

Shadingfield, Sotterley, Willingham and Ellough Joint Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at Shadingfield Village Hall on 20 April 2022 at 7.00 pm

Present:

Councillors C Ellis (Chair), Chipperfield, Drane, R Ellis, Gartley, London and Mather.

In attendance:

Mr S C Blackburn (Clerk); no members of the public

22.055 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Potter and Cllr Sheldrake due to illness, Cllr Blunn and Cllr Parsons.

RESOLVED: that the apologies be accepted.

22.056 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations: None.

22.057 To sign as an accurate record the minutes of the previous meeting

Proposed by Cllr Drane, Seconded by Cllr London, and RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2022 be signed as a correct record.

22.058 Public Participation: None.

22.059 Chair's Report

Happy to say I saw some of you at the Litter Pick last month, and this appears to have been a success; the most 'littered' parts of our parishes seem to be the verges on the main roads. Also arising from this was I am now holding a key for the Playing Field gate so as licence holders we now have full access, and this was particularly useful for the tree planting on the playing field that was successfully completed on 28th March. Special thanks to Cllr. Potter and Amanda, our Tree warden Helen and Cllrs. London and Ellis (R) who all pitched in with Steve preparing the ground and planting the trees to give them the best possible start. Immediately before the tree planting, Steve and I met with Officer Amy Yeldham to discuss the issue of speeding on the A145 and what measures can be taken to address these. I attended a meeting at the Sotterley Estate office on 7th April to discuss arrangements for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend and also the Sotterley Fete taking place on the 2nd May. Peter Scuffil is collecting bric-a-brac for a stall so if you're having a clear out, please pass appropriate items on to him. If anyone else is in a position to volunteer help on the day, please contact the Estate office or myself and I'll put you in touch with them. Sotterley are keen to support us on the Jubilee weekend and have offered their help; my initial thoughts are that they can help with updating signage and perhaps with providing bins on the day and collecting litter afterwards. I've visited the Phone Box and while I'm happy to report it appears sound and essentially weather proof, it will need some shelving or other storage if we are to use it as a book exchange as discussed. Sorry to report I've only received one response to my e-mail of 18th March on your opinions on speakers for our Annual Parish Meeting (thank you Councillor Parsons), so we will be discussing that under item 14. Steve (our Clerk) and I attended a meeting yesterday (19th) to discuss a pre-application approach from Parker Planning (who were the agents in the application for the IPU's on Mill Lane). The item for discussion is an anaerobic digester on a site that will straddle Ellough and Worlingham. I would suggest that we acknowledge their approach but state we will refrain from comment until we have seen the proposal in full and heard the opinions of our residents. I understand that some of you have successfully signed up for training sessions and I hope these are going well and will encourage you and give you more confidence in your role as a Councillor. Please feedback on how effective you find the training.

Discussion took place on the proposed digester, including the potential increase in traffic, the smell and the 'greenness' of the process.

East Suffolk Council had replied to our comments of the Community Governance Review with specific regard to the boundaries of Ellough and Worlingham and Mutford and had pointed out that this would impact the proposed changes in parliamentary constituencies and may leave these parishes represented by two MPs. It was agreed that, as our comments were merely suggestions, that we should withdraw them.

The Chair referred to the quarterly ESC Community Partnership meetings and asked for a volunteer to attend. This is

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a forum for parish councils to discuss matters of interest. It was agreed that the Clerk would attend if the Chair was unavailable.

22.060 Reports:

- (a) County Councillor and (b) District Councillor: Reports had been circulated as and when received.
 (c) Police: No report.

RESOLVED: that the reports be noted.

22.061 Correspondence: The Clerk circulated correspondence as and when received. There were no comments.

ESC had publicised a 'Magic Little Grant' fund which could be use for socially worthwhile projects and it was agreed that, whilst we had a fund earmarked for a 'friendly bench', another bench, both to be at the playing field, would be beneficial and that an application should be made.

22.062 Planning Applications:

(a) New Applications

DC/22/1095/FUL: Proposed new cart lodge etc at the Fox Inn.

RESOLVED: To support the proposals but to point out that the submitted plans appear to overstate the amount of car parking which would be available and the omission of both the propane gas tanks and the access to the static caravan park and to alert ESC to consider whether car parking would affect the sustainability of the business if it was a material issue.

DC/22/1164/DRC: Shadingfield Hall: Discharge of conditions re design of entrance gates.

RESOLVED: to support the proposals.

(b) Updates on previous applications

DC/21/5461/FUL: New buildings at Church Farm, London Road. although the Council had previously offered no objection, it had emerged that local residents had complained about both smell and noise from the existing operation.

RESOLVED: to make further comment on the above and on the proximity to a local SSSI at Titsal Wood.

22.063 Finance:

- (a) To approve payment of outstanding invoices: Proposed by Cllr Chipperfield, seconded by Cllr London and
 RESOLVED: That the payments listed in Appendix 1 be authorised.

- (b) To note the financial situation as at 28 March 2022: Proposed by Cllr Chipperfield, seconded by Cllr London and
 RESOLVED: That the situation be noted.

- (c) There had been provision in the 2021/22 accounts for £1,000 towards the proposed Ellough Village Sign.
 Proposed by Cllr C Ellis, seconded by Cllr Chipperfield and RESOLVED: that this sum be regarded as earmarked in the accounts.

- (d) A claim of £418.72 for VAT repayment for 2021/22 had been submitted.

- (e) The funds of the former Shadingfield Luncheon Club (£1,147.65) are held pending disposal this year to a new club or to a related initiative.

22.064 Neighbourhood Development Plan

All of the hoped-for responses from statutory consultees had been received and Ian Russell is currently adding these to the plan. A revised draft will be circulated before being submitted to East Suffolk Council.

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22.065 Queen's Platinum Jubilee:(a) Picnic

Elements of the picnic event were discussed and will be circulated separately.

(b) Tree Planting

RESOLVED: To plant the oak tree at Ellough Churchyard and to comply with the request from the Churches Conservation Trust as to its siting and long-term care.

RESOLVED: in principle to create a wildflower garden in the vicinity of the new trees in the playing field and to contact Vertas about the feasibility of restricting mowing in that area.

RESOLVED: to purchase a commemorative plaque for the above trees at a cost of £62.40.

22.066 Cemetery and ChapelIssues arising from a walk around on 13 April 2022

(a) Structural condition: Generally sound with some previously-noted settlement in both sides of the north porch.

(b) Dead Trees: A pine tree north of the wooden shed appears to have died. It was agreed to obtain quotations from Joe Griffin and another.

(c) Condition of trees generally: Cllr Potter will ask Dr Bynum if she would be willing to survey all of the trees. A copy of the ASD survey which shows most of the trees has been copied to Cllr Potter

(d) Hedge planting: The free whips provided as part of the jubilee celebration have been planted on the eastern boundary, toward the north.

(e) Existing portable toilet: The existing portaloo was delivered some time last year without consultation with the Parish Council. The Clerk raised this with Mr Laws earlier this year and it was agreed that it could stay until after the interment of Mel Horwood, when a crowd was expected. It has not been removed since then and its presence was requested for events including the visits of the Rural Coffee Caravan.

RESOLVED: To ask SCPT to remove the toilet and to advise us when they wish to install it for specific occasions.

(f) Proposals for future toilet facilities

The original plan to site a composting toilet in the NE corner has now changed and a new plan consists of a portaloo of a slightly larger size being sited in a clump of trees to the east of the chapel building. Brief plans had been received that day and it was agreed that a photograph of the proposed building would be required before a decision could be made. The subject would be included in the May agenda if details had been received by then.

22.067 Playing Fields Management: No response had been received from Sotterley estate and this would be followed up.

22.068 Village Matters

(a) Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting (Friday 27 May): Speakers would include Ian Russell (Neighbourhood Development Plan), Cllr Judy Cloke, Rev Phil Miller, a representative of the farming community, to have about 10 minutes each, all followed by refreshments.

(b) Future articles for Sheaf Magazine: Cllr Chipperfield offered to write and was thanked for her continuing efforts.

(c) Telephone kiosk: See Chair's report; its use as a library and seed swap was discussed.

(d) Deterrence of speeding: Only three of the original fourteen interested volunteers had watched the video and

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completed declaration; the Police require at least six before a scheme can start.

(e) Condition of notice boards: The Clerk had made a cursory inspection and would present a detailed report at the May meeting.

22.069 Items for discussion at the next meeting

- Jubilee picnic
- Condition of notice boards
- Purchase of troughs and flowers for village signs
- Bank mandate and signing arrangements (May)
- SCPT toilet proposals

22.070 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 16 May 2022 to start earlier at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Appendix 1 – Payments Authorised

To	For	Net	VAT	Gross
Ted Potter	Trees and water bags	184.87	37.01	221.88
Waveney Norse	Bin emptying Jan-Mar	9.99	2.00	11.99
Suffolk Assn of Local Councils	Membership for 2022/23	266.36	-	266.36
SALC	Training 13 modules @£26			
	25650	234.00	46.80	280.80
	26048	130.00	26.00	156.00
	26062 Credit Note	-26.00	-5.20	-31.20
	Total	338.00	67.60	405.60
S C Blackburn	Net Salary (x2) and expenses	970.94	-	970.94
RG Ellis	Refreshments at NDP meeting	25.50	-	25.50

_____ Chairman

_____ Date

Chair _____ Clerk _____ Date _____