

**MINUTES OF THE YOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 11th AUGUST 2022 AT 7:00 PM AT YOXFORD VILLAGE HALL**

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Russell Pearce – Chair
Cllr. Paul Ashton – Vice Chair
Cllr. John Sutherell
Cllr. Ian Shaw
Cllr. David Tower
Cllr. David Childs (arrived 8:30 pm)
Cllr. Laura Greenberg
Cllr. Sarah Barrett
Cllr. Janet Gardner

Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Nicoll McCallum – written and accepted
Cllr. Stephen Siddall – written and accepted
District Cllr. Stephen Burroughes

In attendance:

Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO
County Cllr. Richard Smith
4 members of the public

2. Councillors' Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Public Forum

a) The Council received a briefing from Argus Hardy and Matt Bostock from Cockfield Hall about the masterplan for Cockfield Hall and the Griffin Inn. Drop-in community events will be arranged in the Village Hall during September. It was agreed to invite Mr Hardy and Mr Bostock to the October meeting to hear feedback from the community events.

ACTION: Clerk to invite the Cockfield Hall team to the October meeting.

b) County Cllr. Richard Smith referred to the County's budget setting process for the next financial year. He said the inflationary effects on social care costs are expected to be higher than general inflation and, as three-quarters of the County's budget is spent on social care, he expects there will be a deficit in the budget. With regard to Sizewell C, Cllr. Smith reported that the government's decision to approve the Development Consent Order was against the Planning Inspectorate's recommendation. Cllr. Smith reported that, at a recent meeting with Stop Sizewell C and a government representative, the problem of supplying the development with potable water was specifically raised. Together Against Sizewell C has begun the process of applying for a Judicial Review and Cllr. Smith expects Stop Sizewell C will also do so in the next few weeks. Cllr. Smith said EDF are having problems raising finance and a Final Investment Decision has been delayed until next summer. EDF still say Sizewell C will cost £20 billion but, with Hinkley Point C already costing £26 billion, Cllr. Smith does not expect Sizewell C to be delivered for less than £30 billion and investors are likely to make the same judgement.

4. Meeting Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr. David Tower, seconded by Cllr. Sarah Barrett, and resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2022 are approved. All in favour.

5. Councillors' and Clerk's Reports

a) Yoxwood – Cllr. Russell Pearce reported that he attended the successful Jubilee Music Event.

b) Teenagers' Shelter – Cllr. Russell Pearce reported that the frame is being built.

c) Traffic Calming – Cllr. Paul Ashton reported that the new posts for the Speed Indicator Devices have been installed. Cllr. Ashton offered to write an article about implementing a 20 mph speed limit in the High Street, Little Street, Old High Road and Strickland Manor Hill and to publish this on the website, the Yoxford Yapper and social media. Residents will be invited to comment whether they support or object to the proposal to enable the Council to sense the demand.

d) SCC Rural Transport Conversation – Cllr. Paul Ashton reported that he attended this event which was also attended by Connected Communities which is a County Council initiative to provide transport services where there is no regular bus service. Cllr. Ashton said the Coastal Accessible Transport Service (CATS) operates within this initiative in East Suffolk but the service is not well used. Cllr. Ashton suggested the Council ascertains, perhaps by conducting a survey, whether residents would use buses if they were available. Cllr. Sarah Barrett said the pressures of climate change were encouraging a shift to electrification of vehicles and car sharing and suggested the Council considers initiating a car sharing scheme. Cllr. Ashton replied that CATS facilitate this scheme. Cllr. Ian Shaw suggested that the Council ascertains the success of the bus service introduced in Peasenhall around two years ago.

e) Police – Cllr. John Sutherell said five thefts were reported in the parish in June 2022 – one in the High Street, one near the Wilderness Reserve and three at Darsham petrol station. Cllr. Sutherell also reported there was a theft from the food bank at the Church.

f) Future Projects – Cllr. Sarah Barrett suggested that the Council considers community projects to help residents cope with the current financial crises.

6. Planning

a) Cllr. Stephen Siddall proposed that the Council supports planning application DC/22/2402/LBC - Remove existing lime based and cement render from south and east elevations/clean down exposed infill panels & timber frame/repair only decayed parts of timber frame with green oak/fix treated counter battens to hold laths/insulate and fill over backs of existing panels with a hempcrete daub/fix riven Douglas fir laths with non-corrosive nails/apply 3 coats of lime plaster - The Old Beer House, High Street. Seconded by Cllr. Russell Pearce. All in favour.

b) Cllr. Ian Shaw proposed that the Council supports planning application DC/22/2796/TCA – Pollard Willow to 7 metres above ground level - Grundisburgh House, High Street. Seconded by Cllr. Russell Pearce. All in favour.

c) The Council resolved to respond to the SALC ESC Planning Process Survey raising concerns in particular about the following issues:

- i) the lack of transparency and accountability in the planning process;
- ii) the lack of communication when planning determinations are officer led;
- iii) the impact of large developments in neighbouring parishes where the Council is not consulted and the Ward Member is not permitted to speak at Planning Committee meetings on the Council's behalf eg DC/21/4006/OUT.
- iv) the lack of verification of the accuracy of plans submitted by applicants eg DC/21/3894/OUT.

ACTION: Clerk to respond.

d) Cllr. Stephen Siddall reported by email that, following the refusal of planning permission, the owners of 1 Cullcott Close have put the property, including the rear land, on the market. There remains the issue of the boundary position between number 1 and ESC. At Cllr. Siddall's insistence, ESC have instructed an independent surveyor to investigate and report as to whether the current fence line is the legal boundary.

7. Play Areas

a) The update about the Meadowlands play area was postponed until next month.

ACTION: Clerk to add to next month's agenda.

b) The Council noted the play equipment safety inspection report for Little Street. It was agreed to cut back the trees in winter, if necessary.

8. Finance

a) The Council noted the latest financial position, including receipts.

b) It was proposed by Cllr. Paul Ashton, seconded by Cllr. David Tower, and resolved to authorise the following payments. All in favour.

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary	Sharon Smith	£510.60	LGA 1972 s.112
Grass Cutting	RSC Landscapes Ltd	£72.00	OSA 1906 s.10
Defibrillator Electricity Contribution	Horners' Stores	£35.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Quarterly Village Hall Contribution	Yoxford Village Hall	£240.50	LGA (MP) 1976 s.19
Little Street Play Equipment Inspection	David Bracey	£96.00	OSA 1906 s.10
Bank Charges	HSBC	£16.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Donation – Storage Materials	Yoxford History Group	£148.56	LGA 1972 s.137

9. Correspondence

The Council reviewed the correspondence received from 2nd July 2022 and 2nd August 2022.

10. Next Meeting

The Council confirmed the date and time of the next meeting of the Council which is scheduled for Thursday 8th September 2022 at 7:00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

Appendix I - Financial Position

Bank Balances

HSBC Community Account as at 8 July 2022	£37,978.57
N S & I Investment Account as at 1 January 2022	£11,043.90
United Trust Bank Business Bond as at 31 July 2021	£7,364.89
United Trust Bank Business Bond as at 19 December 2021	£5,420.50
	<u>£61,807.86</u>

Earmarked Reserves

Strickland Manor Hill Play Area	£1,170.85
Mulberry Park	£5,000.00
Youth Club	£4,180.00
CIL 2019-2020 – Village Hall	£441.74
CIL 2020-2021	£5,532.68
CIL 2021-2022	£17,090.94
	<u>£33,416.21</u>

Bank Balances less Reserves

£28,391.65

Payments – August 2022

Sharon Smith - Clerk's Salary	£510.60
RSC Landscapes – Grass Cutting	£72.00
Yoxford History Group – Donation	£148.56
Horners Stores – Defibrillator Electricity	£35.00
David Bracey – Play Equipment Inspection	£96.00
Yoxford Village Hall – Quarterly Contribution	£240.50
CIL 2018-2019 – Village Hall Cladding	£2,233.05
HSBC – Bank Charges	£16.00
	<u>£3,351.71</u>

Net Balance

£25,039.94