

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
PARHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
PARHAM VILLAGE HALL**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7.15 pm**

1. **The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.**  
Apologies for absence from Jason Wood (work), James Rogers (work), David Crosbie (holiday) and Ward Cllr. Cook were accepted.

**Present**

Michael Gray (Chairman)                      Michael Block                      Kate Beaver  
Claire Moore                      Lydia Kirk (clerk)

2. **MG declared an interest in item 8. iii) and iv).** A dispensation to discuss item 8 iv) was granted.
3. **The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were approved as a true record of the meeting.**
4. **There were no matters arising.**

**PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no members of public present. Ward Councillor Cook's report has been shared with Councillors and is on the village website.

5. **The Chair was pleased to welcome everyone back to face-to-face meetings.** Whilst the online meetings ran fairly trouble-free, there seemed to be less interaction and detailed discussion via Zoom. Fortunately Parham has seen low numbers of cases throughout the pandemic.
6. **The clerk reported that Parish Councils can no longer legally hold online meetings.**  
The Chair has asked the composting facility for compost again, but to date we have not received any. It has been taken over by a new company and perhaps they are no longer to giving the good will gesture of a load of compost to the village. *MG commented that it is also difficult to contact the site manager as he now manages other plants as well.*  
Orwell Housing hope to re-start works to the development along Main Road within the next 8 weeks, having completed the ground investigations and resolved the third party drainage issues.  
Finally, the clerk sent best wishes on behalf of the Council to Councillor Moore for her upcoming wedding.

7. **Responsible Financial Officer's report**

- a) The following payments were approved:

Reference Number	Amount	Payee	Details
P5 21-22	£846.95	L. Kirk	Pay to 30.06.2021
P6 21-22	£35.00	G. Whiting	Grass cutting
P7 21-22	£35.00	G. Whiting	Grass cutting
P8 21-22	£35.00	G. Whiting	Grass cutting

It was noted how well the bus shelter area is mowed.

- b) The following funds received since May's meeting were noted:-  
£0.34                      Interest  
£104.00                  Wayleave payment from UKPN  
No payments had been made

- c) The bank balances as at 29.06.2021 were noted as being  
Current: £13,664.82  
Deposit £13,752.58.  
Councillors authorised the clerk to transfer £8,000 from the current account to reduce the balance.
- d) Council agreed the bank reconciliation as at 30.06.2021. CM, as the Examining Officer, signed the statements.
- e) The year-to-date report on payments and receipts was noted and considered in line with the budgeted figures.

**8. Planning** The following applications were discussed:

**i) DC/21/2655/FUL & DC/21/2656/LBC Botany Farmhouse**

*Demolition of existing detached garage building and replacement with cartlodge.  
Single storey extension to existing dwelling*

It was noted that this application was far more in-keeping with the property than the previous withdrawn application. MB proposed not objecting to the application. MG seconded this and it was carried unanimously.

**ii) DC/21/2602/FUL Mill Green Farm**

*Alterations and additions to barn to facilitate conversion to 2 x No. short-term holiday lets*  
MG proposed not objecting to the application. MB seconded this and it was carried unanimously.

**iii) DC/21/2645/CON Oak Farm**

*Operate a certified exempted camping site under paragraph 6 of section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936.*

The Parish Council noted that a response to this application was not required.

**iv) DC/21/1001/FUL Solar Farm application, Parham Airfield**

MB and JW have been attending meetings with other local Parish Councils about the solar farm application and the community benefits offered by Low Carbon. The three Councils are very disappointed by the level of funding offered as a benefit to the local community if the scheme goes ahead. East Suffolk Council cannot engage with Low Carbon as to any community benefits. A joint letter from the 3 Parish Councils has been sent to Low Carbon and a response is awaited. There would also need to be negotiations to agree how any funding was split between the three parishes. It was noted that Parham will be the most inconvenienced, with the road closures and diversions.

Discussions were held about the proposals and the lack of responses and interest from residents to the scheme. MB and KB will produce a leaflet giving more details about the scheme and encouraging residents to raise questions or send their comments to the planning department. Councillors agreed for this to be printed at Halesworth Print Shop and distributed to every house in the village.

- 9. New residents to Parham used to be given a welcome letter.** MG suggested the Parish Council re-introduce this. This was viewed favourably. KB believes she may have received one when she moved in to the village. Councillors likely to hear of new residents or see For Sale/To Let signs displayed. It could include information on local services and a map of the village as well as contact information.

- 10. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 and the Festival of Suffolk was discussed.** The Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk is looking for Festival Community Champions to be part of a county-wide network of people organising events. Several ideas for ways Parham could commemorate the event were mooted. The Parish Council would need extra help to run an event. Paying for outside entertainment was discussed but there will be high demand due to events being ran across the country over that weekend. MG offered the use of the Church Meadow for a village event.

**ACTION** Clerk to seek ideas and volunteers via the Parish Magazine and discuss this again at the next meeting.

- 11. The Clerk has reported the broken fence near the bridge and chased an update from Suffolk County Council as to when it is likely to be repaired.** A response is still awaited but she will continue to chase.

- 12. Councillors were disappointed to note the number of damaged and rusted signs highways signs in the village and across the county.** Damaged signs reported online are

often not being replaced. SCC are currently conducting a review into the sign policy and we should be hearing further from them soon. In response to their request regarding fingerpost signs, the clerk has said the Parish Council would be willing to help SCC affix signs to these posts in order to get the works done.

**13. Correspondence received since date of last meeting was considered.**

i) Two residents- Bob Briscoe and John Adams- have offered to share the role of Village Recorder for Parham. They have good experience in different areas of local history and recording. They have been in contact with the Suffolk Local History Society and will send them regular reports and report back to the Parish at the Annual Parish Meeting.

**14. There were no reports from Councillors**

**15. Matters to be raised at the next meeting**

Platinum Jubilee celebrations

Solar farm update and responses to leaflet- drop

Online bank payments

**16. The next meeting was confirmed as being at 7.15pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September.** There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

Signed: *M Gray*  
**M. Gray**  
**Chairman**

Date *14<sup>th</sup> September 2021*