

Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council

Minutes of 3rd July, 7.30 pm, held at the Village Hall

Attendees: Cllrs: R. Apps [RA], G. Godfrey (chairman) [GG], L. Ingham [LI], C. Ward [CW], and P. Ward [PW].

Total members of the public: 1 and County Councillor Judy Cloke (arrived late). District Councillor Toby Hammond. District Councillor Anthony Specca (arrived late).

Also in Attendance: T. Newby.

1. Welcome

Apologies – to consider accepting apologies for absence. Apologies Jacqueline Harrison was accepted.

2. Declarations – Pecuniary and Other: To record declarations of interest from Members for any item to be discussed under pecuniary and other. - None

3. Minutes – confirmation and signing of the minutes of last meeting held on 15th May 2023. Unanimous approval, with a small adjustment at paragraph AOB. The corner refers to dangerous corner on Ringsfield Road. This was adjusted and counter signed by the Chairman.

4. To consider Co-opting Councillor vacancies – None.

5. To discuss any outstanding items from previous meetings not on this agenda.

- a. Update on Quiet Lanes – All the signs are now in place with the exception of 2 signs/1 post in Clarkes Lane. RA is waiting for Suffolk Highways. So far, Barsham and Shipmeadow have not put any signs up.
- b. Update on Top Road speeding issues. The VAS has been erected on the site at the end of Top Road, Sewer Road end. Results will be discussed later. CW, noted that there is a black box at the top of Top Road which is a traffic survey, which records the length of the vehicles and the speed of the vehicles. *This was mentioned again in the article RA read out under the Community Speedwatch and HGVs Top Road.*
- c. Update on Additional seating at Playground. Melanie would like the bench that has been purchased situated on the concrete. Perhaps the Parish Council would like to consider additional seating nearer the playground so that people can keep an eye on the children playing.
The Council noted that the noticeboard still needs to be put up in Top Road, this will be done by RA and GG. [RA, GG]
- d. Update on Methodist Church being empty. RA reported that No 3 Big Common and the Methodist Church are empty and that he has reported them. With No 3 Big Common, Suffolk County Council could not contact the owner and the Methodist Church is currently up for sale.
The Methodist Church is Grade II listed; the guttering is full and will make the building damp. The Church is renowned for the internal fittings and needs to be repaired.
No 3 Big Common has issues with a very large Christmas Tree, which is way higher than the cottages and could cause damage if it were to fall! The tree will need to be cropped or removed. RA to contact the owner of No 3 and express concerns about the tree. [RA]

- e. Update on Defibrillator training and adding to the database. The Clerk reported that she had not had any success in contacting Alan for the Defib training. She also needs to know the serial number, make and model of the defib. The code to open the defib and when the last service was done? County Councillor Cloke informed the Parish Council that she would get the telephone number for Alan and give this to the Clerk, for process the database registering and the training. With regard to the training, all the PC and some of the people in the VH committee could do with the training. This would be paid by the Parish Council. [Clerk]
- f. Update on the Outstanding Issue in Banters Lane – potholes have been done and the collapsed side of the road has been filled in with soil. Close agenda item.
- g. Update on Becks Green Lane slurry pit concerns – The fence is inadequate. Environmental Agency does not know who the owner is and therefore will not process the complaint. The bank of soil around the pit is about 8' tall. There is more and more slurry being added to this on a regular basis. It is a huge pit and there is a potential safety issue. The entrance has been widened and they have even knocked down the quiet lanes sign. Have they got planning consent for this slurry pit? It is understood that it is pig slurry. The land is registered to Corner Farm. The District Councillors confirmed that this is likely to be a Health and Safety concern as there is not a suitable security fence and not Environmental Agency. Clerk to try that route for a complaint. [Clerk]

6. Adjournment – Standing orders will be suspended for Public Participation. For information only, total of 3 minutes per member.

Standing Orders were suspended at 8.10pm.

RA read out the email received regarding Community Speedwatch and HGVs Top Road:

1. *As you may or may not know I have been trying to set up a Community Speedwatch for the village and because we could only get 4 volunteers, we were going to team up with Redisham and Weston and the coordinator for the combined scheme was Jan Hulme who I believe is the clerk for Redisham PC. All the paperwork was hand delivered to Dr Willis who was the driving force behind the scheme and he passed it on to Jan Hulme. Not having heard anything about training I contacted the Speedwatch coordinator at Police HQ and she confirmed that nothing had been received from Redisham. I contacted Dr Willis who tried to contact Jan Hulme who has not replied to emails or Whats App so the scheme appears to have stalled.*

I am therefore asking if the PC could contact Redisham PC "officially" to see what the situation is.

*I am minded to try and set up our own scheme but we would need two more volunteers so I wonder if the parish council could advertise for/encourage some more people to come forward. Volunteers can contact me on 07342129708
Colin will give the results of the SID.*

As an aside to this I have managed to contact a PCSO with whom I worked many years ago and he has arranged for the Camera Safety team to set up a survey radar- this was set up last week by the post box in Top Road which as it turned was good timing in view of...

2. *HGVs Top Road*

The last week has really bad with HGVs on Top Road. Not only has there been HGVs going to industrial estates but the number of vehicles both HGVs and tractor and trailers going to the bio digester at Ellough. Friday in particular was absolutely horrendous. There were convoys of HGVs and tractors heading in both directions

driving in a manner and speed that I would have no hesitation in describing as unacceptable bordering on the dangerous. I was nearly run off the road myself near Corner Farm by a convoy of 2 HGVs and a tractor who were driving far too fast. This situation continued until 8.30 pm and resumed today (Saturday). If this situation is allowed to continue in such a manner, then I predict that there will be a serious incident sooner or later. I myself will be writing to Peter Aldous, Judy Cloke and Suffolk County Council, so can I ask if the Parish Council could write to these individuals and the company concerned (Evergreen) pointing out the danger inherent in using Top Road in such a manner. Perhaps also Ringsfield Parish Council could be invited to add their voice as I am sure that they are fed up with the situation especially in view of the primary school.

The situation is all the more galling as there is an approved lorry route(B1124) between the A144/A145

County Councillor Cloke reported that no solution was ever discussed. Police do not enforce weight restriction. Weight restriction – would need a lorry watch. This would be in conjunction with Ringsfield. There would be bulk discount for more than one road.

Opportunity for District Councillor and County Councillor to speak:

County Councillor Cloke reported that she had a lengthy 3-hour meeting with the anti-solar farm group about 3 weeks ago.

The District Councillors discussed their report and how they list 10 items that have been important to them. They also mentioned that they had a meeting with the anti-solar farm group.

Resume Standing Orders; 8.25pm.

7. To discuss any planning applications received:

- a. To receive an update on the Solar Farm and agree any action. – Nothing discussed at this time.

Anne is drafting a letter to send to RES.

8. To discuss any highways issues:

- a. To receive data from the VAS;

VAS TOP ROAD, MAY – JUNE 2023

Post box end

Date from 13/05/23

Date to 03/06/23

Average speed 28.3 mph

Average overspeed 34.7 mph

Max speed recorded 70 mph @ 13.30 Monday 26/5/23

Average daily traffic 340

Total vehicle count 7371

Total over limit 2813 = 38.1%

Highest overspeed day Friday/Saturday both @ 39.9%

Sewer Lane end

Date from 03/06/23

Date to 26/06/23 (22 days)

Average speed 29.18 mph

Average overspeed 34.3 mph

Max speed recorded 60 mph @ 1100hrs Saturday 03/06/23

Average daily traffic 314
 Total vehicle count 7352
 Total over limit 3394 = 46.2%
 Highest overspeed day Saturday 46.2%

9. To discuss and agree the finances:

- a. AGAR To agree the Internal Audit Report – tick the appropriate boxes and upload to website. [Clerk]
- b. Receive an update on the CiL and s106 monies; After some discussion it was realised that we have to apply for the s106 monies, it will not automatically go into the Parish Council bank account. Clerk to adjust the cashbook to reflect this. [Clerk]

Items that we could spend with the above money were discussed:

Top Road speeding issues, although the road line paintings in Ringsfield has not made a difference.

Play area, replace the wooden gates. Replace the 'Train' that is rotten. Action GG to remove this before Play Inspection. [GG]

The 'car' wooden framework is falling apart and could be repaired/replaced. [GG]

It was noted that 'Basket' swings are very popular at the moment. Clerk to obtain quotes for replacement/additional play items. [Clerk]

Ask Melanie to put an article in the newsletter, asking children's choices. [Clerk]

There was confirmation that the burial ground does not belong to the Parish Council but belongs to the Prochiral Church Council. Therefore, the Parish Council cannot help with the maintenance of the churchyard. The Clerk has sought advice from Suffolk ALC, this is their advice:

Having, or not having, the GPoC would not affect this advice.

S.8(1), Local Government Act 1894 prevent councils spending on works on property relating to the affairs of the Church or an ecclesiastical charity, and NALC Legal advise that this would include maintenance of a churchyard.

However, if it is a CLOSED churchyard and responsibility for maintenance has been passed to the parish council (by Order of the Privy Council), then the council has a duty to maintain it under [s.215, Local Government Act 1972](#).

- c. Payments for the month

**Payment summary
3rd July 2023**

Date	cheque payee	Ref	Cheque Number	Total
03/07/2023	Gerald Godfrey (bench)	15/05/23 13f	24003 100415	£114.99
03/07/2023	cheque to Tina Newby	03/07/23 9c	24004 100416	£592.92
	Wages April difference	03/07/23 9c		£88.24
	Wages May difference	03/07/23 9c		£88.04
	Wages June	03/07/23 9c		£238.24
	HMRC for 1 qtr	03/07/23 9c	24005 100416	£178.40

Total Payments **£707.91**

Payments totally £707.91 were approved proposed by GG and seconded by RA all in agreement.

- d. Update on the finances for 2023-24; these were noted. Income to be adjusted to reflect the s.106 monies.

10. To note any outstanding Register of Interests Forms: All outstanding ROIs were completed.

11. To note correspondence:

- a. D-Day 80 6/6/2024, pass to Melanie to organise from the Village Hall.
- b. Suffolk County Council's Energy and Climate Adaptive Infrastructure Policy. RA had read the report; there is a commitment to Net Zero, and the adaptations to climate change. They will need to take into account the impact of the Solar Farm. All new houses should have solar panels on the roof as a matter of course!
When the Solar Farm planning applications comes up for discussion, we will have to take into account the planning material considerations.

12. To discuss the other meetings held between the Parish Council meetings:

- a. Village Hall Report – Report was distributed – all noted.
- b. Commons and Land Management Company – no meeting where any minutes have been approved.

AOB:

The waste disposal services have been taken over by East Suffolk Services on 1/7/23. Keep an eye on the dog bins, as they are looking full! Clerk to check! [\[Clerk\]](#)

Fingerposts are still in need of replacement/repair. County Councillor Cloke is dealing with this. [\[County Cllr Cloke\]](#)

Monday 4th September 2023
Monday 6th November 2023

Being there was no more business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.20.

Signed.....

Date.....