

LEVINGTON AND STRATTON HALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL ZOOM MEETING HELD ON

7th July 2021 at 7.15 pm

Present:

Cllr David Long (Chairman)
Cllr Julian Mann
Cllr Andrew Abram
Cllr David Pryke
Cllr John Bailey
Parish Clerk Angie Buggs
3 members of the public

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No report received

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Copy of report appended in the minute book.

VILLAGE FORUM

An opportunity for residents to give comments on any issues on the agenda. (per standing orders max 15 minutes unless otherwise directed by the Chairman, a member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes).

Ian Angus asked whether the large bramble bush could be included in the Parish Council's discussions regarding the maintenance of Trickers Wood (Item 5a on the agenda). He also asked whether the Parish Council would consider asking the village their opinion on the maintenance of Trickers Wood.

Ian Angus asked why the newsletter is not on the agenda to discuss the expenditure. Cllr D Long explained that the Parish Council has a budget for the newsletter but are unaware of what the cost will be. Ian Angus said he was aware of a printer who is offering to print the newsletter at a very competitive price. Cllr D Long said that this gives the Parish Council another price comparison.

Ian Angus said that the fire service had been asked to visit The Drift for a second time and they have now agreed that a fire engine could not get down The Drift due to parked vehicles. Cllr D Long said that the Parish Council are aware of this information but had received previous advice from the Suffolk Accident and Recue Service that a fire engine had successfully accessed The Drift.

The formal meeting of the Parish Council started at 7.30 pm.

56.21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Richard Kerry East Suffolk Council. Cllr D Long said that Cllr Melissa Allen would not be attending the meeting as she had resigned as an East Suffolk District Councillor.

57.21 CODE OF CONDUCT & DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

58.21 TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 4th MAY 2021

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 4th May 2021, which had previously been circulated, were approved, and signed as a true record by Cllr D Long (Chairman).

59.21 MATTERS TO REPORT FROM THE LATEST MINUTES (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

a. Minute 36.21 – To elect Committees, Officers, etc. Editor/Producer of the Newsletter

Cllr D Long reported that Ann Wignall had volunteered to become the Editor of the newsletter and is jointly producing the current issue with Daniel. It was agreed to add Ann's name to the list of appointments. **Action: Clerk**

b. Minute 51.21 To discuss the maintenance of Trickers Wood

Cllr D Long stated that at our previous meeting a resolution was carried "that an examination of the extent to which we can rewild parts of this verge".

A councillor has asked this be raised as a Matter Arising, but a change of resolution would be against our Standing Orders

Under Standing Order 7, "A resolution shall not be reversed within 6 months" ... but can be considered as a special resolution if a written submission is submitted 14 days before a meeting and signed by 2 councillors.

Cllr D Pryke said that the verge is beginning to look untidy.

Cllr D Long reported that it may be a while before there is an examination of the extent that parts of the verge could be considered for rewilding therefore would councillors agree to the verge being cut back in the interim to the depth of the no parking signs? All in favour. **Action: All Councillors**

60.21 FINANCE

a. Income since last meeting	
ESC Covid19	£194.90
b. Expenditure	
Ole Henriksen Covid Website	£347.32
SALC Payroll	£27.00
Trevor Brown Auditor	£100.00
Ian Angus Plastic Wallets	£9.99
Louise Overbury Dog Bags	£10.32
Mrs A J Buggs Salary & Expenses	£701.83
ICO Data Protection Fee	£40.00
HMRC	£321.59

c.	Bank Balances at 31st May 2021	
	Community Account	£29,894.35
	Premium Account	£7,753.70

The Parish Council noted the balances as at the 31st May 2021 for both the Community Account and the Premium Account.

Cllr J Mann proposed, seconded Cllr A Abram that the above expenditure is approved – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

d. To consider making a donation to the Church re use for Planning Meeting

Cllr D Long reported that the Church had been made available to the Parish Council for a recent planning meeting at no charge. Councillors discussed whether a donation should be made to the Friends of St Peters Church to cover the cost of opening the church under Covid19 rules. Cllr D Pryke proposed that a donation of £30.00, seconded Cllr J Mann – all in favour.

e. To discuss the estimates for the felling of the Sycamore Tree, Trickers Wood

Cllr D Long said that the Parish Council had received two estimates for the work to fell the Sycamore Tree in Trickers Wood which had been circulated to all councillors. Cllr D Long proposed that the Parish Council accept the lower of the two estimates (Native Garden & Trees £250 + VAT £50 = £300) who have previously carried out work on behalf of the Parish Council, seconded Cllr J Bailey – all in favour.

61.21 TO DISCUSS QUEEN’S PLATINUM CELEBRATIONS

Cllr D Long said that the Parish Council had received information on the Queen’s Platinum Celebrations which will be held on the bank holiday weekend 2nd – 5th June 2022. The lighting of beacons takes place on the 2nd June 2022 and there is a possibility other festivity will take place during the weekend. Cllr D Pryke suggested that the Parish Council gather information from the different organisations in the village to enable the village to plan as to the format of the weekend. It was agreed to place an article in the newsletter. **Action: Cllr D Long**

62.21 TO DISCUSS PARKING/ACCESS TO THE DRIFT

Cllr D Long stated that because of on-going Police enquiries the Parish Council should be cautious of making any comments about the situation. Councillors expressed the view that the issue concerning the recent behaviour was not a Parish Council matter. Regarding the parking of vehicles on The Drift, councillors felt this was a topic for discussion between the residents of The Drift and the landowner and would take no further action.

63.21 TO DISCUSS NO CYCLING SIGNS

The Chairman thanked Cllr J Mann and Cllr D Pryke for their report on the possible locating of “no cycling signs” which had previously been circulated to all councillors.

Cllr D Pryke said that the project is to try discouraging cyclists by making it clear that these are footpaths only. We have highlighted several issues in our report. I think we should arrange a meeting with Martin Williams Suffolk County Council Footpaths Officer so he can come and advise us about the different signs, and which are appropriate and where they should be located.

Cllr D Long said that the Parish Council have concerns about some of the footpaths in the parish. It was agreed that the Clerk should send an invitation asking Martin Williams to meet with members of the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk / All Councillors**

64.21 TO DISCUSS PROGRESS WITH QUIET LANES INITIATIVE

Cllr J Bailey reported that approval had been granted for our proposal for the Quiet Lanes Initiative. We are now waiting for the signs to be erected. There will be a launch campaign to help residents to understand what the project is about.

It will not be known until they try to erect the signs whether there are any unforeseen difficulties.

Action: Cllr J Bailey / Clerk

65.21 PLANNING

a. Planning Report

The updated Planning Report had been circulated by the Clerk. The Planning Application for a part single and two storey extensions to form additional living space DC/21/2358/FUL High Trees Bridge Road Levington has been approved.

b. 1 Seabridge Cottages ENF/21/0066/DEV

A garage has been erected without planning permission. A retrospective planning application will need to be submitted by the owners of the property.

66.21 SIZEWELL C – FREIGHT MANAGEMENT FACILITY (FMF) SURVEY

The Parish Council noted that they had been informed that a site survey regarding the Freight Management Facility (FMF) will be started shortly. The Sizewell C application is currently being considered by the Government Planning Inspector. Residents will be advised of the undertaking of the survey in the Parish Council newsletter. **Action: Cllr D Long**

67.21 CORRESPONDENCE

All relevant correspondence has been forwarded to councillors.

68.21 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

a. Tree and Church Warden

Nothing to report.

b. Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee will be reviewing the situation regarding opening the hall following the next Government announcement.

c. Sir Robert Hitcham's Almshouses

The Chairman thanked Ian Angus for his report. Cllr D Long said that the Parish Council are very pleased that the Planning Application was granted for the renovation work. A new resident moved into No 4 at the end of June 2021.

d. Public Transport

Cllr J Mann reported that the buses are running on time. On occasions drivers park the bus in the wrong bay at the Old Cattle Market. An apology has been received from Norfolk and Suffolk Buses.

e. Coast & Heath and Footpaths (CHF)

Please refer to Minute 63.21 above.

f. Nacton School

The Parish Council noted the report was received from Nacton School.

g. SALC

The Parish Council continues to have regular updates which are very useful.

h. Port Liaison Group

A report from the Port Liaison Group last meeting has been received.

i. Police/SNT

The minutes of the last meeting were received which focused mainly on the anti-social behaviour in Felixstowe.

69.21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 1st September 2021 in the Village Hall

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.54 pm.

VILLAGE FORUM (Opportunity to raise issues not necessarily on this agenda)

A resident reported that the Cannon on the green had been knocked to one side and pushed off the corner.

A resident stated that the Village Sign needs renovating and the woodwork at the bottom of the sign is rotting.

The same resident referred to the various jobs he had done in the parish over the years and he was thanked for this.

A resident made a few statements on private/landowner topics, some being factually incorrect, which were inappropriate for the Parish Council.

A resident reported that people cannot walk the footpath as the Boardwalk is too dangerous.

A resident stated that although the bus service is not bad it does not allow some residents to get to appointments at the medical practice as you must get two buses and also walk to the top of the road.

Signed..... Date

Angie Buggs
Clerk to Levington and Stratton Hall Parish Council