

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
SAXTEAD PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Dennington Village Hall on
Wednesday 6th July 2022 at 7.30pm**

1. **The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.**
Apologies for absence were received from County Cllr. Burroughes. It was noted that Ward Cllr. Freeman had also been invited to the meeting.
Present
George Cullingford (Chair) Lisa Handley Liz Wale Jonathan Sullivan
Paul Johnson Simon Hordern Lydia Kirk (Clerk)
Absent David Johnson
2. **Cllr. P. Johnson declared an interest in item 8 as this is a neighbouring property.** A dispensation for him to discuss the application was granted.
3. **The minutes of the annual meeting held on 12th May 2022 were approved as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.**
4. **There were no matters arising.**

PUBLIC FORUM

Reports from the Ward and County Councillors were shared online prior to the meeting.
There were no members of the public present.

5. **The Chair represented the Parish Council at the Suffolk Day commemorations at Framlingham Castle on 21st June.** He was disappointed by the turn out.
6. **Clerk's Report**
The change of meeting dates have now been confirmed with the hall booking's secretary. The clerk will attend SALC's AGM in July and Councillors are also welcome to attend. The external auditor has confirmed safe receipt of our Certificate of Exemption for the year ending 31st March 2022, which concludes this year's auditing requirements. The clerk attended SALC's information session about the CILCA qualification but does not wish to proceed with this presently.
7. a) The following payments were approved and will be paid online:

Reference Number	Amount	Payee	Details
P6 22-23	£825.50	L. Kirk	Pay to 30 th June 2022
P7 22-23	£120.00	Suffolk Cloud	Web hosting 2022-2023

- b) Since the last meeting the only receipt has been 40 pence interest into the deposit account.
 - c) The current and deposit account balances were £5,478.79 and £5,297.57 respectively on 27th June 2022.
 - d) The bank statements and reconciliation were reviewed and signed by the Examining Officer.
 - e) The year-to-date payments and receipts account was considered in order and in line with the agreed budget.
8. **The following planning application was discussed:**
i) *DC/22/2163/FUL Proposed building to accommodate swimming pool & associated equipment/facilities* Ashmeade Church Road Saxtead Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 9QP
GC commented on the considerable size of this building, especially compared to the house. PJ noted that the proposals go in front of the building line and it would be pertinent to check ESC consider this when determining the application. JS commented that ESC should give special

credence to near-neighbours' views' when making its decision, although it was noted that neighbouring properties had been consulted directly but no responses had been submitted to date.

PJ left the meeting whilst Councillors voted. SH proposed not objecting to the application, but asking ESC to be mindful of the regulations regarding the building line. This was seconded by LH and carried unanimously. *PJ returned to the meeting.*

ACTION Clerk to respond to ESC before imminent deadline

9. **SH raised the Quiet Lanes initiative.** Whilst the current funding for the project has been used, it was agreed to express an interest in the scheme in the hope that it runs again. It was noted that some roads in the village should be eligible and would benefit from the scheme, namely Chapel Lane, Church Road and World's End Road.

ACTION Clerk to contact the scheme organiser's in this regard.

10. **GC thanked everyone who assisted with the residents' survey and LW for collating the results and producing such a thorough and clear summary.** The survey has shown some common concerns from residents and will help to direct the PC in future projects. SH noted that whilst the 60% return rate was good, it would likely have been higher if the surveys had been hand-delivered and then collected. It was agreed that this would be good practise for any future surveys.

Speeding and traffic was the most common concern so it would be useful for the PC to contact residents to keep them updated about the imminent speed reduction along the A1120. Also to discuss other possible speed reduction initiatives, eg a community speed watch scheme, flashing LED sign etc.

ACTION Clerk to send survey results to residents who are on the new mailing list, and put the results on the village website and noticeboards. Also to put links on the website for residents who wish to join the mailing list or Neighbourhood Watch scheme at a later date. Clerk to chase Rural Coffee Caravan about visiting the village again as this was reasonably successful before and is likely to be of benefit to residents.

ACTION PJ & LW to draft an email inviting interested residents to a meeting about forming a work group for speed & traffic concerns and environmental initiatives. Also to organise the first village walking group so this too can be advertised and implemented.

ACTION PJ will carry out a review of highways signage in the village to then report to SCC for replacement or for the PC to replace if necessary.

11. **There have been no updates regarding the pavement extension and speed limit reduction but Cllr. Burroughes is continuing to chase these issues.**

12. **JS provided some background information on the Town Lands Trust and had the minutes and accounts to hand in order to answer questions on behalf of the Trust.** GC explained that the treasurer of the Trust had resigned after many years and the PC needed to appoint a new trustee. It was noted that the Trustee did not have to take on the treasurer's role and was not required to be a member of the Parish Council. PJ suggested that he would like to take on the position and the role of treasurer. He said that he could make himself available for the weekday meetings. GC suggested that perhaps it would be useful for another resident outside of the PC to take on the role to encourage engagement from other residents but it was agreed that if PJ was happy to stand, this would be helpful. JS proposed PJ to be the Trustee. This was seconded by LW and carried unanimously.

13. **GC thanked everyone involved in the recent village Platinum Jubilee celebrations, including JS for his work assessing risks and considering various insurance options for the event.** GC was slightly disappointed by the turnout for the events.

Some residents have asked about the trees planted on the greens and it was agreed that an event to commemorate their planting would help residents to know that the trees were to mark the Platinum Jubilee. It was agreed to ask the Rector to bless the tree on the main green on the day of the table top sale on 16th July.

ACTION Clerk to ask the rector as to his availability and then to inform residents of the event.

14. **Correspondence received was discussed**

- i) The draft events licence from Pembroke College regarding use of village green was considered and it was agreed that the Parish Council could not agree to these licence terms. **ACTION** SH to draft an email to the College's agent inviting them for a site visit to discuss the licence and other options for the green and its future.
- ii) East Suffolk Council's Consultation on 'Housing in Clusters in the Countryside' was considered and Councillors agreed with JS's considered response to the consultation. **ACTION** Clerk to send a response to the planning policy department on behalf of the Council based on JS's comments.

15. Receive reports from Councillors

- i) SH attended last week's Community Partnerships meeting and found it to be useful, particularly the Good Neighbour Scheme which Community Action Suffolk (CAS) can offer assistance with. A common concern was the ageing population in these villages and the rising cost of living- universal credit claims in Suffolk having risen by 95% (*although a councillor noted that perhaps this shocking statistic was due to the Covid pandemic*). Good neighbouring deeds such as help with shopping or offering lifts are likely to be of continued benefit to many residents. It was noted that even though they themselves have been encouraging widespread attendance from Parish Councils, our Ward Councillors and County Councillor were not actually at the meeting.
- ii) PJ will attend Suffolk Constabulary's Road Safety Conference in July and report back.

16. Matters to be discussed at next meeting

Updates on speed limit reduction and progress regarding the pavement extension.
Responses from residents regarding speed & traffic and environmental work groups
Response from site meeting with Pembroke College

17. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as being Wednesday 7th September at 7.30pm. There being no further business, the Chair thanked councillors for attending and ended the meeting at 9.45pm.

Signed *G. Cullingford*
Chair

7th September 2022
Date