllr. S. Lear declared a personal interest in the Playing Fields Trust.

### **3) Requests for dispensations:**

There were no requests for dispensations.

### **4) To receive a report from the County and District Councillors:**

District Cllr. J. Ewart reported that she was working with County Cllr. S. Burroughes to solve the issue in Pouy Street and it was hoped that the work required would start in June with County Cllr. S. Burroughes paying some of the cost from his Locality and Highways Budget. District Cllr. J. Ewart said that she would use some of her Enabling Communities Budget to pay for Village Signs. She said that which signs would be funded was still to be decided.

District Cllr. J. Ewart said that she attended a flooding meeting in Framlingham and resident groups were being set up in Framlingham. County Cllr. S. Burroughes reported that he attended a meeting in Framlingham yesterday where two hundred people had attended.

Cllr. A. Levett-Scrivener believed that the Environment Agency was not clear on whether to clear rivers for environmental reasons or to clear them to stop flooding.



sign and County Cllr. S. Burroughes said that he may be able to contribute to the cost. He suggested that a local business would perhaps pay for it.

It was clarified that the Village Sign Base had been built, the Oak Post had also been put up and just the Village Sign needed to be put on top of the post.

**8) Highways and Speeding:**

Cllr. A. Levett-Scrivener reported that the Police Speed Camera Van had visited Sibton recently and many people had been caught exceeding the 30mph speed limit.

**9) A1120 Fence:**

Cllr. A. Dale said that he had obtained a quote to remove the hedge, put up a new metal fence with posts between the two bridges. He said that the quote was £8990 plus VAT (£1798) so the cost was £10 788.

The Clerk said that he would check with Suffolk Association of Councils (SALC) whether the Parish Council could carry out this work regarding replacing the hedge with a fence and other legalities.

It was agreed to carry out the work subject to checking with SALC.

Proposer: Cllr. S. Lear:

Seconder: Cllr. A. Candler:

**Cllr. A. Candler left the meeting for a few minutes at this point in the meeting to move his car.**

**Item No. 13 'Donations' was considered at this point of the meeting.**

Councillors agreed to the following donations to the following organisations:

St. Elizabeth Hospice - £50

Royal British Legion - £50

Citizen's Advice Bureau - £50

East Anglian Air Ambulance - £50

Peasenhall and Sibton Playing Field - £70

Proposer: Cllr. D. Sims

Seconder: : Cllr. S. Lear:

It was agreed to contribute towards the cost of the insurance for the Peasenhall and Sibton Sports Field. Councillors agreed to make a donation of £70.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Levett-Scrivener:

Seconder: Cllr. D. Sims:

**10) Footpath in Pouy Street:**

It was agreed that this Agenda Item had been discussed in Agenda Item 4 – Report from the County and District Councillors.

## 11) Planning Matters:

**Proposal:** *An Outline Planning Application for tourism development at Cockfield Hall Estate. The application, which includes detailed proposals for the matter of access, (with all other matters to be reserved for future determination), is for the erection of up to 37 cottages/farmsteads (comprising up to 200 beds).*

**Address:** *Cockfield Hall, Station Road, Yoxford, Saxmundham, Suffolk. IP17 3ET*

**Ref:** *DC/23/4864/OUT*

The Parish Council is concerned about the scale of the development and the amount of traffic generated and consequent effect on highway safety by the development.

Proposer: Cllr. S. Lear:

Seconder: Cllr. A. Candler:

**Proposal:** *Full detailed planning application for the creation of a water body to be used for irrigation of new forestry plantations, habitat creation, sustainable drainage and recreational use as part of the wider tourism development. The works form part of a comprehensive masterplan for the estate.*

**Address:** *Cockfield Hall Estate, Station Road, Yoxford, Suffolk. IP17 3ET*

**Ref:** *DC/23/4866/FUL*

The Parish Council believes that it is not qualified to comment on this in detail but is concerned about nature conservation in view that the water body is being created for recreational use as part of a wider tourism development.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Candler:

Seconder: Cllr. D. Sims:

**Proposal:** *Full detailed planning application for the creation of two water bodies as part of a larger Landscape masterplan, to hold water within the landscape including the creation of reed bed and wetland habitat. The lakes will provide recreational use and mooring points, associated with the wider tourism development. A new pedestrian bridge will retain the existing public right of way.*

**Address:** *Cockfield Hall Estate, Station Road, Yoxford, Saxmundham, Suffolk. IP17 3ET*

**Ref:** *DC/23/4867/FUL*

The Parish Council believes that it is not qualified to comment on this in detail but is concerned about nature conservation in view that the water body is being created for recreational use as part of a wider tourism development.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Candler:

Seconder: Cllr. D. Sims:

**Proposal:** *The proposal is for a ground mount solar PV system with the capacity to generate up to 225.5kWp. The Solar PV systems generated electricity will be exported to the grid, thereby reducing the local electricity networks reliance on fossil fuels whilst also lowering carbon emissions. The estimated annual electricity generation from the ground mounted solar PV system is approximately 259.30MWh/year which equates to a carbon savings of up to 48.4tCO<sub>2</sub>e/year based on the reduction on reliance on the grid which is equivalent of planting over 2,223 trees. The proposal will therefore contribute towards the regional targets for renewable energy generation.*

**Address:** Earlsway Farm, Yoxford Road, Bramfield, Halesworth, Suffolk. IP19 9AD

**Ref:** DC/23/4851/FUL

The Parish Council does not object to this planning application

Proposer: Cllr. A. Candler:

Seconder: Cllr. D. Sims:

**12) Clerk’s Report and Correspondence:**

The Clerk reported that he had received an email from County Cllr. S. Burroughes stating that two potholes on Yoxford Road had been ordered to be filled in. The Clerk said that there was a Sizewell C Forum to be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024 at Trinity Park, Ipswich and that he had submitted the Parish Council’s Precept and New Electoral Register Requests to East Suffolk Council.

**13) Donations:**

This Agenda Item was taken after Agenda Item No. 9.

**14) Bank Accounts Review:**

Cllr. A. Dale reported that he had found out how to change the daily limit on payments from the Bank Account. It was agreed to change the limit from £350 to £15 000.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Dale:

Seconder: Cllr. A. Cable:

**15) Financial Report:**

**a) Balances at the Bank on January 12th 2024:**

Business Charitable Account	£12 077-10
Business Money Manager	£16 760-75

**b) Payments and Receipts:**

Internet Banking	Charitable A/c Bank Charges – Dec 2023	£5-00
Internet Banking	Charitable A/c Bank Charges – January 2024	£5-40
Internet Banking	Suffolk Cloud - Hosting 2023-2024	£110-00
Internet Banking	Installation of Noticeboard and Village Sign Oak Post	£150-00
Internet Banking	Building Village Sign Base	£736-00
Internet Banking	Clerk’s Pay – October until December 2023	£478-90
Internet Banking	Clerk’s Tax – October until December 2023	£21-80

**Receipts:**

BACS	Interest	£67-89
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The Financial Report and Accounts were accepted.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Levett-Scrivener:                      Second: Cllr. A. Candler:

**16) Cil Money:**

It was agreed to discuss this Agenda Item at a future Parish Council Meeting.

**17) Policies:**

It was agreed to discuss the following policies at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Complaints Policy;  
Disciplinary Policy;  
Emergency Dependents Leave Policy;  
Equality and Diversity Policy;  
Expenses Policy;  
Flexible Working Policy;  
Grant Policy  
Grievance Policy;  
Information Technology;  
Maternity Leave and Pay Policy;  
Lone Working Policy;  
Paternity Leave and Pay Policy:

**18) To agree Audit Arrangements:**

It was agreed to use Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) for the Internal Audit 2023-2024.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Levett-Scrivener:                      Second: Cllr. A. Candler:

**19) To agree Council Risk Assessment Procedures:**

The Council Risk Assessment Procedures for 2023-2024 were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. D. Sims:    Second: Cllr. A. Candler:

**20) To agree Council Asset Register:**

The Council Asset Register for 2023-2024 was agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Levett-Scrivener:                      Second: Cllr. A. Candler:

**21) To decide the date and receive agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting:**

It was agreed that the next Parish Council Meeting would be held on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 7pm.

**The Meeting ended at 9-31pm.**