

**MINUTES OF THE YOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 1st JULY 2021 AT 7:00 PM AT YOXFORD VILLAGE HALL**

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Russell Pearce - Chair
Cllr. Paul Ashton - Vice-Chair
Cllr. David Tower
Cllr. John Sutherell
Cllr. Stephen Siddall
Cllr. Ian Shaw
Cllr. David Childs
Cllr. Nicol McCallum

Apologies for absence:

County Cllr. Richard Smith
District Cllr. Stephen Burroughes
Cllr. Kara Cowie – written and accepted
Cllr. Laura Greenberg – written and accepted
Cllr. Sarah Barrett – written and accepted

In attendance:

Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO
No members of the public.

2. Councillors' Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Meeting Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr. John Sutherell, seconded by Cllr. Ian Shaw, and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June 2021 be approved. All in favour.

4. Energy Projects

a) Sizewell C - Cllr. Paul Ashton reported that the Written Representation was submitted to the Examining Authority. Cllr. Ashton is registered to speak on behalf of the Council at all the Issue Specific Hearings and Cllr. John Sutherell is registered as an individual. Cllr. Ashton said four Issue Specific Hearings are relevant to Yoxford. He has not prepared speeches but will listen and contribute if necessary. Cllr. Ashton attended the Accompanied Site Inspections with the Examining Authority and EDF to the Northern Park and Ride site and the Yoxford roundabout. Cllr. Ashton said they walked from Darsham station to Willow Marsh Lane and gained a sense of the size of the park and ride site. The potential for rat-running along Willow Marsh Lane was noted particularly as traffic from the A1120 will use the park and ride site. An SCC Highways Engineer was in attendance and said that they had considered closing Willow Marsh Lane to prevent rat-running and Cllr. Ashton asked for the Council's views on this proposal. Cllr. Russell Pearce said access was required for farmers and their agricultural machinery. Cllr. Ashton said that at the roundabout site there will be a grass verge between the road and the pavement which will be a safety improvement. Cllr. Ashton agreed to review EDF's Further Proposed Changes consultation to ascertain whether any of the proposed changes affect Yoxford and require the Council's response.

b) Offshore wind farms – Cllr. Paul Ashton said that the SCC Highways Engineer informed him that Scottish Power Renewables have submitted proposals for planning consent which include enhancements to the pavements at the A1120/A12 junction and the A12/Old High Road junction. Cllr. Ashton explained the enhancements including the creation of a new footway at the Old High Road/A12 junction and various dropped kerbs. Cllr. Ashton proposed that the Council responds to Highways to inform them that the proposed interventions are welcome but they will not improve safety for pedestrians. It was agreed to also respond that the Council has consistently maintained in feedback to EDF that Sizewell C will generate significant traffic on the A12 through Yoxford creating community severance that should be mitigated by a signalled crossing near the Kings Head pub, or at least, a zebra crossing or a central refuge.

5. Highways and Footpaths

a) Cllr. Paul Ashton updated the Council about proposed traffic calming measures at Little Street. The owners and occupiers of Toad End are supportive of the SID being sited there and will allow access to the

garden to remove the SID to charge the battery. Cllr. Ashton has submitted a request to Highways for permission to site a pole. The Council approved expenditure of £95 required for the Highways permission.

b) The Council noted the data from the speed survey on the B1122. Cllr. Paul Ashton reported that he has submitted a request to Highways to move the SID from one side of the road to the other, however the hedges will need to be cut back to allow room to display the SID. The Council approved expenditure of £95 required for the Highways permission.

c) Cllr. Paul Ashton informed the Council that he has identified many overgrown hedges in the village where two pedestrians are unable to pass forcing them to walk unsafely on the road. Cllr. John Sutherland and Cllr. Russell Pearce agreed to speak to some of the residents and ask them to cut their hedges back. Cllr. Paul Ashton and the Clerk will write to the remaining residents. The Council noted that it will be possible to cut back the skirting when the hedges have been reduced. Cllr. Ian Shaw said that most of the growth at Satis House may be the responsibility of Highways as there is a metal fence some twenty feet back with marks the property's boundary. Cllr. Shaw recommended that a request is sent to Highways to cut back the growth before a letter is sent to the resident.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Siddall to obtain the Satis House title plan from HM Land Registry.

d) The Council agreed to engage a representative from Cockfield Hall as a Highways Ranger under the County Council's Community Self Help Scheme to repair the milestone at Cockfield Hall.

e) Cllr. Ian Shaw reported that a follow-up letter has been sent to Public Rights of Way and copied to County Cllr. Richard Smith.

6. Planning

The Council agreed to arrange a meeting with Scott Properties and the Local Authorities regarding the proposed development at land south of Darsham.

ACTION: Cllr. Paul Ashton to arrange.

7. Play Areas

a) Cllr. Stephen Siddall reported that Flagship still need to decide whether they are willing to pay the Council legal fees for the transfer of Meadowlands play area.

b) The Council appointed David Bracey to conduct the annual inspection of Little Street play area.

8. Village

a) The Council reviewed the latest draft of the Garden of Suffolk map and agreed with Cllr. Sarah Barrett's amendments to the footpaths and the Clerk's minor changes to the text and punctuation. It was agreed to replace the strapline 'A village gem in a beautiful setting' with 'The Garden of Suffolk'. Cllr. David Tower suggested adding the Cockfield Hall lake and 'Suffolk Man' sculpture to the map.

ACTION: Cllr. Russell Pearce to seek permission from Cockfield Hall. Map sub-committee to submit changes to the village volunteer and artist.

b) Cllr. Russell Pearce updated the Council about progress with the Griffin Inn. It is to remain as a traditional Suffolk pub with some accommodation. Work is ongoing to improve the internal layout and outdoor areas.

9. Events 2022

a) The Council agreed, in principle, to support the Open Gardens event in 2022 but noted there may be existing signage and money in the kitty from previous years. Cllr. Ian Shaw said the event could include the allotments and Yoxwood.

b) The Council discussed the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022 and agreed to combine any celebrations with the Yoxwood music event. It was also agreed to request approval from County Cllr. Richard Smith that his contribution of £500 from his Locality Budget is used to purchase five Silver Birch trees of the 'Monarch' variety for planting in Yoxwood in the shape of a crown with a plaque to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Cllr. Richard Smith and Yoxwood Steering Group.

10. Progress Reports

a) Police – Cllr. John Sutherell said 9 offences were reported in May 2021. There were two violence/sexual offences on the A1120, one possession of weapons at Meadowlands Close and 6 offences at Elmsley Way comprising 2 violence/sexual offences, 2 public order offences and 2 criminal damage/arson offences. Cllr. Sutherell noted the comprehensive reply received from PC Simon Green to the Council's request for clarification about how offences are categorised.

b) Cemetery – the Clerk reported that there was one interment in June 2021.

11. Finance

a) The Council noted the latest financial position, attached as Appendix I.

b) The Council authorised expenditure of £120 for a multi-page printer/scanner.

c) The Council noted the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Quarter 1 2021-2022.

d) The Council agreed to renew the 1 year fixed deposit for £7,364.77 held at United Trust Bank.

e) It was proposed by Cllr. David Childs, seconded by Cllr. John Sutherell, to authorise the following payments. All in favour.

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary	Sharon Smith	£471.60	LGA 1972 s.112
Councillor Training	Suffolk Preservation Society (Sharon Smith)	£25.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Yoxwood Machinery Service	Sibton Country Supplies	£120.00	OSA 1906 s.10
Grass Cutting	RSC Landscapes Ltd	£564.00	OSA 1906 s.10

12. Correspondence

The Council reviewed the correspondence received between 28th May 2021 to 24th June 2021.

13. Questions to the Chair

Cllr. John Sutherell informed the Council that he had received a proposal from a business to take over the shop currently tenanted by Garden Antiques. Cllr. Sutherell said the current tenant wishes to remain but he asked for the Council's views in connection with the future of the area in terms of the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr. Russell Pearce said that if the current tenant does not wish to give up the lease then they should not be asked to do so.

14. Next Meeting

The Council confirmed the date and time of the next meeting of the Council which is scheduled for Thursday 5th August 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9:05 pm.

Appendix I - Financial Position

Bank Balances

HSBC Community Account as at 4 June 2021	£33,726.04
N S & I Investment Account as at 1 January 2021	£11,042.80
United Trust Bank Business Bond as at 31 July 2020	£7,281.04
United Trust Bank Business Bond as at 19 December 2020	£5,366.82

£57,416.70

Earmarked Reserves

SMH Play Area	£1,170.85
Garden of Suffolk Map	£1,500.00
Mulberry Park	£5,000.00
Village Hall Refurbishment Project	£5,624.79
Community Infrastructure Levy	£9,902.09

£23,197.73

Bank Balances less Reserves

£34,218.97

Payments – July 2021

Sharon Smith - Clerk's Salary	£471.60
Sharon Smith (Suffolk Preservation Society) – Councillor Training	£25.00
Sibton County Supplies – Yoxwood Machinery Service	£120.00

£616.60

Net Balance

£33,602.37