

MINUTES of the MEETING of LEAVENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 5th July 2023 at 7.00 p.m. at Leavenheath Village Hall and by Video Conferencing.

PRESENT: P Mortlock (Chairman), R Bellenie, D Kingham, C Morgan, Y Roder, S Whitelaw, L Parker (District Cllr), J Finch (County Cllr) and 4 members of the public attended in person. No video link was requested.

PUBLIC FORUM: Nothing was raised.

APOLOGIES: None were received.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: R Bellenie and D Kingham declared an interest in relation to plans for 9 Stoke Road. The Clerk had issued a response between meetings to these plans.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 7th JUNE 2023: These were accepted as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Nothing was raised.

UPDATES FROM COMMUNITY, ORGANISATIONS AND WARDENS ON URGENT MATTERS DURING THE RESTRICTIONS BY COVID 19:

Reports were provided from the Village Hall, Village Green, Community Woodland, Leavenheath Events and from the Police Website.

Village Hall Report

The August Film is A Man Called Otto, usual booking via the Village Hall website or telephone. The Meeting was reminded that the hall will be closed to all hirers from 24th July until estimated 1st August for the long awaited heating system to be upgraded. Hirers are asked to contact Anita Deeks, Bookings, if they have bookings starting 2nd August to make sure the work has been completed. The committee room has been booked on Wednesday 19th July for the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum. Voting from 7am-10pm with ID required, please make time to have your say for the village.

Tree Warden's Report

There were no developments to report.

Footpath Warden's Report

There were no developments to report.

Police Report

No further updates were given since last month

Village Green Report

There were no developments to report.

Leavenheath Events Sub-Committee

The Meeting was closed to allow the Sub Committee representatives to contribute. They reported on a very successful Fete and were pleased the Fete was held again after the Jubilee last year.

Assistance was given on the day due to a minor accident. The Parish Council thanked the hard working Sub Committee for making this a success. They thanked the Parish Council for support and the final accounts should be available shortly. The next events are a Big Breakfast in October and then a Snail Race in November. An Agenda item was agreed for the next meeting to consider 25% of takings of the Cream Teas at the Fete to be donated. Full details will be provided of the Event Accounts and this request ahead of next Meeting - **Action Sub Committee and Clerk.**

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: District Cllr L Parker attended and reported that the next full Council Meeting was due shortly. The National Grid Consultation is open and a further consultation on the Norwich to Tilbury pylon route was due at Copdock Village Hall on 19th July.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: County Cllr J Finch attended and reported that the County Council is to consider the provision of library services for when the current contract ends. A Public Consultation will be used to inform requirements and future development of the new service. A decision has been taken to bring the Fire and Rescue Service control centre back to Suffolk. The shared centre with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has run into difficulties. Better broadband is planned for rural Suffolk properties. Ancestry have been appointed to help digitise Suffolk's popular family and local history sources at Suffolk Archives. Virtual Fostering and Adoption sessions continue.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING UPDATE: The Referendum had been set for 19th July. Arrangements had been made to publicise the Referendum with posters on the website and noticeboards and a leaflet drop to be arranged. Voter ID is required. The meeting was closed briefly for a questions which was whether the Neighbourhood Plan allocated any sites for development. It was confirmed that it didn't, however, the Joint Local Plan has designated sites, but is still to be finalised. L Parker was pleased that Neighbourhood Plan Policies were being upheld at Appeals.

CORRESPONDENCE: On-going correspondence was noted by the meeting

URGENT HIGHWAYS SAFETY MATTERS: The first item of discussion was of the commercial vans parked on Wrights Way impeding access to the Village Hall Car Park and the various complaints from residents of being forced into dangerous situations on the wrong side of the road facing on-coming traffic. The Village Hall have agreed in principle to offer to rent a couple of parking spaces to the business concerned to help improve the situation. It was agreed to write a polite letter to the business seeking cooperation in parking more considerately and suggested they contact the Village Hall if they would like to negotiate regarding the available spaces - **Action Clerk.** The second item that was discussed with J Finch invited to join the discussion was the dangerous bend on Stoke Road. R Bellenie asked for a site meeting to discuss the signage and this was agreed - **Action J Finch and R Bellenie.** J Finch asked for assistance from our Chairman to join a working group to cut the vegetation from around signage on the A134. An abandoned car just off of the A134 has been followed up and will be collected by family of the owner in early course. Consideration will be given between meetings to restore the pavement width along the A134 as low level and high level growth is obstructing the walkway. Thanks was passed on to J Finch for the excellent resurfacing of the A134 in the Village.

FINANCE: The Bank Balances as at 3rd July 2023 were £55264.69 in the Community Account and £15565.51 in the Rate Reward Account making a total of £70830.20.

The following pre-agreed payments were made: -

Cheque No.	Amount	Payee	Details
<u>As at 3rd July</u>			
Funds Transfer	824.64	Clerk/HMRC/SCC	Staffing costs
Funds Transfer	652.08	Tree & Lawn Co Ltd	VG Maintenance
Funds Transfer	45.00	Leavenheath VH	Hall hire
Funds Transfer	96.00	Geosphere Ltd	Digital Mapping - Parish Online
<u>Fete Invoices</u>			
Funds Transfer	672.08	Ruth D Garrett	LE - Fete
Funds Transfer	295.00	Magic Iain	LE - Fete
Funds Transfer	200.00	Mark Riley	LE - Fete
Funds Transfer	66.44	A Deeks	LE - Fete
Funds Transfer	309.00	EAS Medical	LE - Fete (being reimbursed by JF)

CIL Return 2022/23

The Return had been circulated ahead of the Meeting and was duly approved. A copy can be found on our Website.

Any other urgent finance items

J Finch was thanked for agreeing to reimburse the first aid cost at the Fete.

IDEAS TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE:

Nothing was raised.

MAINTENANCE OF VILLAGE ASSETS:

The Village sign is being restored and the Chairman is seeking quotes for the brick plinth and post. All agreed for the Chairman to order posts for dog bins including some spare ones. This was delegated to the Chairman between meetings.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS : The Chairman will work on publicity of the Parish Council Vacancies and support needed for sub committees and working groups. Currently the Playground Project and Speedwatch have stalled due to lack of support. If the Playground Project does go ahead we may need to apply to extend some of the CIL funding beyond the 5 years as some of the early funds were pledged towards the Playground.

The meeting closed at **8.28 p.m.**

Planning Meeting on 5th July 2023

The following decisions were advised from the Planning Authorities: -

No Decision Notifications were received and circulated during the past month.

The following applications and planning matters were discussed: -

1) 9 Stoke Road change of use of summerhouse to dog grooming salon - **DC/23/02668**.
The Parish Council had **No Objections**

2) Oak Cottage, Breach Grove protected tree - **DC/23/02664**.
The Parish Council had **No Objections**

3) Re-consultations on wedding venue at Stoke by Nayland Hotel - **DC/23/00669**.
The Parish Council still has **Strong Objections**. R Bellenie explained that the changes proposed did not address the concerns.

4) 16 Mayfield - proposed extension - **DC/23/02760**.
The Parish Council had **No Objections**.

5) Foinavon, Stoke Road - Householder application for rear extension - **DC/23/02864**.
The Parish Council had **No Objections**.

6) 10 Edies Lane - Householder application for extensions and car port - **DC/23/03027**.
This application was being considered and a response will be issued ahead of the deadline -
Action Planning Group.

7) Any other urgent Planning items: R Bellenie has been following up with the Enforcement Team about the Vehicle Activated Signs which were a condition of the development at the former Lion Pub. L Parker agreed to assist -**Action R Bellenie and L Parker**.