

MINUTES OF TROSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Monday 10th January 2022 7.00pm at Troston Village Hall

Present: Cllrs G Norris, P Johns, J Moffat, S Rose, B Burridge, R Anderson

1. **Apologies for absence.** C.Cllr R Hopfensperger

2. Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

- 2.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None.
- 2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests. None.
- 2.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act. None.

3. **Minutes** The minutes of the Monday 1st November 2021 Parish Council meeting agreed and approved as a correct record.

4. Report from RAF Honington:

The Following report was received from Sqn Ldr Mark Fixter: RAF Honington is continuing its full training programme for Professional and Individuals. The coming months will see much planning as a part of the Lord Lieutenant's desire to celebrate HM Queen Platinum Jubilee - exact details are being prepared but the Suffolk Show 31 May - 1 Jun will see them commence locally. Mark Fixter expects to coordinate a Local Parish Council Liaison meeting in the first quarter subject to Covid restrictions. 2022 sees RAF Honington mark 75 yrs. since it opened on 3 May 1937.

5. Meeting open for questions from the public. 4 members present.

6. Report from County Councillor: R Hopfensperger.

Cllr Hopfensperger sent her apologies for tonight's meeting. She sent her general reports and is aware that she is waiting for updates on Ixworth Road, the speed limit report and Paddock Way. As soon as she get any updates she will let us know. It was noted in Cllr Hopfensperger's general report that SCC are investing £20m in highway drainage and footpaths.

7. Report from B. Councillor: S. Brown

Cllr Brown did not attend the meeting.

8. Finance.

8.1 The following accounts were confirmed/approved for payments.

Travis perkins	Heath Wood	£81.89
SALC	Training	£7.50
Kalkwik	Newsletter	£54.72
Troston PCC	Churchyard	£700.00
Various	administration office	£665.96
Kompan	play area	£630.24

8.2 Bank reconciliation and accounts update.

The Clerk provided a bank reconciliation, schedule of payments and budget report for the Councillors information.

8.3 The Parish Council ratified the minutes of the finance working party meeting held on Monday 15th November, via zoom. This included the proposal to precept for £14,000 for 2022/23

9 Play Area to include:

9.1 update on installation of new equipment in children's play area and gate modification.

The new equipment has not been installed yet. Also the protruding bolt, on the new gate has not been removed. The Clerk will chase up both of these issues.

Action Clerk

9.2 To discuss tree planting event.

The tree planning event in December was a great success with local residents getting involved with the planting of some new trees on the playing field. This involvement, especially for the children, was lovely to see as they will be able to watch the trees they helped to plant growing. The tree closest to the new gate is a willow tree and as such will need plenty of water.

10. Village Maintenance/matters

10.1 Parking Concerns, suggestions for signage.

The Parish Council will continue to keep an eye on the situation.

10.2 Notification of removal of fence at Forge Corner, to discuss.

The residents at Forge Corner has notified the Parish Council that, in the near future, they wish to plant a hedge towards the path following the eventual decline of the fence. They will be mindful of the visibility around the corner. The flower bed that has been created on this patch can no longer be accommodated and the grit bin will need to be moved. The Parish council would like to formally thank Steve Bishop and friends for planting and tending to the flowerbed that has brighten up that area for some years. The Clerk will contact the owner of Forge Corner regarding a timeframe for removal of the grit bin. A new location for the grit bin will be sought.

Action Clerk

10.3 To discuss increase of Ducks in the village.

Two residents attended the meeting to discuss the ducks in the village. Both residents felt that the ducks were a long standing feature of the village. It was recognized that not all residents of the village felt the ducks presence was welcome. It was agreed that a sensible approach to feeding the ducks would be undertaken, with no feeding taking place in the public areas.

10.4 Emergency Plan, to review work so far.

The chairman has done some work to confirm that volunteers, offering equipment for use in an emergency, i.e. tractors, chainsaws etc. are still prepared to help. He is also checking that the contact details held are correct.

Action Chairman

10.5 Overgrown trees, Livermere Road.

It would seem that it is the landowners responsibility to cutback the trees that are growing in to the overhead phone lines. The Clerk will contact the landowners to inform them of the issue.

Action Clerk

10.5.1 Diseased tree Paddock Way

Suffolk Highways has instructed their arborculturalist to carry out an assessment on the trees on entrance to Paddock Way on Livermere Road and to provide advice on any remedial measures that may be required.

10.6 Update on works to Troston Woods.

The Chairman purchased some wood preserver and sandpaper and it was agreed to wait for some better weather, in the spring, before getting together a working party to carry out some works at the woods. Cllr Johns has been litter picking at the woods.

10.7 Confirmation of a permissive path to Gt Livermere.

Permission has been given, from Troston Farms, for a permissive path linking Troston with Great Livermere. There are a couple of conditions and a sign reflecting these will be ordered. Way markers will be put up, in addition to the sign. Great Livermere Parish Council will source the materials and put up both the signs and way markers. We will only need to pay for our materials.

10.8 To discuss options for litter picking equipment for the village, to be funded by West Suffolk and SCC. It was agreed to purchase 5 each of the litter pickers, gloves and hi vis vests, in both child and adult sizes, 5 hoops and 5 storage bags. The Clerk will organize this. The equipment will be stored in the village hall. **Action Clerk**

10.9 To discuss purchase of an additional VAS for the village
It was agreed to look into the possibility of purchasing an additional Vehicle Activated Sign for the village. The Clerk will source some information and approach both Cllr Hopfensperger and Cllr Brown to see if they would be able to fund the purchase. **Action Clerk**

10.10 To discuss options for some first aid/defibrillator training
Some enquiries have been made both to the Community Heartbeat Trust and to St Johns ambulance. It was agreed to ask St Johns ambulance to arrange an Emergency First Aid course, to be held in the village hall, in the spring. **Action Clerk**

10.11 Village Hall update.

The village hall committee met last week. A new secretary has been appointed, Ann Guest. The outgoing secretary had agreed to stay on the committee. Recent outgoings have exceeded income but this is not a big problem at the moment as there is still some Covid grant money left. A new picnic bench has been made to provide more outside seating. Another bench has been commissioned and should be ready for spring.

11. GDPR

Update on our responsibilities under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018. Under the GDPR, the Parish Council is both a Data Controller and a Data Processor. As a Data Controller, we must provide Privacy Notices explaining to individuals how their data will be used and what rights they have. The Clerk provided the Parish Councils with a number of documents for consideration and adoption. After discussions the prepared documents were adopted in full. **Action Clerk**

12. Lottery

To discuss the future of the village lottery.

Cllr Burridge still has not received the lottery license. It was decided to wait until the renewal is due to make a decision about what to do next. It was clarified that you have to be a resident of the village to take part in the village lottery.

13. Planning

DCON (A)/20/2005 | Application to discharge conditions 20 (biodiversity enhancement strategy) 21 (external lighting) | The Garage Livermere Road. For information.

The results of the recent chemical laboratory test show that soil samples from the site are safely below their respective guidance values - except for a limited indication in one exploratory drill-hole. This small area can be dealt with by installing a hydrocarbon resistant ground gas membrane when constructing the floor of any new dwellings. The results also show that existing soils are suitable for retention on the site in the proposed areas. From a soil contamination perspective, the site may be considered safe for the proposed development of four homes. Validation tests conducted during the development, however, will need to be satisfactory.

14. Councillors reports and items for future agendas.

The following roles were allocated:

Defibrillator – Cllr Anderson.

Troston woods. Cllr Moffat

Highways/Grit bins. Cllr Johns

Village Hall. Cllr Burridge

Play area, including Rota. All Councillors

Trees, including play area. All Councillors

VAS. Cllr Johns

Transport/Bus stop/times. Resident Amanda Ketch

Social media. Cllr Johns/Moffat

Website. Cllr Rose/Clerk

Phone box. Resident Amanda Ketch

Newsletter. Cllr Norris

Emergency plan. Cllr Norris/All Councillors

Noticeboard. Resident Amanda Ketch

Lottery. Cllr Burridge

Walks leaflet. Cllr Norris

Working parties

Finance. All Councillors

Policies. All Councillors

Employment. All Councillors

15. Correspondence for information

15.1 West Suffolk, interim review of community governance arrangements for parish and town councils. Noted.

16. Date for next meetings. 7th March 2022

17 To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:

17.1 Personnel Issues. None.

17.2 Legal Issues. None.