

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

Tuesday 23rd July 2024 at 7.15pm

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Councillors Present

Michael Block (Chair) Jonathan Cottrell Michael Gray John Patrick
James Rogers Jason Wood

Absent: Charlotte Stanley

In attendance

Lydia Kindred (clerk) District Councillor Vince Langdon-Morris (until item 6)

2. There were no declarations of interest.

3. The minutes of the meeting of 28th May 2024 were approved as a true record of the meeting.

4. There were no matters arising.

PUBLIC FORUM

The District Councillor provided some updates from his recent meeting with the Environment Agency regarding flooding in Framlingham, and reassured Councillors that during future discussions, Parham and other villages affected along the river would also be considered. This led to conversation about flood prevention measures and it was agreed that Councillors Gray, Patrick and Rogers would form a flood mitigation working group and report back to the Council with their recommendations.

The District Councillors have asked the new MP, Patrick Spencer, for a meeting to brief him on issues across their ward.

5. Chair's report

ESC has confirmed that there has been a planning breach at Corrance Close and Flaxen Fields and that the replacement hedging should have been replanted. The Parish Council will check that this is carried out later in the autumn/winter.

The Chair is meeting an enforcement officer from Suffolk County Council on 30th July regarding allegations of fly-tipping of rubble near The Church Farm. It was agreed that the Council will write to SCC in this regard to show that this path was historically much wider, that the rubble was mainly detritus deposited after the flooding, that the narrowed verge is used frequently by residents and that this rubble is a safety measure to help protect residents. Cllr. Patrick will also try to attend this meeting with the Chair.

6. Clerk's report

The Public Rights Period for the inspection of the accounts is now over, and no requests have been received so far. The Community Infrastructure Levy Report for 2023-2024 has been received by East Suffolk Council.

7. Responsible Financial Officer's report

a) The following payments were approved:

Amount	Payee	Details
£30.20	HMRC	PAYE to 5 th July
£1,206.70	L. Kirk	Pay to 30 th June
£40.00	Gary Whiting	Grass cutting at the Pound *

* The Pound has been cut again this week and another invoice is awaited. It was agreed that this can be paid upon receipt. In addition, Mark Runnacles has now mown and

strimmed the closed churchyard. Councillors also agreed to pay his invoice upon receipt, allowing an agreed increase in the fee due to the extra thistle strimming required.

- b) Funds received since the last meeting were noted:
03.06.24 £78.09 Interest
- c) No additional payments have been made since the last meeting.
- d) As at 28.06.2024, the bank balances were:
Community Account £1,328.60
Premium Account £2,276.80
CCLA Account £25,000.00
It was agreed that Cllr. Cottrell would transfer £3,000 from the CCLA account to the community account.
- e) In the absence of the Examining Officer, Cllr. Wood signed the bank reconciliation and statements.
- f) The year-to-date report on payments and receipts was noted.

8. Consider NALC's latest version of Financial Regulations will be deferred for further consideration.

9. The need for a village Emergency Plan was discussed, along with GDPR issues and discussions on how the village's current emergency systems worked during Storm Babet. It was agreed that the clerk will look into sharing emergency contact information with all residents. A fresh list can be compiled or credit-card sized emergency packs that are kept on the fridge can be purchased via ESC's emergency planning team. She will research the cost of these and report back. If generic packs are used, Councillors' contact information could also be added to them to give residents local contacts in an emergency.

10. Correspondence

The CCLA's have confirmed the safe receipt of our investment funds.

11. Receive Councillors' Reports & updates

Cllr. Gray has spoken to the managers of the warehouse company. Signage asking lorries to turn right when exiting the site is already in place. They have spoken to the drivers again, asking them not to drive through Parham village. Since this conversation, Councillors have noticed a reduction in the number of lorries. **ACTION** Clerk to write to thank the company.

Biodiversity

Cllr. Wood reported that one of the tracks at North Green has now been narrowed where it has encroached on the green and this strip will now be rewilded. Cllr. Gray has seen baby barn owls near White House Farm and Cllr. Patrick has noticed the return of barn owls and a kingfisher to Mill Green.

Cllr Gray reported on the types of projects that the biodiversity group used to carry out the various items they would record in the village. This led to a conversation on possibly holding an open evening for residents to engage them with the group and share with them local items of ecological interest.

12. The following matters will be raised at the next meeting:

- Updates from flood mitigation working group
- Consider holding a biodiversity event for residents
- Consider NALC's new Financial Regulations
- Note any updates on the hedging planning breach

13. The next meeting will be at 7.15 pm on Tuesday 10th September.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

Signed:

Chair

Date