DRINKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th August 2024

Present: Councillors: Paul Selvey (Chair), Janet Elnaugh, Christine Emery, Alice Robinson,

Daphne Youngs, Malcolm Turner, Penny Otton (Suffolk), Nicky Willshere

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 other than Cllr Selvey expressing an interest in Item 9.2 ref a planning request for his property.

1.2. There were no requests for dispensations.

2. The Parish Council welcomed Jeff Horner, a flood management expert based in Thurston, The Council asked Mr Horner about his views on flood management and what Drinkstone might achieve by employing a specialist to advise of ditch and drain management and what can to be done to reduce flooding in the village.

2.1. Mr Horner shared his views on the impact of Storm Bebet which caused major flooding in Drinkstone in 2023

2.2. He indicated that rainfall would see a 40-45% increase over the next 100 years. This is brought about by climate change

2.3. He counselled against employing a consultant and recommended that the parish council conduct its own survey using Suffolk CC resources

2.3.1. Government websites show history of long-term flooding

2.3.2. Maps are available which focus on ditches, drains and catchments

2.3.3. Recommended that we request Suffolk CC to provide a list of assets. Suffolk CC should be doing this and considered that it is a waste of council monies to conduct a survey

- 2.3.4. Noted that landowners are responsible for clearing out their ditches and that under riparian rights landowners are obligated to ensure that ditches, culverts and waterways are free from debris and free flowing
- 2.3.5. A general discussion was held around the best methods to reduce flooding, be it clearing ditches, repairing culverts or looking to flood upstream. The last option would require an understanding of water flows within the area and a comprehensive understanding of the water networks in the region.
- 2.3.6. It was agreed that clerk would contact Suffolk CC to identify what assets are held in respect of the drainage system and that an agenda item for the next meeting be scheduled to discuss the merits of establishing a working party.
- 3. To receive any report from District and County Council Ward Members & Clerk.
 - Cllr Penny Otton County Councillor
 No update to submitted report
 - Nicky Willshere Mid Suffolk District Councillor
 Cllr Willshere indicated Suffolk would offer a contribution for Chapel Lane works.
 Philip Graves to determine the quote.
 Locality grants available and Drinkstone invited to request funding for a project.
 The Council updated Cllr Willshere on its dissatisfaction with Suffolk CC in its ability to respond to requests on the repair of pot holes.
 - Janet Elnaugh/Daphne Youngs Planning
 No update subject to discussion on 9.2 agenda item.
 - 4. Paul Selvey Highways
 No update
 - Alice Robinson Allotments and village assets
 Discussion ref whether the allotment charity can contribute towards the maintenance of Chapel Lane. Cllr Robinson indicated that £50 would be offered by the Allotment Charity.

Michael Walton: Drinkstone Parish Council Clerk & RFO
Tyne Barn, Gedding Road, Drinkstone, IP30 9TG
Telephone; 07950 763665 Email; drinkstoneclerk@gmail.com

Malcolm TurnerReport noted

Footpaths

7. Christine Emery

Community engagement

No comment

8. Clerk report

The clerk was requested to contact the Heartbeat Trust to look at a defibrillator for the telephone box.

4. Approval of minutes of meeting held Monday 1st July 2024.

The minutes were approved and agreed.

- 5. Public comment or questions invited by the Chair. There were no comments from the public.
- 6. The month's bank transactions and received and the latest bank reconciliation signed and approved.

Payments for authorisation by the Council:

	Description	£
UT1	Christine Emery – Easter Egg	61.27
UT2	Suffolk CC – playground report	63.78
UT3	Hall hire 03/06/2024	20.00
UT4	Payroll service	54.00

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

14. Planning consultation request letter relating to planning application - DC/24/03443 – Abbots Lodge, The Street, Drinkstone, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 9SX

No objections noted and clerk informed to update the portal with no comment.

15. Planning consultation request letter relating to planning application - DC/24/03087 Barcocks

Barn, IP30 9FJ

Cllr Selvey left the meeting whilst the agenda item was discussed. No objections noted and

clerk informed to update the portal with no comment.

16. AOB – the Council received a concern from a parishioner about the use of the verges on the

Cricket for the building works on Cross Street. The Council agreed to send a letter to be sent

to builders reminding them of the planning permission does not allow the verge to be used

for parking.

17. To confirm that the scheduled date for the next meeting is agreed by Council as Monday,

October 7th, 2024 at 8pm

12. The meeting closed at 21.20 pm.

Signed

Drinkstone Parish Chair

Paul Selvey 7th October 2024