

DRINKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 1st July 2024

Present: Councillors: Paul Selvey (Chair), Janet Elnaugh, Christine Emery, Penny Otton (Suffolk), Nicky Willshere

Apologies: Alice Robinson, Daphne Youngs, Malcolm Turner

Clerk: Michael Walton.

1. There were no declarations of interest:

1.1. There were no Members' Declarations of and/or Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in subsequent Agenda items.

1.2. There were no requests for dispensations.

2. To receive any report from District and County Council Ward Members & Clerk.

1. Cllr Penny Otton

County Councillor

Verge cutting programme distributed to CC and noted that Cross Street has not been cut.

Noted that there are 48 potholes on Park Road alone – all potholes informed to Suffolk CC. CC website indicates that the work is complete however the works remain outstanding. Meeting scheduled for Friday 5th July with Suffolk.

2. Nicky Willshere

Mid Suffolk District Councillor

No update. Locality budget is now available. Cllr Willshere asked for projects for funding. Suggest contact Nick Hill for funding to support the village hall. Peter Holborn suggested that we consider accessing funds to help clear the footpaths. Questions raised about residents looking to fund a project to clear Chapel Lane. Specific issues surround the fact that there are certain council houses on Chapel Lane where Suffolk may be able to contribute. Cllr Selvey questioned whether a

a robust framework of financial administration and internal controls.

7. As required by the Annual Governance and Accountability Return under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Council approved the accounts for the 12 months ended 31.03.24 and authorised the Chairman and the RFO to sign them as approved.
8. Cllr Selvey reviewed the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2023/24 Part 2 for smaller authorities, certifying that the Drinkstone Parish Council is exempt from the requirement to have a limited assurance review or to submit the external auditor. The Council Chairman and RFO were authorised to sign this certificate.
9. Cllr Selvey approved the Annual Governance Statement as demonstrating a sound system of internal control. The Council Chairman and the Parish Clerk were authorised to sign a Statement of Confirmation of such approval.
10. Cllr Selvey approved the Accounting Statement as being a fair presentation of the Council's financial position year ended 31.03.24. The Council Chairman was authorised to sign a Statement of Confirmation of such approval.
11. It was noted that the Register of Interests and Declaration of Acceptance of Office has been updated.
12. The clerk informed the Council that the period for public inspection of the Annual Accounts will be between 1st July and 28th August 2024 and a notice will be published and posted to that effect.
13. The month's bank transactions and received and the latest bank reconciliation signed and approved.

Payments for authorisation by the Council:

	Description	£
UT1	Top Garden Services 2250	138.60

UT2	Suffolk CC – Boundary search	90.00
UT3	Hall hire 13/05/2024	20.00
UT4	Dog and litter bin collection	806.90
UT5	Direct debit for bank changes to Unity trust bank (£18 per quarter) - £72 annually	72.00

The Council agreed that the expenses listed above be authorised for payment.

14. Planning consultation request letter relating to planning application - DC/24/02427 - The Meade, Beyton Road, Drinkstone, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 9SS

Occupant previously converted a barn into an annexe. New application is seeking to convert and list the building as a separate dwelling. No objection raised by Cllr Elnaugh and recommends no comment. Agreed unanimously.

15. The Council discussed the maintenance of white railings at Blacksmiths corner (and the bridge) and noted that painting is required. It was agreed that a working party is required – suggested date is September. The Council agreed to advertise the project on JD to request support.

16. To confirm that the scheduled date for the next meeting is agreed by Council as Monday, August 5th, 2024 at 8pm

12. The meeting closed at 21.20 pm.

Signed

Drinkstone Parish Chair

Paul Selvey

5th August 2024