

DRINKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of an Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on
Monday 2nd February 2020

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Present: Cllrs Edmondson, Hembra, Holborn, Moss, Schofield, Selvey

Attending: Parish Clerk Mrs Hilary Workman, SCC & MSDC Cllr Penny Otton (part)
And 2 members of the public

20.02.01 **Noted:**

When apologies for absence were invited there were none.

20.02.02 **Noted:**

When Member's Declarations of Local Non-Pecuniary Interests and/or Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in subsequent Agenda items were invited, there were none.

20.02.03 Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th January, 2020, as tabled, were agreed as a true record.

20.02.04 **Noted:**

The following correspondence to this meeting not dealt with as an Agenda item or in the Clerk's report.

- 4.1 SALC Bulletin
Area Forum Dates – 17th March; 11th June; 17th September and 1st December
- 4.2 Babergh Mid Suffolk District Councils:
Community Governance Review
- 4.3 Sporting Memories Project

20.02.05 **Noted:** Open Session

That when public comment or questions on any agenda item were invited, there were none.

20.02.06 **Noted:** (Cllr Penny Otton arrived)

- 6.1 A written report (*previously circulated*) from District and County Council Ward Member Cllr Penny Otton, who further reported her concern that MSDC had given little consideration to Thurston's Neighbourhood Plan and that she would be raising this.
- 6.2 A written report from Cllr Edmondson (*previously circulated*) who further reported that notice of the vacant plot would be circulated on Jungle Drums.
- 6.3 A written report from Cllr Hembra (*previously circulated*). The meeting asked the Parish Clerk to add an item to the website asking dog owners to be considerate of other users of open spaces in the Parish, and clean up after their pets.
- 6.4 A written report Cllr Holborn (*previously circulated*). The meeting agreed that the Parish Council leave the existing instruction for planned work to Parish Trees in place and review if the contractor had not been able to complete it in March.
- 6.5 An Oral report from Cllr Moss who reported that NP Environment Sub-group members were keen to put the Parish Footpaths leaflets in the phone box. Cllr Hembra kindly

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offered to laminate an A3 map of the footpaths to display in the phone box. Cllr Selvey suggest that an additional use for the phone box might be to display QR codes for local businesses and groups, enabling parishioners to access the information via their mobile phones.

- 6.6 An oral report from Cllr Schofield on the parish footpaths and bye-ways noting that the paths were very muddy but well used. It was further noted that the work required to the style at Rattlesden Road, which had been reported again to SCC had not commenced as SCC had reported that they were in dispute with the landowner.
- 6.7 A written report from Cllr Selvey (*previously circulated*) who further confirmed that:
- All reported issues with SCC Highways were showing as completed
 - There was constant flooding on Park Road resulting from a build-up in vegetative matter which had not been sided out from the edges of the highway. This was having a significant impact on villagers' access and damage to their vehicles. The meeting agreed that SCC highways would need to find and implement an engineering solution to this problem.

The meeting agreed with Cllr Selvey's proposal to

- Proceed with plans for SID's on the following sites where there had not been objections
 - Rattlesden Road/Gedding Road
 - Site between the church and sub-station
 - Site at Village hall
- Withdraw Beyton Road from the proposals due to objections; and
- Follow up on non-responses in respect of
 - Woolpit Road
 - Rattlesden Road

20.02.07 **Noted:** The Clerk's report that

- 7.1 the VAT126 Claim for the first 3 quarters of 2019 h in the sum of £399.76 had been paid by HMRC.
- 7.2 following a Notice of Vacancy posted on 19th December 2019, no requests for an election had been received and the Parish Council could therefore proceed to co-opt a councillor. A [Notice inviting applications for co-option](#), together with further information about the role and responsibilities, and the qualifying criteria, would be posted on the website. The closing date for applications was 6th March, allowing the matter to be considered at the Parish Council's April meeting.
- 7.3 mandates for the Lloyds Allotments Account had been updated.
- 7.4 there was no tax due to HMRC in Quarter 3 2019.20.

20.02.08 **Noted**

The meeting considered the Consultation by Mid Suffolk District Council under Regulation 16: Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) – Woolpit Neighbourhood Development Plan and Drinkstone Parish Council's draft response ([DPC20.02.01](#), circulated). Cllr Holborn further noted that no real implications for Drinkstone had been identified in the consultation document. Most items previously reported to Woolpit in their initial consultation had been addressed. However, the Drinkstone PC NP group did consider that the policies outlined in Woolpit's Neighbourhood Plan looked a little weak (for example, light and visual intrusions, A14 noise and a lack of electric charging points for new developments). The meeting

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To approve the draft response (DPC20.02.01 refers) and submit to the Spatial Planning Policy Team at Mid Suffolk District Council.

20.02.09

Noted:

9.1 The following receipts:

	Description	£
9.1.1	Santander - Interest	£1.34
9.1.2	UK Power Networks (Lloyds Allotment Account)	£111.56
9.1.3	HMRC VAT Refund XDV126000102432	£399.76

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9.2 The following schedule of payments for authorisation:

	Description	£	Santander Chq No.
9.2.1	Clerk Salary period 9 (Minute 19.12.22 refers)	£834.20	022065
9.2.2	Mid Suffolk District Council #2000092506 Annual Play Insp.	£50.18	022066
9.2.3	Drinkstone War Memorial Institute – Parish Council meetings April - Jan	£190.00	022067
9.2.4	Drinkstone War Memorial Institute – Neighbourhood Plan meetings	£74.00	022068

9.3 Resolved

To authorise the schedule of payments listed at 9.2 above for payment.

9.4 The cash book report against budget, and the current account balances and reconciliation, as scheduled, and the Chairman's confirmation that they are supported by relevant Bank Statements.

20.02.10

Noted:

An update on progress towards moving to internet banking. The meeting noted that the application had been checked for accuracy and asked the clerk to submit it on the basis of the following authorisations:

- Key Contact – administrate, view the account and submit payments
 - Clerk & RFO Hilary Workman
- Signatories:
 - View the account and authorise payments:
 - Cllr Haslett Schofield
 - Cllr Richard Edmondson
 - Cllr Gary Hembra
 - Cllr Tim Moss
 - View the account only
 - Cllr Peter Holborn
 - Cllr Paul Selvey

Internal Transfers authorised by one user submitting the payment and the other authorising it
External payments authorised by one user submitting the payment and two others authorising. Payments over £5000 to be authorised by three users.

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- 20.02.11 **Noted:** - no item – error in numbering on agenda.
- 20.02.12 The following planning results as notified by Babergh Mid Suffolk District Councils:
- 12.1 **DC/19/05187** - Full Planning Application
Partial change of use of garage (class C3) Residential use to (class B2)
General Industrial use as a nanobrewery.
Foxhollies, Rattlesden Road, Drinkstone, Bury St Edmunds IP30 9TL
Withdrawn.
- 20.02.13 **Noted:**
That no planning applications had been notified by MSDC for comment.
- 20.02.14 **Noted:**
That there were no planning matters for information, to be noted or for inclusion on a future agenda.
- 20.02.15 **Noted:**
A report on progress toward registering Parish Lands for Drinkstone (*previously circulated as [DPC20.02.02](#)*). The meeting asked Cllr Selvey and the Clerk to finalise a brief on which to instruct a Chartered Surveyor, and that the draft [letter](#) to Lucy Blake (incorporating advice from the Parish Council's Solicitors), setting out the current position, be sent.
- 20.02.16 **Noted:**
A report ([DPC 20.02.03](#), *previously circulated*) presented by Cllr Schofield on a proposed change to the schedule of meetings in the financial year 2020/2021. Cllr Schofield further reported that the proposal offered an opportunity to maximise value for money for the Parish, whilst increasing project work and maintaining quality. The meeting
- Resolved:**
To adjust the schedule of meetings for the financial year 2020-2021 to:
6th April; 11th May; 8th June; 3rd August; 5th October; 7th December 2020 and
11th January, and 1st March 2021
as a trial for the financial year 2020/21 and review at the March meeting in
2021 to establish whether additional meetings need to be scheduled.
- 20.02.17 **Noted:**
When public comment or questions on any matter of Council business were invited, the following:
- 18.1 Flooding at the junction of chapel and was reported, the drain being clogged with detritus. Cllr Penny Otton kindly offered to raise the issue of the need for drains under and adjacent to highways to be regularly cleared. Flooding was also reported at the bottom of Home Farm Lane.
- 18.2 Following a query from a member of the public with respect to the classification of the village as a Hamlet Cllr Schofield confirmed that it was his understanding that at the time of the original classification, businesses were not part of the criteria on which a classification was reached. Drinkstone Parish Council had reported factual inaccuracies in BMSDC's original information (for example, the distances between Drinkstone and Stowmarket, and Drinkstone and Bury St Edmunds) and confirmed that taking into account the reported inaccuracies, and their changes to the classification criteria, Mid Suffolk District Council had confirmed the designation of Drinkstone as a hamlet.

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18.3 A reported problem with the presence of rats in Cross Street. The hard standing adjacent to Stotts Cottage had now been cleared. MSDC had advised that they no longer undertook pest control. Cllr Penny Otton kindly offered to seek clarification with MSDC.

20.02.18 **Noted:**
There was no other Council business for information, to be noted or for inclusion on a future agenda.

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20.02.19 **Noted:**
That the scheduled date for the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was Monday 2nd March beginning at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

20.02.21 **Noted:**
The meeting closed at 8:50pm

Draft

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