

Snape Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 23 November 2021 at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Paul Richards, Cllr Jackie Allfrey
Cllr Maria Norman, Cllr Graham Farrant, Cllr Margaret McKenna
Cllr Tim Beach, Cllr Georgina Lock, Cllr Russ Rainger and Cllr Bill Hough.

Attendance: 6 members of the public.

1 Apologies and Approval of Absences

District Cllr Tony Cooper and County Councillor Andrew Reid.

2 Declarations of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests by Members

Cllr Norman – Donations

Cllr Beach – Iken Canoe

3 Applications for Dispensation

None

4 Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting on 28 September 2021.

Cllr Norman proposed that the minutes are a true record of the meeting held on the 28th September 2021, this was seconded by Cllr Allfrey and agreed by all who attended.

5 Matters arising from the Previous Meeting on 28 September 2021.

5.1 Power Projects – Cllr Beach commented that there are two submissions required shortly, Sizewell C and Nautilus. There is a meeting on the 29th November at the Snape Maltings. The report to be submitted by Snape PC will be very much the same as before, stating the comments about the traffic etc. The Nautilus drop-in session held in the Village Hall was well supported. National Grid Ventures did send some paperwork that was used in the event.

5.2 Traffic Calming – Cllr Beach reported that the required paperwork had been sent to Andrew Reid. Cllr Richards said that the report from Jason Crane had been chased and had now arrived, although it was late this afternoon. At some point the report needs to be looked at in depth. The traffic group will meet at some point ahead of the next meeting. Andrew Reid has met with some of the Highway's representatives. It is important that this project continues to be taken seriously.

5.3 Housing Needs – Cllr Beach commented that meetings are taking place with the landowner and the housing association.

5.4 Priory Road – Cllr Richards stated that more lines have appeared on the road, hopefully this means that work will start soon.

5.5 Footpaths and rights of way maintenance – Cllr Richards said that this is ongoing. Cllr Farrant and Cllr Richards are to meet with the PROW team.

Cllr Farrant said that one of the footpaths is blocked and he will report it using the online report tool.

Cllr Richards said that the tree which had fallen down by the allotments had been removed by SCC.

5.6 Allotments – Cllr Allfrey said that ownership of the allotment gate had been sorted, and the gate has been removed for safety reasons. There is no funding to replace the gate, so one of the Allotment holders are going to try and source a new gate.

Cllr Rainger asked if the gate formed part of the boundary.

Cllr Richards said that no gate is needed on the allotments, as it does not form part of the boundary.

5.7 Parish Council Paperwork – Cllr McKenna commented that all the planning applications are available at a central planning office, the old ones in the cabinet can be destroyed. The historical archives could be placed in the Central Records Office at Ipswich, but would they be accessible. The records will be safe and accessible in the cabinet.

Cllr Farrant commented that he had looked at a very old footpaths file but some of the things in there are still relevant today.

It was agreed by all that the files should remain in the cabinet.

5.8 Risk Assessment – Cllr Ranger proposed that the PC adopts the Risk Assessment, this was seconded by Cllr Allfrey and agreed by all.

5.9 Dog Waste Bin – Cllr Farrant said that the cost of a new dog waste bin would be £100 +VAT, it is not sure that this will solve the initial problem. A letter to every household could be the answer. Cllr Farrant agreed to drafting a letter to send to the householders. 50 copies would be printed at Crisps to distribute.

It was agreed by all for Cllr Farrant to draft a letter.

ACTION: Cllr Farrant to draft a letter and circulate for approval by all.

5.10 Bio-diversity and Climate change – Cllr Rainger commented that SALC has a list of some documents that have been produced by PC's, these are worth having a look at.

Cllr Lock suggested that some things that could be done is ensuring the lights are turned off and also the heating in the village hall be turned off.

6 Consideration of Reports from the District Councillors and the County Councillors.

County Councillor Andrew Reid had submitted a written report.

District Councillor Tom Daly commented that ESC has produced a response to Sizewell C and Nautilus. The Greens, Liberal Democrats and Independent (GLI) have also submitted a report. The number of empty properties in the area are being monitored, this covers residential and commercial. Recycling has been affected as there is a lot of contamination by incorrect items. Cop 26 – GLI continues to be very involved with this.

Cllr Rainger commented that the SALC are suggesting that the information and documents held by a PC should be accessible not only by the Clerk. It could be placed in a storage cloud. The Katch bus is continuing to be used by people.

Cllr Norman commented that the people who run the Katch bus did attend a 'Meet up Monday' session and informed the attendees that a return trip to Framlingham would cost £20.

Cllr Beach said that the Quiet Lanes group are involved with the walking strategy.

Cllr Rainger said that there are cameras placed on footpaths and beach doing a survey to find out how many people use them.

Tom Daly left at 7.35pm

7 Contribution by Members of the Public.

A member of the public commented that if any files are sent to the Suffolk Archives, there is a charge to borrow it back.

The owners of Iken Canoe commented about the recent planning application. They have run the local business for 27 years; it is a small family business; it is an outdoor activity; a concern of the residents is that there are too many boats. July to August is very busy. There are a variety of boats. There has been a local habitat survey completed. There are areas of mitigation; the season has been shortened to May – September. No multiple launches, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Paddle boards once a day. Speak to each customer to explain where they are permitted to go. This is a low impact carbon neutral activity.

A member of the public commented that in 2014 a journalist reported that shrieks from a boat from Iken Canoe sent up hoards of birds. This is not a low-key business. Permission was given for 5 craft; this has been flouted as they used 37 craft. Three years ago, a phone call to the owners confirmed that they have no control of people on the water. There has been lots of litter in people's garden. This is an increase to 146 hiring days. Birds nest all year round.

Cllr Beach commented that there the HRA has been addressed, there was a direct impact on the mud flats, Suffolk Wildlife Trust has completed a report.

A member of the public said that they have spoken to Suffolk Wildlife Trust, and is awaiting a response. It is thought that SWT will object to the planning application.

Three members of the public left at 7.53pm.

8 Planning Applications & Decision Notices.

DC/21/4869/VOC – The river House, Iken cliff, Iken, IP12 2EN

Variation of condition No's 2 & 3 of C/12/0123 – Use of existing boat shed for canoe hire business.

Cllr Farrant commented that he sees no reason why the PC should change the response from the last time.

This is a special area, that should not be degraded, river uses are not quiet. This could have a financial effect on the local shops, B&B's etc.

Cllr McKenna said there is a lot of support on the ESC website, it is a welcome draw for people. 5 craft have been approved, now there is an increase to 40, could the PC comment that this is a large increase.

Cllr Farrant commented that an increase of a few is still chipping away at the area.

Cllr Allfrey left at 8pm.

Cllr Beach said that this application does affect the whole area.

Cllr Lock commented that SWT will give a substantial report, the increase from 5 – 40 is massive. How are they to police peoples behaviour on the water.

Cllr Rainger stated that ESC have received no response from SWT or Natural England. They have 37 craft at the moment, and increase to 40 is not much change. Iken PC has not objected.

Cllr Norman said that if we agree to 40 craft, will these numbers creep up to 50.

Cllr Hough proposed that the PC objects to this application, this was seconded by Cllr Lock and agreed by a majority of the Councillors.

ACTION: Cllr Farrant to draft a response to submit to ESC.

DC/21/5000/VOC – Hulver House, 1 Hulver Cottage, Hulver Lane, Snape, IP17 1Q

Variation of condition No 2 of DC/20/4615/FUL – to build a log cabin, to be used in conjunction with the house but also as a holiday let. This will be built on a concrete base, with a new sewerage treatment plant installed – amended plans to remove end veranda as per original plans and use as more internal space, footprint will remain the same.

It was agreed by all the Councillors not to comment on this application.

9 Finance

- a) Review and authorisation of payments and signing of invoices by signatories,

Cllr Rainger proposed the payments, this was seconded by Cllr Beach and agreed by all. There were no questions for the Clerk.

The payments were: Gary Whiting - £330, CAS SSL certificate - £36, Clerk – £405.28, Vertas - £331.78, D Walduck, reimbursement - £96.60, SALC Payroll service - £54.00, Barry Smith repair to war memorial £216.00, Cllr Beach reimbursement for printing - £30, Village Hall Committee annual donation - £200, John Poll Priory Wood rent - £200, Church annual donation - £400, CAS website domain – £22.50, and Botanica Village Green project - £1810.75. Total £4,132.91.

Cllr Norman is concerned that having paid for the trees there will not be sufficient funding for the planting.

The Clerk commented that there will be around £300 to be returned from the VAT cost on the trees, this could be used for the planting cost.

- b) Online Banking

The Clerk reported that the online banking was all up and running, payments had been set up on the account and both Cllr Hough and Cllr Norman had approved them.

- c) Quarterly Accounts

Cllr Beach proposed that the PC approves the quarterly accounts, this was seconded by Cllr Norman and agreed by all.

- d) Draft budget

Cllr Richards commented that the finance group had met and discussed the budget, the income is small with a loss of the rent from the school.

Cllr Beach suggested that the grass cutting is looked into, as we do not want to pay two people to cut the same area of grass.

Cllr Richards confirmed that this is something that is being looked into. It was agreed to place £30,000 in the traffic management pot for any future traffic calming work.

Cllr Rainger proposed that Snape PC agrees the budget and the precept request of £11,303, this was seconded by Cllr Beach and agreed by all.

Member of the public left at 8.22pm.

10 Parish Council Business

- a) Priory Road/Snape Common – Cllr Richards said that this will be re-visited at the next meeting.
ACTION: To be placed on the next agenda.
- b) East Suffolk Cycle Routes – Cllr Richards said if Councillors wished to comment then please do so.
- c) School Update – Cllr Richards commented that the school will become an academy on the 1st December 2021. In Dec 2020 at a PC meeting, it was agreed to waive the rental charge, this would become £1 not £5,000. If the academy ceases, the lease would then be returned to the PC. Those conditions were placed in the lease as a safeguard. If the academy can sort out and are able to pay, they will reconsider the rental charge.
- d) Dates of next year's meetings – The dates for next years meetings were agreed by all.
- e) Financial Regulations – Cllr Norman proposed that the PC adopts the changes made to the Financial Regulations to include online payments, this was seconded by Cllr McKenna and agreed by all.

Member of the public left at 8.26pm.

11 Correspondence

Donations – It was agreed by all that the following donations be given – SARS - £200, CAB - £100, Quiet Lanes - £200, First Aid Training (in the village hall for 20 people on the 29/1/2022) - £150, Jess Grant - £100. The donations were proposed by Cllr Beach and seconded by Cllr Rainger.

Cllr Hough left at 8.30pm.

Woodbridge Town Council – Cllr Richards agreed to respond to Woodbridge Town Council regarding Climate Emergency.

Cllr Richards said that there are various consultations within ESC at the moment. It was agreed that the PC had no comment to make.

Cllr Beach is chairing a meeting which will be attended by Cllr Rainger and Cllr Lock which is the Department for Business Energy Meeting.

Lorry routes – Cllr Richards agreed to look through the document. Cllr Beach is to attend a meeting with other PC's. Some vehicle movement has already been monitored.

Cllr Rainger commented that there has been an email from a resident regarding the Nautilus consultation. Cllr Richards agreed to respond to the resident regarding Nautilus.

Cllr Rainger said that a group of residents would like to put on a Street Party for the Queens Platinum Jubilee, there is some money allocated for this celebration, would the PC be willing to cover the insurance and use the PC bank account for holding donations towards the event. All Councillors agreed with the assistance towards the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

12 Matters for consideration at the meeting on the 25th January 2022.

Common Management Plan, Traffic Calming, Queens Platinum Jubilee

13 Dates of the Next Meeting

25 January 2022

22 February 2022 (Urgent items only)

22 March 2022

Meeting Closed – 8.39pm.

Marie Backhouse, Parish Clerk

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23 November 2021