

Winfarthing Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4th September 2023 at
Winfarthing Village Hall, Hall Road Winfarthing IP22 2EP**

Present: Eric Cole (EC) (Chair) Lynne Rogers (LR), Peter Frost (PF), Jim Collins (JC), Richard Steel (RS), David Rix (DR), Catherine Rowett (CR) (County Councillor) (left meeting 9.17 pm), James Easter (JE) (District Councillor) (left meeting 8.42 pm), Karen Rix (Clerk).

In attendance:

3 members of public

Item No	Agenda Item	Action
1	Apologies for absence None received.	
2	Declarations of interest in agenda items EC declared interest in item 18.	
3	Minutes of previous meeting - 4th July 2023 Minutes were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.	
4	To consider any matters arising from minutes No matters arising.	
5	To receive an update on actions from previous minutes 6.3 - Website development ongoing, action to be carried forward. 6.3 - Draft Asset Register produced by RS. Agricultural land moved to new asset register for Parish Council Trust. Councillors agreed the glebe land and Wig Wags should be removed and the village sign and bench should be added. RS to amend for next meeting. 6.3 -Risk Register and Safeguarding policy ongoing clerk sourcing templates. 12 - Reinstatement of footpath signposts in progress, RS to contact Highways regarding free posts. 12 - EC advised RS of online map EC to provide copy. 13 - Varnishing of bench ongoing, action to be carried forward. 16 - ID details to solicitors ongoing, action to be carried forward. 18 - Investigation into viability of village gates ongoing, action to be carried forward.	PF RS KR RS EC DR RS EC PF RS

	All other actions completed.	
6	<p>To receive questions or comments from Parishioners</p> <p>Mr Thompson offered their support to oppose the proposed new pylon scheme.</p>	
7	<p>Report from County and District Councillors</p> <p>7.1 County Councillor</p> <p>Norwich to Tilbury Pylons – CR reported that she had provided input into the Consultation by National Grid, largely supporting council’s response with preference being for offshore alternative. Response is now in public domain and forms business of forthcoming meeting of Planning and highways Delegations Committee on 08/09/23. This can be attended by residents and councillors either in person or watched online through NCC’s YouTube feed.</p> <p>Highways and road safety – Options for funding schemes to support improvements to highways, cycle paths, pavements etc. include the Parish Partnership scheme with £25,000 contributed by NCC providing Parish Council funds half the cost. Scheme is for works that do not require changes to legal traffic order. Road Safety Community Fund is currently open to applications from this area and allows applications to change Traffic Regulation Orders if proposal meets criteria. Applications should be made during September.</p> <p>Long Stratton Bypass – CR advised that she has a place on Working Group. There are still hurdles to overcome before road is approved. CR asked for views of residents in West Depwade residents and Parish Councils.</p> <p>CR reported on general County Council initiatives including Pension Awareness week 11-15 September and a Norfolk Bus Service improvement scheme.</p> <p>CR advised she was looking forward to helping with a number of issues already brought to her attention including the anaerobic digester plant at Bressingham, the pylon scheme and dangerous roads.</p> <p>7.2 District Councillor</p> <p>Re-organisation of Parish Councils – JE advised that early discussions are taking place following a proposal that the Parish Council system needs updating and re-organising. Proposal considers amalgamating one or more Parish Councils to cut costs. JE asked for feedback by 8th October 2023.</p> <p>Nutrient Neutrality – JE advised this ruling had now been cancelled so Nutrient issues will not be a material consideration when assessing planning applications. New houses can now be built again. It is now the responsibility of DEFRA, Environmental Agency and water companies to clean up the water in rivers and elsewhere. They have been provided with £140m to carry out work.</p> <p>Local Plan – JE advised that after 6 years the local plan is nearly complete.</p>	All

	<p>The only issue concerns new settlement, where the council and electorate do not want further large estates added to existing towns and villages, preferring the creation of a new town in the A11 corridor. This would include all the necessary new infrastructure.</p> <p>Village Cluster Plan – JE explained this recognised that not all development can take place in larger towns and that smaller villages need limited development to keep them alive.</p> <p>Developments in Diss – JE reported that SNC had completed purchase of former Ford dealership site and the land opposite next to the bus station. A plan is underway for the use of the building and its location next to the Mere and park. The swimming pool will undergo a major redevelopment including the relocation of the gym to another site in Diss.</p> <p>Car Parking Charges – JE reported that a review is set to take place. The first free hour will be retained but modest increases may be introduced for periods after that. New methods to pay will need discussing including coins, app, card tapping or all three options. Resurfacing work needs to be carried and more electric charging points need to be made available, all of which need financing.</p> <p>Long Stratton Bypass – JE advised that planning permission is imminent ending a 15 year focus on getting the bypass consented, financed and procured.</p> <p>JE advised he was working with SNC in supporting the charity MIND by completing a 5k inflatable obstacle course on 23rd September at Norfolk Showground. JE provided information on how to sponsor.</p>	
<p>8</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>8.2</p> <p>8.3</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>To approve payments Payment of £140.34 to Community Heartbeat Trust (New pads for defibrillator) was unanimously approved retrospectively.</p> <p>The following invoices were approved and cheques signed by JC and LR: Christine Hall (Internal audit) £302.32 Norfolk PTS (Clerk training) £100 Karen Rix (Clerk salary) £179.36</p> <p>Invoice received from SNDC for dog bins, Clerk to check records for last payment and query latest invoice. Clerk will also change address for future invoices.</p> <p>Receipts SNDC (Big Litter Pick) £20</p> <p>To receive a report from the Responsible Finance Officer JC advised the bank balance at 25th August 2023 was £5123.40 and that the second precept payment was due soon.</p> <p>JC handed the bank books and finance documentation to the clerk. The</p>	<p>KR</p>

	role of Responsible Finance Officer was formally transferred to the clerk.	
9	Planning	
9.1	To comment on and recommend for approval/refusal any planning applications None received	
9.2	To receive an update on any previous applications None Received	
10	To consider proposal of defibrillator training for parishioners Parishioner Marion Williams asked if the parish council would support a defibrillator training course for the community. The course to be held in the village hall would accommodate 30 delegates with training delivered by the Air Ambulance. The course was free of charge but the Air Ambulance would appreciate a donation. Councillors agreed. The clerk will contact the air ambulance to arrange a date and book the village hall.	KR
11	To receive an update on the Norwich to Tilbury Pylon Scheme Matter covered under item 7	
12	To receive an update on All Saints Primary School School now has two permanent classes, one teaching years 1,2 and 3 and the other teaching years 4,5 and 6. Four new pupils started this academic year.	
13	To receive an update on Community Speed Watch PF advised that this had not taken place since the last meeting as there were not enough volunteers to maintain a regular schedule. The plan is to reduce frequency in order to maintain consistency.	
14	To receive an update on parish footpaths RS reported that the bridleways and footpaths are in good order. RS also advised he had cut the grass around village sign.	
15	To receive an update on proposal for village gates RS reported that he has a named contact – Adam Mayo, Highway Engineer however he was currently on annual leave. RS also reported that the supplier of the gates was the same supplier of the dog bins. RS agreed to cc clerk to any future email communications.	
16	To receive an update on registration of Village Hall land EC reported no further update on the registration of the land, but would contact his solicitors. Councillors also agreed that moving forward this item should appear on the agenda for the Winfarthing Parish Trust meeting and asked the clerk to action.	EC KR
17	To discuss council role as trustee to Village Hall	

	EC reminded councillors that they were trustees to the Village Hall and as such felt it was important to attend meetings and become more involved in activities. LR advised that meetings take place every three months and the Village Hall AGM would take place on 30 th October 2023 at 7.00 pm	
18 18.1	To consider any correspondence Deposit D23 39 – Highways Act 19680 section LR reminded councillors that they had received an emailed copy of the deposit. The item was on the agenda for information only and as a matter of transparency.	
19	To receive items for next agenda and confirm date of next meeting Asset Register Prepare comments to JE on proposal to amalgamate parish councils. Next meeting 7.30 pm 2 nd October 2023 Meeting closed to the public 9.28 pm	
	A private matter was discussed by councillors Meeting closed at 9.45 pm	

Item No	Action Summary	Action
6.3-July	Develop website	PF
6.3-July	Produce Asset Register	RS
6.3-July	Compile Risk Register and Safeguarding policy	KR
12-July	Reinstate broken footpath signposts	RS
6.3-July	Contact Highways department regarding free signposts	RS
6.3-July	Provide RS with definitive map	EC
13-July	Sand down and re-varnish village bench	RS DR
16-July	Provide ID details to EC for solicitors	PF RS
18-July	Investigate cost, maintenance, longevity and liability of installing village gates	RS
7.2-Sept	Prepare comments on amalgamation of parish councils by next meeting	All
8.1-Sept	Query SNDC dog bin invoice & amend postal address for clerk	KR
10-Sept	Arrange defibrillator training and book village hall	KR
16-Sept	Contact solicitors re land registration	EC
16-Sept	Clerk to move land registration to Winfarthing Parish Trust agenda	KR