

PEASENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Peasenhall Parish Council meeting
held at the **Assembly Hall on Wednesday 19th June 2024**

2024/057 Attendance and apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Barry Rowing (acting-chair)
Cllr. Jane Collins
Cllr. Zoe Horlock (joined the meeting at
7.50 pm)
Cllr. Sam Seddon
Cllr. Gary Greenwood
Cllr. Roger Benstead
Cllr. Sam Bryant
Cllr. John Bawtree

Apologies for absence:

County Cllr Stephen Burroughes
District Cllr Julia Ewart

In attendance:

Carol Hume - Parish Clerk
1 member of the public

2024/058 Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

There were no Declarations of Interest or Requests for Dispensation

2024/059 Public Forum

- a) No issues were raised by the public
- b) The report from County Councillor Burroughes had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. There were no items to discuss from the report.

2024/060 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting held on 15th May 2024 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Acting-chair. A letter of thanks had been sent to Cathy Smith of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust thanking her for her talk at the start of the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

2024/061 To receive progress reports for information

- a) Cllr Collins reported that the First Aid Course is booked for the 7th September 2024. 12 people have signed up to do the course. Cost will be £580 and as all the participants are from the village there will be a reduction of 50%. Participants will be asked to pay £20 each, ESC will pay £170 and PPC will pay £170. This was unanimously agreed by Council. After the course the names and contact details of two trained first aiders will be added to the Emergency Plan.
- b) Cllr Bryant has produced a draft Emergency Plan. Copies were available at the meeting. Discussions about the content were postponed until after the Emergency Planning Workshop on 15th July which Cllr Bryant will attend. If the public are permitted to attend then Mr Laurence Moss will also attend as he has previous experience of emergency village plans.
- c) Cllr Rowing suggested that a village groundsman may be a good idea as the grass-cutting contract for this year is costing PPC more than £3k partly because only one contractor's quote out of the four requested was received. He would like councillors to think about the idea and discuss in the autumn.

2024/062 Finance and Governance

Cllr Rowing asked the RFO to check that the PPC 2024/2025 budget is showing on the website as he was unable to find it.

- a) The current bank account balances were confirmed by the RFO:
Current account: £37,148.07 – receipts nil
Savings account: £36,651.30 – receipts nil
- b) The annual accounts, the Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 and the Accounting Statements 2023/24 were approved and signed by the Acting-chair.
- c) The internal audit by SALC is booked for week commencing 24th June. The results will be on the next meeting's agenda.
- d) The final version of PPC Internal Controls (including an update to S137 expenditure reporting) was approved.
- f) The payments as listed on the agenda were approved.

2024/063 Planning

A new application (DC/24/2222/AG02) had been received recently. This is for a new agricultural storage building on land adjoining Badingham Road, Peasehall. A previous application for a new roadway at the same site had been approved. PPC will say that they are neutral in respect of this new application and will therefore make no comment.

2024/064 Mabel's Walk/Allotments/Play Area

A new Management Plan REV5 as proposed by the developer has been received and circulated for PPC consideration. Cllr Rowing said that regarding the proposed allotment area, the specification offered is acceptable, as are the financial arrangements. The term 'community body' needs to be removed and replaced with 'Parish Council' as the transfer of the land will be direct to them. There are some other concerns which will need to be resolved before ESC approves the Plan and the transfer can take place. Regarding the Open Space Area, PPC are not satisfied with the REV 5 proposals. Now that the District Council are sympathetic to PPC's concerns over this area, it would be good to act now. Cllr Rowing suggested he sends a reply to the senior CIL & Section 106 Officer at ESC saying that PPC are not satisfied with certain parts of REV 5. This proposal was unanimously agreed.

2024/065 Village Issues

a) Cllrs Seddon and Horlock will agree on a date for their training for the Community Self-help Scheme. Wayne Saunders has not replied to the email sent on May 16th requesting traffic safety measures and a cost for the traffic surveys on Hackney Road and Long Lane. Also no reply from County Cllr Burroughes to a request for financial help towards other traffic matters. Cllr Seddon has heard of concerns relating to pedestrian access along Mill Hill. There may be a case for moving the 30-mph limit, a pedestrian crossing or other traffic calming measures to assist pedestrians. The solar SID could be put on one of the posts already in situation. The old SID is working well, the battery needs to be changed every eight days and charged which involves a cost. Some reimbursement for that should be considered, or alternatively the purchase of a solar charger (circa £300). Cllr Horlock said she has another battery which she will pass on to Cllr Rowing. Six residents have signed up for Speedwatch and training will have to be organised. Cllr Horlock is the organiser, and she will be circulating the handbook soon.

- b) An on-line report about the condition of the Gull was submitted by Cllr Rowing on 18th May but no response has been received to date. He will submit another on-line report this week.
- c) Applications for extra litter bins have to be made to the District Council. ESC are currently reviewing their policy and may not be taking new applications. Bins are now under the remit of East Suffolk Services not NORSE and they are not very good at responding to issues raised. Cllr Horlock was hoping for a recycling bin rather than a litter bin. Litter bins and dog excrement bins to be put on the next meeting agenda.

2024/066 Correspondence

- a) As agreed at the previous PPC meeting held on 15th May there was some discussion about two 'letters of concern' which had been received by the clerk by email from two separate residents regarding the running of the PPC meeting on 17th April 2024. Because one of the letters was written by a member of her family, Cllr Collins had a pecuniary interest in the item and was asked by the acting-Chair if she would like to leave the meeting room, which she did. The clerk read out an email she had received from Jim Friend, the Advice Manager at SALC which said that as the Proper Officer it was reasonable for the clerk to deal with any low-level concerns or complaints raised by the public. The clerk has replied to both letters on behalf of PPC and as no further issues have been raised by the public, the matter requires no further consideration by the Council at a meeting. The acting-Chair then outlined the differences between the advice from SALC and the ESC Monitoring Officer prior to the meeting on 17th April. He then asked for comments from other councillors present regarding the running of the meeting. Cllr Benstead thought the meeting was handled in a fair way. Cllr Greenwood agreed with that view and thought that there was an element of shared responsibility by the whole council, and not just the Chairman, for one small error that had been made. Cllr Horlock said it was perhaps a mistake for the PPC response to the first letter to be sent to another member of the public as well as the author of the letter itself. Cllr Rowing advised Cllr Horlock that a specific request had been made for that information. There was a proposal from Cllr Greenwood that the chairman should be given full support from the PPC and this was agreed unanimously.
- b) It was suggested that the notice about the mobile library visiting Peasenhall should be put up in the noticeboard. The clerk will do that. A letter received requesting funding from PPC for the Yoxmere Fisherman had been received by the clerk too late to be added to the agenda for this meeting and publicised, so that will be added to the agenda for the next meeting in July.

2024/067 Date of the next meeting - The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 17th July 2024 at 7 pm in the Assembly Room.

The meeting closed at 20.50 hours.

Carol Hume

Parish Clerk/RFO

Minutes signed as correct:

Date:

2024/018

