

MINUTES OF ONLINE MEETING OF PARHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 7.15 pm

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence from Claire Moore were accepted (illness).. Kate Beaver could not access the meeting due to technological difficulties and her absence was also approved.

[All Councillors experienced difficulties logging into the meeting. The Clerk re-set the password and posted it on the website, along with her contact details for members of public wishing to join the meeting and checked her emails frequently during the meeting. Clerk to look into cost of professional version of Zoom if online meetings to continue for long.]

Present

Michael Gray (Chairman) Jason Wood David Crosbie James Rogers
Michael Block Lydia Kirk (clerk) Nicola Jenner- East Suffolk Council
Ward Cllr Maurice Cook County Cllr Stephen Burroughes (both left before item 5)
Michael Gray proposed Michael Block as Vice-Chairman. This was seconded by Jason Wood and carried unanimously.

2. There were no declarations of interest.

3. The Minutes of the meeting on 14th January 2021 were approved as a true record of the meeting.

4. There were no matters arising.

PUBLIC FORUM

Reports from Ward and County Councillors' had been shared prior to the meeting. In addition Cllr. Burroughes was pleased to note that schools had now re-opened to all children. He reported that 2 million vaccines have been given in Suffolk. He is looking forward to a new normal from 21st June. Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras have now been installed at recycling centres to help improve accessing the sites and to monitor numbers. Felixstowe's Freeport East bid has been given the go-ahead.

Cllr. Cook reported that ESC will be allocating some of their coronavirus funding from the government to help start-up businesses. He suggested a video conference between the four parishes regarding the proposed solar farm and offered his assistance in this regard.

Nicola Jenner, ESC's Communities Officer for Parham, gave a presentation about her role and how she can help local communities. She also advised that there would be more funding available from the Community Partnership Fund in April 2021.

5. The Chairman had nothing to report.

6. The clerk reported that she has requested a precept of £5,850 for 2021-2022 as agreed at the last meeting.

The solar farm planning application is imminent so another Parish Council meeting will be needed soon. The Parish Council hopes to hold an open public event to get residents' opinions and give them the opportunity to ask questions and the Clerk will try to organise this with Low Carbon.

Sandra Poacher has been cleaning signs in the village and is concerned about corrosion at the bottom of the sign on North Green. The Clerk has written to thank her and the children she childminds for their hard work litter picking around the village and has reported the dangerous sign.

The clerk has booked to go on a refresher end-of-year accounts training course and is starting work ready for the internal audit. The VAT for the year to date has only totaled £12.40 so no claim has been submitted yet.

The Section 137 allowance for 2021-2022 has increased to £8.41 per elector.

7. Responsible Financial Officer's report

a) The following payments were approved:

Reference Number	Amount	Payee	Details
P25 20-21	£ 843.35	L. Kirk	Pay to 31.03.2021 <i>Paid early to assist end-of-year accounts.</i>
P26 20-21	£ 3.60	HMRC	PAYE
P27 20-21	£100.00	Parham Village Hall	Hall hire for meetings 2020
P28 20-21	£40.00	L. Kirk	ICO fee reimbursement
P29 20-21	£22.80	SALC	6 months payroll service

b) The following receipts since December's meeting were noted:-

£1,949.00 Rural Payments Agency Biodiversity Grant (to be marked as ringfenced funds)

£0.34 Barclays Interest

c) The bank balances as at 28.02.2021 were noted as being £9,446.64 & £13,751.56.

d) Council agreed the bank reconciliation as at 28.02.2021. In CMs absence, it was agreed that MG would examine the bank statements when he signs the cheques.

e) The year-to-date report on payments and receipts was noted and considered in order.

f) The Council considered its Internal Control Statement and considered itself compliant to its internal controls and considered the controls fit for purpose.

8. **East Suffolk Council are currently not loaning their litter picking equipment due to Covid 19 so it was agreed not to hold an organised litter pick this year.** Several parts of the village have been litter picked recently. JW offered to litter pick going out of the village from North Green, and MG will do around the compost factory towards Marlesford.

9. **Planning application DC/21/0581/FUL**

(Crabbs Farm Bungalow Silverlace Green Parham IP13 9AD Build single storey extension with balcony) was discussed and there were no objections.

10. **Correspondence received since date of last meeting was considered.** The Clerk has replied to everything that required a response. A resident has asked if we will be getting the annual compost donation. The clerk has contacted Biogen in this regard and MG will also speak to them about it.

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

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

Solar Farm planning application

Old Hall planning application

13. **The next meetings of the Council were confirmed as Tuesday 23rd March [rearranged for Tuesday 30th March since the meeting] at 7.15pm for a planning meeting, and Tuesday 11th May for the two Annual Meetings.**

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.35pm.

Signed: L. Kirk pp

M. Gray

Date 30th March 2021

Chairman