

# **DRINKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

of an Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on  
**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**Present:** Cllrs Cousins, Hembra, Moss, Schofield, Thurlow, Youngs (Chairman)

**Attending:** District & County Council Ward Member Cllr Penny Otton  
Parish Clerk Mr Peter Dow  
8 members of the public

17.09.01 **Noted:**  
An apology for absence was noted from Cllr Lambert as she had a family commitment.

17.09.02 **Noted:**  
That when any Members' Declarations of Local Non-Pecuniary Interests and/or Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in subsequent Agenda items were invited, along with any additions and/or deletions to the Council's Register of Interests, none were forthcoming.

17.09.03 **Proposed: Cllr Youngs;**  
**That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017, and the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017, as tabled, be agreed as a true record.**

Seconded Cllr Thurlow

Both Proposer and Seconder accepted an amendment to add the words:  
***noting that, in respect of 6.4 it is recorded that support is conditional upon a request that a s106 Agreement be imposed requiring that the annexe accommodation cannot be used for a separate household and is used solely for the enjoyment of the occupiers of Treaclebenders or for occupation by a dependent family relative.***

Amendment carried

Substantive Proposal carried.

17.09.04 **Noted:**  
Correspondence to this meeting not dealt with as an Agenda item:  
4.1 From BT payphones confirming agreement to the proposed adoption of the red telephone box in The Street and forwarding a Contract which will be the subject of a Proposal to the next Ordinary Meeting.

17.09.05 **Noted:**  
5.1 A written report from District & County Council Ward Member Cllr Penny Otton;  
5.2 A written report from Cllr Hembra as Portfolio Holder for the playing field;  
5.3 An oral report from Cllr Schofield confirming that the footpaths were in good condition and had been cut by SCC. There had been unsolicited thanks from residents for the work of the volunteers in maintaining the paths.

17.09.06 **Noted:**  
The following when public comment or question invited on any Agenda item:  
6.1 The possibility of resurrecting the Community Speed Watch group was raised in light of speeding problems in the village. The Clerk was asked to write to both Beyton and Felsham Parish Councils to ascertain the possibilities of a co-operative approach to speed monitoring.

17.07.07 **Noted:**  
The meeting received an oral report from the Parish Clerk, making the following points:  
7.1 Council's 2 copies of Local Councillor magazine are available;

7.2 His thanks to Lynne Woodward and to both Liz & Tony Schmitt for their recent comprehensive overview of and continued offer of support in the maintenance of the Council's section of the village website which he is now able to manage;

7.3 Confirmation that he is seeking a variation in the Drinkstone Green Allotment Santander Bank account mandate whereby he is to be registered as an interested party without authorised signatory status towards addressing confusion noted by the external auditor;

7.4 Confirmation of receipt of the Locality Budget funding towards the purchase of grit bins, the matter to be on the October Ordinary Meeting agenda once final prices are to hand;

7.5 His thanks to Cllr Youngs for a recent guided tour of the village.

17.09.08

**Noted:**

Authorised payments:

8.1	Peter Dow – Clerk's wages	£158.17	Santander 000449
8.2	Top Garden – grass cutting	£ 62.50	Santander 000450

17.09.09

**Noted:**

The withdrawal, pending clarification, of Clerk's expenses originally tabled for consideration.

17.09.10

**Noted:**

The current account balances and reconciliation together with the Chairman's confirmation that they were supported by the relevant bank statements and the Clerk's confirmation that he will, in future, email a scanned copy of monthly bank statements to Councillors with their meeting papers.

17.09.11

**Noted:**

11.1 The Meeting noted that a clarifying sentence stating that no petty cash is held had been incorporated into the Internal Audit report from Messrs Heelis & Lodge which had been circulated to Councillors and was before Council at the July Ordinary Meeting.

11.2 The Meeting noted that certain points outstanding, as notified by Messrs. BDO, the External Auditors, were of a minor nature, including their confusion regarding the allotment accounts, and that response had been made but that an extra fee of some £30.00 might be levied.

12.09.12

**Noted:**

Planning results as notified by MSDC:

12.1	DC/17/03497	New external door		
	Holm House, Garden Lane		GRANTED	DPC supported

12.09.13

Planning applications as notified by MSDC for comment:

13.1 **DC/17/03945**      **Erection of fence following removal of hedge.**  
**Location:**      **Southacre, Rattlesden Road IP30 9TN**

The Meeting urged rejection of this application on the grounds that it seeks to impose an unnecessarily bleak urban boundary treatment in this rural location with no reference to the prevailing hedged neighbouring sites. As such it would be seriously detrimental to the street scene which currently prevails, contrary to Structure Plan Policy GP1 which seeks to encourage design criteria which maintain or enhance the character and appearance of their surroundings using materials which are compatible and which respect the local vernacular. Further, the Proposal runs counter to the strictures of Structure Plan Policy H18 which requires that such development will not detrimentally affect the character and appearance of the area.

13.2 **DC/17/03975**      **Erection of replacement (following demolition of existing dwelling) Alterations to existing property to include erection of ridged roof, front facing gable and two storey rear extension: erection of 1no. garage with store, and 1no. garage with living accommodation over first floor.**

**Location:**      **Yew Tree Farm Cottage, Cross Street, IP30 9TP**

The Meeting objected to this application for the following reasons:

1 The Applicant fails to demonstrate that provision has been made for the disposal of surface water or of foul water in this difficult location where the proposed new dwelling

is at a lower level than the main sewer and where the storm water run-off does not drain into a ditch or water course. The resulting nuisance will detrimentally affect the amenity of neighbours, contrary to Local Plan Policies H18 & SB2.

2 The access road, Cross Street, is a single track cul-d-sac unsuited to carry the extra traffic as proposed, contrary to Local Plan Policies SB2 & T10.

3 The creation of a new curtilage is extremely likely, offering the opportunity for further development of the site which would be to the detriment of the amenity of neighbours, as above.

- 12.09.14 **Resolved:**  
**That Drinkstone Parish Council makes known to the Corporate Manager, Development Management, at Mid Suffolk District Council its views on the Planning applications on this agenda.**
- 12.09.15 **Noted:**  
Other Planning matters for information, to be noted or for inclusion on a future agenda:  
15.1 The Clerk drew the Meeting's attention to the Babergh / Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan consultation exercise and that a public consultation session is to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October from 2.00pm – 7.00pm at The Blackbourne, Elmswell IP30 9UH.  
15.2 The Clerk confirmed that Cllrs Cousins & Young are booked to attend a Local Plan consultation session for town & parish councils to be held at Thurston New Green centre on 5<sup>th</sup> September.
- 12.09.16 **Noted:**  
That the recent adoption of the Parish Council's website pages on to the Council's laptop had reinforced the need for an external hard drive back-up and that a Proposal would come to the next Ordinary Meeting to address the matter.
- 12.09.17 **Noted:**  
That when any public comment or questions on any matter of Council business were invited none were forthcoming.
- 12.09.18 **Noted:**  
The following when any other Council business for information, to be noted or for inclusion on a future agenda was invited:  
18.1 Cllr Thurlow echoed the concerns of residents regarding perceived breaches at the Envirofield site and undertook to encourage the recording of specific contraventions to strengthen the case for enforcement action.
- 12.09.19 **Noted:**  
That the scheduled date for the next Ordinary Meeting of Council was Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October beginning at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.
- 12.09.20 **Noted:**  
That the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

These Minutes are in draft form only. They have not been ratified by Council and are not a matter of formal record. They will be before the next Ordinary Council meeting for approval.

Any queries should be directed to the Parish Clerk, Peter Dow, at 6 Warren Close, Elmswell IP30 9DS

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