

MINUTES OF MEETING OF PARHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday 8th December 2020 at 7.15 pm

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There were no apologies for absence.

Present

Michael Gray (Chairman) Jason Wood David Crosbie
Claire Moore Michael Block Lydia Kirk (clerk) Kate Beaver
1 member of public 2 representatives from Low Carbon

2. MG declared an interest in item 8. MG was granted a dispensation to discuss the proposals. When the planning application is submitted, the Clerk will leave the room during its discussion. Whilst Clerks do not have interests or disclosures, she would rather not be present whilst the application is discussed.

3. The Minutes of the meeting on 8th September 2020 were approved as a true record of the meeting.

4. There were no matters arising.

PUBLIC FORUM

Reports by Ward and County Councillors' had been shared prior to the meeting and have been published on the village website.

'Low Carbon' gave a short presentation on the proposed solar farm at Parham Airfield. Councillors asked questions about the proposals, including concerns about construction traffic travelling through the village, whether the B1116 would be closed again, what community benefits there may be from the development, whether the panels would be noisy, how the electricity would get to the substation and whether this application would likely trigger other similar applications locally.

It was agreed that an open evening with Low Carbon, either nearer to the application being submitted or once the application had been submitted, where residents could ask questions and raise concerns would be very useful.

ACTION Clerk to organise this with Low Carbon

The Low Carbon representatives left the meeting at this point.

5. The Chairman reported that James Rogers was still interested in being involved in the Parish Council. JR had been removed as a Councillor at the last meeting due to the 6 months absence rule which did not make allowances for cancelled meetings due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Chairman proposed co-opting Mr Rogers on to the Council. This was seconded by JW and carried unanimously. JR was welcomed back as a Councillor and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

ACTION LK to notify ESC of new Councillor.

MG said that we would need to elect a Vice Chair at the next meeting.

6. The clerk reported that Orwell Housing has chosen two of the Parish Council's name suggestions for their new development. *Flaxen Fields* will be the name for the open-market houses and *Corrance Close* for the affordable houses.

She thought it should be recorded in the minutes that November's Parish Council meeting was postponed because of the second national lockdown.

7. Responsible Financial Officer's report

a) The following payments were approved

Reference Number	Amount	Payee	Details
P19 20-21	£22.80	SALC	6 months payroll service
P20 20-21	£30.00	G. Whiting	Grass cutting at bus stop
P21 20-21	£450.00	Mark Runnacles	Cut and strimming the closed churchyard

- b) The bank balances as at 30.11.2020 were noted as being £8,947.39 & £13,751.56, with £13,683.36 of these funds being reserved.
- c) It was noted that since the last meeting two payments had been made- the clerk's pay to 30.09.3030- £859.90 - & HMRC PAYE £7.20. The second half of the precept- £2,925- has been received, as well as £1.90 interest.
- d) The Examining Officer signed the bank statements and bank reconciliation as at 30.11.2020
- e) The year-to-date report on payments and receipts was noted and considered in order.

8. Planning

Brief discussions on the proposed planning application for solar farm at Parham Airfield were continued from the Public Forum. There will be a separate open evening on this application to which residents will be encouraged. The Parish Council will consider the proposals again when the Planning Application has been submitted.

9. Procedural

i) Draft budget figures for 2021-2022 will be considered at January's meeting. The Council normally holds a separate budgeting meeting in October or November but this wasn't possible this year due to Covid-19.

ii) Meeting dates for 2021 were decided.

ACTION Clerk to send dates to Councillors and display on website and noticeboards.

10. Correspondence received since date of last meeting was considered.

Councillors resolved to send a donation to the Leiston Citizens Advice Bureau, which has helped 7 Parham residents this year. MB proposed donating £100. This was seconded by CM and carried unanimously. (Ref P22 20-21)

11. Councillors' reports

JW reported that properties have been connected to fibre broadband and the project has now been completed.

12. Matters to be raised at the next meeting

Budget and precept
Solar farm application
Elect a Vice Chair

13. The next meeting was confirmed as being Tuesday January 12th 2021.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

Signed: L. Kirk pp

M. Gray
Chairman

Date 9th March 2021