

HONINGTON & SAPISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 8th July 2024 in Honington & Sapiston Village Hall at 7pm.

In attendance: - Councillors Rob Williams, Stephen Read, Robin Howe, Sue Jay,
David Plampin, Debbie Cram, Ian Patterson-Parker, and Mark Jacklin.

2 members of the public were present and West Suffolk Councillor Andrew Smith and Suffolk County
Councillor Joanna Spicer joined us after attending other meetings.

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION & RESULTS
1. Welcome and Apologies	Chairman RW welcomed all those present to the meeting. Notice had been received that both WSC Smith and SCC Spicer would arrive after attending other meetings.	
2. Declarations of Interests	The Declaration of Interest form was circulated and signed by those Councillors declaring an interest.	
3. Police Report	No representation was received from the Police. The following has been reported since our last meeting: 3 offences in Honington Village and 1 in Sapiston.	
4. RAF Report	The Station Engagement Officer was unable to attend. A report was presented to Councillors as follows: Families Day will be held on July 25 th . No 611 Volunteer Gliding Sqn is operating every other weekend. The RAF Model Aircraft Association will be holding their annual competition 7-11 August. British Orienteering will be holding an event on base on Saturday 30 th August. The base will be hosting a major UK/US crash exercise in September. This is for a 2-week period but the main activity will be 23-25 September.	Those wishing to attend should submit their details to RW by 12 th July.
5. West Suffolk Councillor's Report	WSC Andrew Smith joined us after attending another meeting. Councillors thanked him for his help in repairing/replacing the Church Road sign. WSC have also agreed to improve/replace the Timbers sign further along the road. Councillors informed Cllr Smith that the Council are	

	<p>looking at options to employ a company to provide a Health and Safety Report for the playing field. Should the PC go with this option, this would replace the current agreement we have with WSC.</p> <p>Cllr Smith continues to work on retaining bottle banks in villages as this provides a valuable source of income for communities. The initiative to remove them from local premises is a nationwide scheme due to be implemented in 2026.</p>	
6. Suffolk County Council's Report	<p>SCC Joanna Spicer sought views on the completion of the bridge repairs. Cllrs expressed thanks that the repairs were finally complete but were disappointed with the finish. Parishioners had also voiced comments that it was a "shabby job" Cllr SJ pointed out that as the repairs were covered by insurance the repairs should have been as close to like for like as possible.</p> <p>Cllr JS reminded Councilors that work is due to begin on rebuilding the bridge at Stowlangtoft on the A1088 from 22nd July. The road will be closed completely. The diversion takes vehicles to Bury St. Edmunds. Measures have been implemented to ensure local roads are not used as rat runs including 20mph zones.</p> <p>Roadworks on the A1088 at Ixworth Thorpe have begun this evening and the road will be closed from 8pm to 5am for 10 nights.</p> <p>Cllrs asked SCC JS for help in acquiring a "children playing" sign for the top of Mill Road. Cllr RH recalls a previous sign being located between Bloomfield Cottage and Blueberry Cottage. Whilst Cllr Spicer has a budget for replacing lost or damaged signs, she asked that Cllrs think of the type of sign required.</p>	<p>SCC Spicer will consult with the head of bridges to discuss the finish of the repair. Cllr RW will provide photographs of the bridge to JS.</p> <p>Cllr's RH, SJ and DP will look and determine where and what the sign should say. Cllr JS will then arrange a site visit with Andy Moore to agree on the specification required.</p>
7. Minutes of the last meeting held on May 13 th 2024.	<p>The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman RW.</p> <p>Matters Arising: The Council have received no update about the Bus Shelter at Poplar Close. The pothole by Manor Farm has been repaired. The Council have not had notification about the proposed road closure along Bardwell Road</p>	

	Sapiston to complete flood prevention work. Thanks were given to WSC AS for his help in actioning work to repair the Church Road sign.	
8. Matters Arising 8.1 Clerk's Report	A copy of the report presented to Councilors is included with the minutes along with comments made.	
9. Highways 9.1. Outstanding matters Sapiston Flood Prevention Potholes Willow Green Road Signs 9.2. Playing Field Sign	<p>Cllrs are disappointed that we have not been updated about the request to close the road using traffic lights for 1 day along Bardwell Road Sapiston. This will enable the contractors to finish the flood prevention measures that were started earlier in the year.</p> <p>All potholes reported have been repaired.</p> <p>The Council have not received any update on addressing the water collecting on the corner of Willow Green.</p> <p>WSC AS has arranged for the team to repair the Church Road Sign. Whilst assessing the damage the team have agreed to repair the sign at the Timbers.</p> <p>SCC JS has received our request to install a "children playing" sign to the top of Mill Road.</p>	SCC JS has asked that Mr King e-mail her with previous correspondence regarding this matter.
10. Planning App. No. DC/24/0641/HH	Orchard House, Coney Weston Rd, Sapiston. Replacement front porch and single storey rear extension.	No Objections
11. Items for Discussion 11.1. Websites	<p>Thanks were given to Mrs Harriet Van der Lande for her help in revamping the website and for ensuring it is up to date. Cllr RW will submit a piece explaining the workings of the Parish Council. She also asked if Cllrs were happy to include their photograph so the public can identify who their local councilors are and which ward they represent. Harriet also suggested merging the PC Website with the H&S Village Hall Website and sought views on this.</p> <p>After much discussion a vote was cast from the 3 Cllrs not declaring an interest in this matter. Votes cast: 2 for and 1 against.</p>	<p>Cllr RW to submit piece for inclusion on the website.</p> <p>Cllrs to submit photograph of themselves for the website along with details of which ward they represent (RW)</p> <p>The Village Hall</p>

<p>11.2. Playing Field Inspections and Playground Report.</p>	<p>Cllr IPP reminded Council that the fee for the domain name will be due in September for the next 2 years.</p> <p>The latest copy of the report received by the Council was circulated before the meeting and comments noted.</p> <p>Cllr RW has written to Mr Collin after a frustrating period trying to contact the inspector Mr Smith. Cllr RW informed him of the dissatisfaction Cllrs felt at receiving the reports when information was inaccurate and old photographs continue to be used. We have sought advice on what the national regulations are for playground equipment and how often this area needs to be inspected. Currently we receive 1 report each month along with an annual report.</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed with all Cllrs that Cllr SJ will obtain a quote for an Annual Health & Safety Review from a private provider.</p> <p>Cllrs are aware that should we continue with this proposal regular inspections would need to be carried out by Cllrs on a rota basis at regular intervals.</p>	<p>Committee will now discuss this proposal.</p> <p>Cllr SJ to obtain quote for a Health & Safety Report to comply with current regulations.</p>
<p>12. Finance 12.1. Thank you's 12.2. Village Sign - Costs 12.3. Cheques to be signed</p>	<p>The Council has received a thank you from Honington PCC for the Fabric Fund and Churchyard grant.</p> <p>Chairman RW left the room as a declaration of interest had been declared.</p> <p>Cllrs are delighted with the new Village Sign which was unveiled earlier today with the help of local school children, Rev Sally Fogden, Cllrs and parishioners. The installation of the sign was not as straight forward as planned after the removal of the old sign proved to be more time consuming (over 6 extra hours were needed). The sign could not be placed in a new site due to services using the area underground. After discussion Cllrs agreed to recompense Barnham Flint with an extra £200. All Cllrs agreed.</p> <p>Cheque signed prior to the meeting: Barnham Flint (Sign) £300 Cheques signed (RW, SR,RH)</p>	<p>Newsletter Item</p>

<p>12.4. Online Banking Forms</p>	<p>Leaflet Card (Cllr SJ) £26.97 Community Workshop £302.40 Clerk's Wages £535.70 David Thrower £900.00 Shelter Cleaning £113.33 Website £20.00 Barnham Flint (Sign) £200.00</p> <p>An application has been made to facilitate online banking. Cllr RW, SR and RH signed the forms as the current signatories.</p>	<p>Clerk to submit forms.</p>
<p>13. Correspondence</p>	<p>Items received: Local Studies Project – Sue Spiller has informed the Council that the Ixworth Chapel is no longer available for storing local records. Rural Housing Week highlights the work in supporting rural communities with new and affordable housing. Summer Art Club – 13-25-year-olds are welcome to join an art club on Tuesdays 13th, 20th & 27th August @ Thetford Library. Snacks provided.</p>	
<p>14. Matters to Report 14.1. Volunteer Drivers 14.2. FOIL 14.3. Street Trading Policy 14.4. Hedge Cutting</p>	<p>Volunteer Drivers are required by Connecting Communities. Training and expenses are given.</p> <p>Ixworth Surgery are also looking for Volunteers who can spare the occasional hour to transport patients to the surgery. Further details can be found by speaking to the Surgery.</p> <p>Friends of Ixworth Library hold their AGM on Tuesday 30th July at 5pm. Crafternoons are held on Wednesdays and the next Sunday Cinema is on July 28th with The Lesson.</p> <p>WSC have launched a consultation on a proposed new street trading policy. Views are sought. Matters included are: Tackling issues with litter and poor quality of goods. They have suggested DBS checks on all traders at a cost of £409 per trader for a year. The consultation runs until 5th August and can be found at www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/council/consultations/wsc-street-trading-policy</p> <p>Cllr MJ asked that the hedge along the footpath by the Blackbourne Tree Group be cut back when appropriate.</p>	<p>Newsletter Item</p> <p>Clerk to ask DT.</p>

14.5. The Fox	Cllr IPP reported that The Fox Public House is now up for sale.	
15. Confidential Item	The Clerk and Cllr DP were asked to leave the room for this item to be discussed.	
16. Date of the Next Meeting	Monday 9th September 2024 at 7pm in Honington & Sapiston Village Hall.	

Signed

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