

Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of 6 September 2021, 7.30 pm, held at the Village Hall.

1. Welcome.

The Chair of the Parish Council (Gerald Godfrey) welcomed those present at the meeting, which included 5 Parish Councillors (Jacqui Harrison (JH), Rod Apps (RA), Penny Ward (PW), Colin Ward (CW) and Lea Ingham (LI), along with 3 members of the public

2. Apologies for absence.

There were apologies for absence from Andy Spinks, which were accepted.

3. Minutes.

The Minutes of the meeting of 19 July 2021 were accepted were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting of 19 July 2021, and Parish Clerk's update.

1. Days for meetings of the Parish Council. There had been a request to move the days for the meetings of the Parish Council from Mondays to another day, on the basis that the Village Hall Committee had received an opportunity to hold yoga classes on Monday evenings. It transpired that the yoga class would be timed for 6.30pm to 7.30pm, and therefore the Parish Council agreed to keep to Monday evenings, but start the Parish Council meetings at 7.45 pm in order to allow sufficient time for the changeover.
2. Rod Apps informed the Parish Council that the website was now up and running, and that he would arrange for a Newsletter to be circulated within the village to announce this.
3. Burial Ground. There was an extensive discussion around the maintenance arrangements of the Burial Ground, and also of the condition of the gates to the Burial Ground (both the pedestrian gate and the double gates for vehicular access). Gerald Godfrey undertook to obtain quotes for the replacement of the gates. It was further noted that there was a possibility of a public meeting for the Village in October at which the future of the church would be discussed, and that this would be a good opportunity to also discuss aspects of the maintenance of the Burial Ground.

[Action: GG]
4. Vehicle Activated Sign. Rod Apps reported that he had put together a proposed timetable for the transfer of the VAS between Ringsfield & Weston (which has 3/5ths ownership) and Ilketshall St. Andrew (which has a 2/5ths ownership). This had been sent to the contact at Ringsfield, who had responded to the effect that he strongly objected to the proposed timetable. Rod Apps undertook to investigate the basis for the objection, and see if a resolution could be achieved.

[Action: RA]

5. Rod Apps reported that he had attended a meeting on Friday 30 July regarding the impact of the Southern Relief Road on surrounding villages, and specifically on Ringsfield & Weston and on Ilketshall St. Andrew. The meeting was attended by the constituency MP, Peter Aldous, and by Judy Cloke, one of the District Councillors, in addition to several people from Ringsfield & Weston. It was noted that there were two separate issues; first, the issue of speeding through the villages, and secondly the issue of heavy vehicle traffic using the route through Ilketshall St. Andrew and Ringsfield as a 'rat run', particularly in relation to the biodigester plant at Ellough. At the meeting, Peter Aldous undertook to send a 'high level' e-mail to Richard Smith, the Head of Roads at Suffolk County Council and copied to relevant police on the issues. Judy Cloke, subsequent to the meeting, sent an e-mail to Maark Nichols of Suffolk Highways requesting that he attend an on-site meeting for Ringsfield & Weston and for Ilketshall St. Andrew to discuss both the heavy vehicle issue *and* the speeding issue.
6. [Item 5 refers] Rod Apps reported that he had not done anything further on the issue of the ownership, and the Transfer Deed, relating to the Village Hall following the meeting that the Parish Council had with the Village Hall Committee. The joint agreement at that meeting between the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council was that it would be appropriate to clarify and update the documentation, and Rod Apps undertook to try to progress this when time permitted. It was noted that SALC might be a useful source for legal advice on the issue.

[Action: RA]
7. [Item 6 refers] Rod Apps reported that the sign (indicating ownership etc. of the Village Hall) had been received and he would undertake to mount it on the Village Hall wall shortly.

[Action: RA]
8. [Item 7 refers] Planning Applications. Rod Apps reported that he had submitted responses (constituting no objections, and therefore supporting the applications) in relation to the proposal for 1, Top Road; the Village Hall; and for Shrublands on Mill Lane.
9. [Item 9 refers] Notice Boards. Rod Apps reported that he had sent a letter to David Best following the receipt of contact details from Chris Roberts, but had not yet any response. The Parish Council agreed to wait until the next meeting to see if any response was forthcoming before deciding on any action.
10. [Item 10 refers] Village Party/event. The last meeting of the Parish Council had considered postponing this until Christmas. In the light of trends in Covid-19 infection rates and uncertainty about the future development of the pandemic, restrictions, and attitudes towards gatherings in enclosed spaces, it was agreed to consider moving the possibility of the event until summer 2022. It was noted that there was due to be an 'extended Bank Holiday' from Thursday 2 June until Sunday 5 June 2022 in recognition of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and hence it was thought that this might be a suitable weekend for such an event. Rod Apps is due to attend a Zoom meeting regarding the "Festival of Suffolk" which is linked to Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

[Action: RA]
11. [Item 14 refers] Police Locality Meeting. Rod Apps reported that he had attended the Police Locality Meeting on Monday 2 August. One of the issues raised was that of travellers and incursions onto common land. The essential message from the police was that all available measures should be taken to prevent encampments and incursions onto common land. The police do not get involved, unless there are aggravating issues including damage to property etc. Responsibility is taken on by a County Council liaison officer tasked with the role of looking after the welfare of travellers. As the 'guardians' of the Commons, the Parish Council agreed that it should ask the Land Management

Company to ensure that the existing measures are assessed and reinforced where necessary and appropriate.

A second issue raised was that of speeding, and it was noted at the meeting that Community Speedwatch groups could be constituted from more than one village, and if a group was formed from more than one village, the teams would then be circulated between the villages involved. It was also noted that a suitable site for a Community Speedwatch team to monitor traffic would need to be at least 300 metres from the start of the 30mph limit, which might be a problem for Top Road, given that there are few safe locations for a monitoring group to position themselves.

12. [Item 14 refers] Rod Apps confirmed that he did sign up for the fingerpost plaques/Discover Suffolk initiative, and was informed that they would be in touch in due course.

5. Quiet Lanes.

The Parish Council considered the proposal to have those parts of Clarkes Lane and BanTERS Lane that lie within the parish boundaries to be designated as "Quiet Lanes".

The Parish Council noted that applications for Great Common Lane, Mill Lane, Tooks Common Lane, Becks Green Lane and School Road had already been made. It further noted that a public meeting for the whole village had been held in April 2021 relating to the proposal to designate those lanes in particular. Due to the need for consultation with Ringsfield & Weston Parish Council (BanTERS Lane passes through Ringsfield before entering Barsham & Shipmeadow) and with Barsham & Shipmeadow Parish Council (due to Clarkes Lane entering into Barsham & Shipmeadow, along with BanTERS Lane after passing through Ringsfield & Weston), the application for these two lanes was being pursued in a separate 'wave'.

Although properties on BanTERS Lane and Clarkes Lane had previously been circulated with details concerning the proposed designation of Great Common Lane, Mill Lane, Tooks Common Lane and Becks Green Lane, a further sheet containing information about the proposed designation of BanTERS Lane and Clarkes Lane was circulated to all properties on those lanes within Ilketshall St. Andrew. This circular also provided details of a public meeting to be held to discuss the proposal, at 7.00 pm on 6 September 2021 in the Village Hall, and additionally invited comments to be sent to the parish Clerk or the Parish Council e-mail address.

No comments were received either by the Parish Clerk or at the Parish Council e-mail address. Two members of the public from BanTERS Lane attended the public meeting on 6 September, and after clarification of the nature of the "Quiet Lanes" project and its implication, endorsed the application for the designation of BanTERS Lane and Clarkes Lane as "Quiet Lanes". The Parish Council accordingly agreed to make the formal application for BanTERS Lane and Clarkes Lane to be designated as "Quiet Lanes", and asked the Parish Clerk to finalise the relevant paperwork and submit it to the "Quiet Lanes" Project Team.

The Parish Council further agreed that it would be prepared to make an additional voluntary contribution not exceeding £200 relating to the designation of these two additional lanes as "Quiet Lanes".

[Action: RA]

6. Dog Poo Bins.

The Parish Council approved the purchase of a third bin by the Parish Council, and agreed that it would be sited at the entrance to Gerald Godfrey's field at the western end of Great Common Lane. Gerald Godfrey undertook to order the bin and position it when it arrived.

7. Finance

The Parish Council noted a number of payments made since the last meeting of the Parish Council, comprising:

Zoom subscriptions for July, August & September @ £14.39 per month, totalling £43.17.

Glasdon, for the second dog poo bin to be located on Top Road: £278.97

Materials for the repair of the gate to the Play Area: £29.85

Fee TiaGrace for the completion of the development of the Parish Council website: £300

Black Dog Signs for the manufacture of an ownership etc. sign for the Play Area: £42.00

RSA, via Community Actin Suffolk, for insurance for the Parish Council: £286.75

All these payments had been made by Rod Apps, and the Parish Council agreed to reimburse him for these payments, totalling £980.74, by means of cheque number 399 from the Parish Council account.

8. Any Other Business

There was a brief discussion around the allotments on School Road. Jacqui Harrison agreed to speak to Rosemary Andrews in order to get some clarification on what the arrangements were, and what – if anything – the Parish Council needs to know or do about them.

[Action: JH]

Chris Roberts agreed to take a look at the Land Registry website in order to establish who the registered owner of the allotments on School Road was, in order to provide some background information.

[Action: Chris Roberts]

9. Date of next meeting

Monday 4 October 2021, 7.45 pm, Village Hall