

Shadingfield, Sotterley, Willingham and Ellough Joint Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at Shadingfield Village Hall on 16 March 2022 at 7.00 pm

Present:

Councillors Ellis (Chair), Blunn, Chipperfield, Gartley, London, Mather and Parsons.

In attendance:

Mr S C Blackburn (Clerk) and five members of the public

22.036 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Potter due to illness and Cllr Judy Cloke.

RESOLVED: that the apologies be accepted.

22.037 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations

Cllr Ellis declared an interest in that her husband Richard Ellis is a prospective Councillor.

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

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

22.039 Co-option of Councillors

Mr David Drane spoke in support of his application for co-option

Mr Richard Ellis spoke in support of his application for co-option.

Cllr Ellis , Mr Ellis and Mr Drane left the room

Cllr Chipperfield in the Chair

Proposed by Cllr Chipperfield, seconded by Cllr London and unanimously RESOLVED that Mr Richard Ellis and Mr David Drane be co-opted to the Parish Council.

Cllr Cally Ellis returned to the Chair.

Cllr Richard Ellis and Cllr David Drane signed their respective Declarations of Acceptance of Office

22.040 Councillor Training

The Clerk had circulated a list of training courses offered by SALC and would follow this up with an invitation to enrol. These are held by Zoom and repeated from time to time. A brief guide to the powers and duties was also in course of preparation and would be circulated to all Councillors and placed on the website.

22.041 Public Participation

The new owner of the Shadingfield Fox, Mr Kai Willenbring introduced himself, having become aware of the potential impact of intensive poultry rearing on his business. The Chair pointed out that it had been a few months since any development and that reports produced for the original application were now likely to be out of date.

Mrs Marion Lloyd spoke about proposed jubilee events in Sotterley including a street party planned for 4 June.

Rev Phil Miller advised that he was conducting a service at Brampton on 5 June and offered to conduct a blessing and prayers at the playing field during the afternoon.

22.042 Chair's Report

Not much to report this month, aside from welcoming spring, signalled by hearing the first skylarks and enjoying the flowering of bulbs and beginnings of blossoms – let's hope they aren't wiped out by a late frost like they were last

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year. Thanks to Steve this month for continuing to fulfil his duties despite having COVID; I hope you are now fully recovered, as are any of you who have been unwell, and I hope I have the support of all on the Council wishing the best possible outcome for Cllr Potter as he continues his treatment, and I personally will look forward to welcoming him back as soon as he feels able to rejoin the fray. 13 letters were delivered to the Redisham properties that fall within our Parish boundary. Thus far, 7 e-mail and one telephone response, all asking to be included in Redisham Parish in the future. I attended the NDP open meetings on 4th March and was pleased to see some of you there. There are some matters arising from the NDP that will fall to the JPC for action when the plan is ratified, these largely related to traffic through the villages and pedestrian footpaths and accessibility; there is also support for more quiet lanes. The Ice cream Van has been booked for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee event – 11.45 – 1.45. This is going to be a very, very busy weekend. Finally, don't forget the Litter Pick this Sunday – 10am on the playing field for those who can make it.

22.043 Reports:

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

Following the increase in oil prices, a spate of thefts of home heating oil had been reported.

RESOLVED: that the reports be noted.

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

22.045 Planning Applications:

(a) New Applications

DC/22/0657/FUL: Proposed new greenhouse within the kitchen garden at Shadingfield Hall.

RESOLVED: To make no objection to the proposals.

(b) Updates on previous applications

DC/21/5014/FUL: Proposed tennis court at Shadingfield Hall: Application withdrawn.

22.046 Finance:

(a) To approve payment of outstanding invoices

Proposed by Cllr Parsons, seconded by Cllr Blunn and RESOLVED: That the payments listed in Appendix 1 be authorised.

The annual payment for registration with the Information Commissioners Office has been reduced from £40 to £35 following acceptance of a direct debit.

(b) To note the financial situation as at 28 February 2022

Proposed by Cllr Parsons and seconded by Cllr London and RESOLVED: That the situation be noted.

(c) A national pay increase of 1.75% had been agreed for the current year. Arrears would be calculated by SALC and would be paid in April.

22.047 Neighbourhood Development Plan

Two public meetings had been held on 4 March and a number of positive suggestions had been made which would be taken forward. The website is now closed for comment and a summary of changes will be sent to residents prior to the referendum.

22.048 Queen's Platinum Jubilee:(a) Picnic

It was agreed to accept the offer of the marquees from SCPT, Cllr Parsons offered to pick these up. Action Clerk to follow up with Jim Laws.

Further discussion took place on risk assessments for games and whether food prepared at home could either be sold or given away with a request for a donation to village funds. To be followed up by the Clerk.

Updates:

Attendance of Police or Ambulance service

Pony Rides, suggested by Mrs Lloyd

Shetland pony and Donkey petting – offered by Cllr Drane

Pizza sales – Cllr Sheldrake to enquire, carried forward

Ice Cream – Cllr C Ellis has booked

Morrison's: Not able to help as all aid directed to Ukraine

Public Address – Cllr London, confirmed.

Shadingfield Fox – Cllr London to liase with The Fox/Beccles Brewing Co for provision of a keg of beer

Games – Cllr Gartley – agreed.

Sheaf Magazine - article

Flyer to all households

Signage – to ask Tom Barne to amend and erect signs

(b) Tree Planting

Cllr Potter and Dr Bynum have asked for watering bags for the new trees at £15 each but still within the agreed budget and had suggested a photo opportunity when the trees are planted. The oak supplied through Cllr Cloke would be planted at Ellough Church. It was confirmed that Amelanchier was acceptable though not native.

22.049 Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting

Friday 27 May was confirmed; possible speakers were discussed and Cllr C Ellis would circulate a list of possible options for speakers.

22.050 Cemetery and Chapel

(a) Sotterley Chapel Preservation Trust: No report.

(b) Annual renewal of the agreement between the Council and SCPT: A meeting of the 2+2 committee took place on 23 February and recommended that there was no need to make changes to the agreement. RESOLVED: that this recommendation be accepted.

(c) Registration at HM Land Registry: Copies of the original conveyance had been received from Mr Laws and sent to the Land Registry. Their service level agreement indicated that the matter would be resolved by December 2022.

(d) A request for a commemorative bench has been received from the family of Mervyn Easey, with details awaited.

22.051 Playing Fields

The Clerk had spoken to Tom Barne about the disadvantages of using a CIO to manage the playing field, notably with regard to reclaiming VAT on purchased equipment and Mr Barne is to further consult his advisers about this point but felt that there was a lack of 'drive' which could be addressed with the help of the team which developed the playground at Ringsfield. Cllr London is attempting to establish contact.

After discussion it was RESOLVED:

(a) that the Clerk would now formally ask the estate for a 25 year lease

(b) if successful the Council would form a committee comprising Councillors and residents to manage play area

(c) to make further enquiries about drainage of the field, and

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(d) to ask for the side ditches to be cleared.

22.052 Village Matters

- (a) Spring litter pick – Sunday 20 March, all urged to attend.
- (b) Future articles for Sheaf Magazine. The Chair thanked Cllr Chipperfield for an offer to write for the next edition.
- (c) Telephone kiosk – further cleaning to be undertaken.
- (d) Deterrence of speeding:

Following suggestion of further signage from Cllr Mather, a discussion took place with Suffolk CC who had outlined a number of options including a 40 mph buffer zone, surface roundels adjacent to the repeater signs and ‘teeth’ markings designed for an optical illusion of road narrowing. A traffic regulation order at a cost of £6-7000 would be required for a buffer zone and roundels are already in place but may need renewing.

The Community Speedwatch has now been authorised and volunteers would be contacted shortly to arrange the first part of the training.

The Clerk reminded the meeting that a budget for a battery operated SID exists.

It was agreed that the defunct SID and batteries would be disposed of via Cllr Gartley who would use a registered waste contractor and obtain a disposal certificate. It was also noted that there was comment about speeding during the Neighbourhood Development Plan meetings but this is not a planning matter and not eligible for inclusion.

(e) Defibrillator training/demonstration. The clerk to circulate a demonstration video

(f) Community Governance Review:

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk would write to East Suffolk Council with the following observations

- (a) the letter to the 13 properties in Redisham which fall within Shadingfield parish has brought a response from 9, all wishing to come under Redisham Parish Meeting.
- (b) As previously discussed, the Council’s response would refer to the misalignment of boundaries at Ellough which might be changed to align with the A145 by pass and Benacre Road. and
- (c) that the number of seats on the Joint Parish Council for Sotterley should be reduced from 4 to 2 to more evenly represent the number of residents.

22.053 Items for discussion at the next meeting

- Jubilee Event
- Ellough Village Sign
- Bank mandate and signing arrangements (May)

22.054 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 20 April 2022 at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Appendix 1 – Payments Authorised

	To	For	Net	VAT	Gross
178	Suffolk Assn of Local Councils	Payroll Service 6m to 31.3.22	45.00	9.00	54.00
179	S C Blackburn	Salary and Expenses February	487.85	2.80	490.65

_____ Chairman

_____ Date

Chair _____ Clerk _____ Date _____