

Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of 4 April 2022, 7.30 pm, held remotely using Zoom.

1. **Welcome.**

The Chair of the Parish Council (Gerald Godfrey) welcomed those present at the meeting, which included 6 Parish Councillors (Jacqui Harrison (JH), Rod Apps (RA), Penny Ward (PW), Colin Ward (CW), and Lea Ingham (LI). There was one member of the public, Chris Roberts (CR).

2. **Apologies for absence.**

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

3. **Minutes.**

The Minutes of the meeting of the meeting of 7 February 2022 were accepted and will be signed by the Chair at a later date.

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting of 18 October 2021, and Parish Clerk's update.**

1. Rod Apps noted he had collected the Quiet Lanes signs from the Suffolk Highways depot in Ipswich, and would set about installing them soon.
2. Rod Apps reported that he had collected the Queen's Platinum Jubilee oak tree, and he and Gerald Godfrey had planted it near to the village sign at the junction of Tooks Common Lane and Great Common Lane.
3. Rod Apps reported that he had sent an e-mail to the Village Hall Committee regarding the possibility of them working with the Parish Council, the Commoners' Association and the Parochial Church Council in relation to an event to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at some point over the long Bank Holiday weekend of Thursday 2 June 2022 onwards. At the time of the meeting, a response had not been received. Discussion by Councillors concluded that it would probably be best to think in terms of an event whereby people could bring their own food and drink, in order to make the organisation of the event manageable and minimal. It was noted that the Village Hall floor would probably not be completed in time (in which case the Church could be utilised if it was raining), but the Village Hall bar and lounge would be available.
4. Rod Apps reported that he understood that the scaffolding associated with the re-roofing of the Village Hall was due to be dismantled soon, implying that the Play Area could be reopened. Rod Apps undertook to arrange for the annual safety inspection to be undertaken once the Play Area had been reopened and checked. He also undertook to instal the waste bin onto the wall of the Village Hall once the scaffolding had been removed.

[Action: RA]
5. Rod Apps reported that he had received the fingerpost plaques, and would set about installing them soon.

[Action: RA]

6. [Item 5 of Minutes of 7 February 2022 refers]: Rod Apps confirmed that he had completed and delivered a cheque for £2,000 to the Village Hall Committee.

5. Village Hall re-roofing.

It was noted that, as owners of the Village Hall, the Parish Council would benefit from a clearer and timely flow of information about developments at the Village Hall, and not only in relation to the progress of the re-roofing project. While there was provision for the Parish Council to nominate a Councillor to join the Village Hall Committee, there was a reluctance by the Parish Council to identify someone to engage in further meetings. It was further noted that, to be comparable to the Land Management Company, the Parish Council could usefully receive the Minutes of the meetings of the Village Hall Committee, accounts, etc. in order to be kept informed. It was also noted that while the AGM of the Village Hall Committee had been postponed, details of the re-arranged date had not been publicised.

It was agreed that the Village Hall should appear as a regular Agenda item for the Parish Council, in the same way as the Land Management Company appears as a regular Agenda item. The Village Hall Committee would then be invited to send in information and news, and/or a member attend Parish Council meetings to provide an update.

6. Speeding/HGV issue on Top Road.

Rod Apps reported that he and Gerald Godfrey were due to meet up with the Community Liaison Engineer on Tuesday 5 April at Top Road to discuss possibilities regarding the painting of symbols on the road to assist with dealing with the speeding problem, and other possibilities. That meeting had recently been cancelled, and was due to be rearranged.

Rod Apps reported that he had contacted Sam Kenward (of East Suffolk District Council) regarding whether he could advise the Council of any source of grants for funding the installation of "gateways" on Top Road, but he was not able to offer any suggestions. Rod Apps also reported that he had spent some time researching alternative sources of grants and funding for such "gateways", but concluded that such grants and funding was very difficult to obtain, with the criteria not being appropriate for the project.

RA undertook to contact Ringsfield and Weston again regarding the creation of a Community Speedwatch team.

[Action: RA]

7. Planning Applications

It was confirmed that no planning applications had been received that required consideration at the meeting.

8. Finance

Rod Apps confirmed that no payments had been made since the last meeting of the Parish Council (except for a scheduled Zoom payment at the beginning of March). Total funds therefore stand at a little more than £2,700. The precept payment, of approximately £2,400, is due to be received at the end of April 2022.

Rod Apps noted that the end of the Parish Council financial year was the end of March, and therefore that there was now a need to finalise the accounts for 2021-2022, have them audited, and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return completed. Rod Apps undertook to complete the necessary work in time for the planned meeting of the Parish Council in June 2022, in time for the AGAR deadline of the end of June 2022.

[Action: RA]

9. Dog Poo Bins

It was noted that Gerald Godfrey would empty the dog poo bins on the following day.

[Action: GG]

10. Commons & Land Management Company.

It was noted that the final version of the Management Plan for 2022-2023 had been made available on the Commons website.

[Action: RA]

11. Any Other Business

1. Penny Ward noted that she had received a report saying that the notice board on Top Road was about to disappear into the undergrowth. Rod Apps undertook to take a look and to contact Phil Greener regarding the renovation of the notice boards in general and that notice board in particular.

[Action: RA]

12. Date of next meeting

Monday 6 June 2022, 7.30 pm, with the intention to make use of the Village Hall. This would be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00. Rod Apps undertook to make the information about the Annual Parish Meeting known to villagers via a Newsletter.

The meeting closed at 21.00.