

Sibton Parish Council

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at Sibton & Peasenhall Methodist Church on Monday, March 18th 2024 at 7pm.

There was a long discussion about local affairs at the start of the meeting.

Present:

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

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk):

1) Apologies:

Cllr. S. Lear gave her apologies which was accepted by the Councillors.

Cllr. A. Levett-Scrivener was not present at the meeting.

County Cllr. S. Burroughes was not present and District Cllr. J. Ewart gave her 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:

There were no declarations of interest.

3) Requests for dispensations:

There were no requests for dispensations.

4) Co-option of Councillor:

a) To consider any applicants who have applied for the vacancy on the Council.

There were no applicants.

b) To receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and to note any declarations of interest if co-opted.

There were no applicants so there was no Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

5) To receive a report from the County and District Councillors:

The Clerk said that he forwarded the written reports from County Cllr. S. Burroughes and District Cllr. J. Ewart to Councillors.

Cllr. A. Dale reported that District Cllr. J. Ewart had approved the Parish Council's application for money for signs from her Councillor Budget and that it was being processed.

6) Public Session: Members of the public have fifteen minutes to ask questions on topics on the agenda.

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

7) To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, January 22nd 2024:

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on January 22nd 2024 were agreed.

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

8) Highways:

Cllr. A. Dale reported that the hedges had been cut back.

9) A1120 Fence:

Cllr. A. Dale explained the complexities of completing the project agreed at the last meeting.

10) Footpath in Pouy Street:

Cllr. A. Dale said that there was no update.

11) Sizewell C and other Representatives:

It was agreed to appoint Cllr. A. Candler as the Parish Council's Sizewell C Representative.

Councillors discussed Sizewell C and agreed that the issue should always be approached constructively.

Proposer: Cllr. D. Sims: Seconder: Cllr. A. Cable:

12) Planning Matters:

There were no planning applications.

13) Clerk's Report and Correspondence:

The Clerk said that an invitation for the Buckingham Palace Garden Party Draw had been given to the Chair and he had also received a Pensions Regulator Reminder. He reported that there had been a VAT Repayment of £780-00 and that he had attended a Clerk Networking Meeting about the upcoming Internal Audit. He said that the Internal Audit was booked for the beginning of May.

The Clerk said that there was currently a consultation regarding the LionLink and Local Government Devolution. He also reported that there was the Sizewell C Annual Community Forum on April 9th and he had received an email regarding the Halesworth Library Events.

Finally the Clerk said that there had been a change to the Financial Regulations and that the Clerk could get help from a Spexhall Parish Councillor in making the change to the 'gov.uk' domain for the Parish Council's emails and possibly its website. He also reported that he had received some Elan City Offers.

14) Financial Report:

a) Balances at the Bank on March 12th 2024: To receive an update on the current financial status.

Business Charitable Account	£12 677-80
Business Money Manager	£16 841-82

b) Payments and Receipts:

Internet Banking	Charitable A/c Bank Charges – January 2024	£5-40
Internet Banking	Charitable A/c Bank Charges – February 2024	£5-00
Internet Banking	Clerk's Pay – January until March 2024	£TBA
Internet Banking	Clerk's Tax – January until March 2024	£TBA
Internet Banking	St. Elizabeth Hospice Donation	£50-00
Internet Banking	Royal British Legion Donation	£50-00
Internet Banking	Citizen's Advice Bureau Donation	£50-00
Internet Banking	East Anglian Air Ambulance Donation	£50-00
Internet Banking	Peasenhall and Sibton Playing Field Donation	£70-00
Internet Banking	Methodist Church – Council Meetings 2023	£96-00

Receipts:

BACS	HMRC VAT Repayment	£780-00
BACS	Interest	£81-07

Proposer: Cllr. D. Sims:

Seconder: Cllr. A. Cable:

15) To agree Internal Control Statement and Report:

The Internal Control Statement and Report was agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. D. Sims:

Seconder: Cllr. A. Cable:

16) Policies:

The following policies were reviewed and agreed:

Anti-Harassment and Bullying
Data Protection and Information Management
Data Protection
Equal Opportunities
Homeworking

Proposer: Cllr. D. Sims:

Seconder: Cllr. A. Dale:

The following policies were to be discussed at the next meeting with the policies sent to Councillors in advance:

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

17) Cil Money:

It was agreed to discuss the spending of Community Infrastructure Levy (Cil) Money at a future meeting.

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

It was also noted that the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) would be held at 7pm on Monday, May 20th 2024 and the Annual Parish Council Meeting (APCM) would be held on Monday, May 20th 2024 at 7-30pm.

Cllr. A. Candler gave his apologies.

The Meeting ended at 9-30pm.