

Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council
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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 27th NOVEMBER 2024
AT 7:00PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present at the meeting:

Cllr Alan Revell (Chair)	Cllr Caroline Harker
Cllr Claire Buttle	Cllr Mark Stewart
Cllr Simon Ransome	Cllr Laura Gwynne
Cllr Rob Holden	Cllr Helen Reynolds

In attendance: The Clerk and 0 members of the public.

Welcome by the Chair.

12289 Public Forum

Democratic Quarter-Hour/Public Question Time – Residents are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. Members of the public, whilst welcome to attend, may not take part in the meeting itself.

No members of the public present.

12290 Reports

Report by County Councillor Richard Smith

Richard Smith said that he was very proud of the area he represents, Blything division. Kelsale-cum-Carlton has some green verges in the village that are protected and not cut, one of his colleagues is interested in this. He will contact the Biodiversity Group and put the two in contact. The budget so far this year is on course. The Council Tax request from SCC will be decided next week. Last Monday afternoon Richard attended a site visit of Sizewell C. There was a meeting first then a sealed tour. The size of the site is vast. There is an office block in Leiston. A temporary entrance has been put in place by the recycle centre. The main construction site is where the two reactors will be. There is also a park and ride site. All the archaeology work should be completed by Christmas. All the work is being undertaken without a final investment. There has been £5.5bn from the government so far. This is a high risk project. Only 40% of the large earth moving machinery is on site, with a further 60% to arrive on low loaders. Local government changes may be taking place, the new government wishes to reform everything. Speculation in Suffolk is that it will become a unitary authority. There is around 500,00 people in Suffolk, Norfolk is very similar. The district council may be abolished, which could save over £40m over 5 years. They are waiting for further details from the Government. The SCC elections next year maybe delayed.

Cllr Gwynne thanked Richard for attending Sizewell. The amount of saving made at district level would be on wages.

Richard Smith said that there are unitary councils in other areas. Town & Parish Councils are not touched in this reform.

Cllr Gwynne commented about the train line in Lovers Lane. Could the park and ride use the trains from Darsham.

Richard Smith commented that there are two spurs on the lines. There will only be one train per hour which would not be sufficient for the employees.

ACTION: Richard Smith to contact the Clerk with available dates for the coffee morning, when he is free to attend to meet with residents from Low Road. Richard Smith to drive around the

village to look at East Green with the Highways Engineer.

Richard Smith left the meeting at 7.20pm.

Report by District Councillor Ewart

Julia Ewart submitted her apologies and a written report.

The Chair formally opened the meeting at 7.22pm.

12291 To receive apologies for absence – Cllr Galloway, Cllr Courage, Cllr Weaver and Julia Ewart.

12292 To accept apologies for absence – Accepted.

12293 To record absence without apologies – None

12294 Declarations of Interest – None

12295 To consider any dispensations – None

12296 To consider the Approval of the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 30th October 2024.

The draft minutes of the meeting had been circulated and the version now on the website were approved with abstentions from those that did not attend. Proposer: Cllr Buttle, Seconder Cllr Ransome, all in favour with 1 abstention.

12297 Parish Clerk's Report

Policies – there are two policies to be re-adopted these are the Safeguarding Policy and the Equality and Diversity Policy. The changes to the policies have been requested by Sizewell C Community Fund. Utilities – an email was sent to a company that could assist with the cost of the proposed utilities on the recreation ground. Until a formal acceptance has been received from the funding, this is not able to move forward, as a MPAN reference is required. Dog fouling – contact has been made with the Environment Enforcement Officer who will be sending out some posters for the recreation ground. Coffee morning - the Rural Coffee Caravan came on the 20th November, they are very useful as there are things they can assist with for people in need, such as providing lightbulbs, slow cookers and vouchers for supermarkets. Car park – the repairs are to take place on the 13th December. Budget – a draft budget appears as an item on the agenda. Bonfire event - the overall amount raised was £5027.16, after expenses an amount of approximately £1500 is the amount of profit. SALC webinars – there have been a couple of webinars held, the first was about the flooding that may take place in the winter such as Storm Babet, the second was from the Highways department, this related to how the roads are prepared during the winter, gritting etc. Community News - the next edition requires articles by the 13th December. BT – another invoice was received from BT. After 25 minutes on the phone this has hopefully been sorted and all the invoices are going to the Social Club. Noticeboard - the one near Carlton Green needs to be fixed or replaced as this is very damp. Annual Leave - the Clerk will be on Annual Leave on the 29th November.

12298 Clerk's Report on urgent decisions

None

12299 Matters arising from the Clerk's report.

Cllr Buttle said that the Sizewell C Community Fund required a second quote for the work to be undertaken to the recreation ground so that the utilities may be placed there. Contact has been made with a second contractor.

Cllr Revell said that the dog fouling is an ongoing concern. Some dog owners let their dogs run everywhere. Once upon a time there were no dogs allowed on the recreation grounds, maybe this should be the case again.

Cllr Gwynne suggested a dog area to be placed on the recreation ground, it was agreed by the other Councillors that this would involve more fencing and make the recreation ground smaller, and this is not ideal.

Cllr Ransome reported that the litter bin on the recreation ground is not emptied regularly.

Cllr Reynolds asked if there could be another dog waste bin with dog waste bags in a dispenser above.

Cllr Revell said that the bonfire event was successful.

Cllr Stewart asked if the food area could be expanded.

Cllr Revell said that the food area has been discussed at the Bonfire Meeting and it was agreed to keep the size as it is. The need for a different noticeboard has been noted.

ACTION: Cllr Ransome to look at the prices of noticeboards. The clerk to contact ESC about the emptying of the litter bin on the recreation ground. The Clerk to obtain dog waste bin prices for the January meeting.

12300 Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 30 October 2024.

10.1 Power Projects – Cllr Weaver submitted a written report.

Cllr Weaver had included 4 questions in her report for the Councillors to respond to. It was agreed not to have a meeting with Sizewell representatives in December. The suggestion to have a walk-in event for residents to attend, with information from Sizewell C in the form of large maps, plans etc was agreed. A comments box would also be available for resident to question the Sizewell C team. This could be held in connection with a coffee morning. The Councillors present did not wish to have another presentation which would repeat what they were already aware of. The traffic incident report was agreed, but it needed to be clear what type of incidents should be reported and where the report was going once completed.

ACTION: Find out what size the Sizewell C signs are on the vehicles.

10.2 Carlton Meres – Cllr Revell commented that a response has been received from ESC. The developers are awaiting the arrival of the S278 document. Once this has been issued and the TRO approved then the highways improvements will be undertaken. It is hoped that this will take place before the next holiday season.

10.3 Highway Signage – This item is ongoing.

ACTION: To await further information from Richard Smith.

10.4 Speeding on Main Road – Cllr Revell said that the data from the speed strips is not available yet.

Cllr Reynolds commented that it is quite difficult to cross the main road. There is a dispute ongoing at the moment from some residents who have been caught speeding as to whether there are sufficient 30mph signage.

Cllr Holden commented that roundels could be painted onto the road, this is a cheaper option.

ACTION: Cllr Weaver to pass on the data from the speed strips when available.

10.5 Recreation Ground – Cllr Holden and Cllr Buttle agreed to undertake any work that was required as a result of the play equipment inspection.

10.6 Village Hall Proposals – Cllr Revell reported that discussion around the forecourt continues, with a final letter to be sent from the solicitors.

ACTION: To continue to place on the agenda.

12301 Parish Council Matters

11.1 Kelsale Village Hall: Cllr Ransome reported that Christmas Fayre was a success. £400-450 was raised for the Village Hall. There is wreath making on the 6th December. Upstairs in the main hall the fireplace has been painted. A structural engineer has looked at the area where it is hoped to place a lift. There is an RSJ in place, but this will not be an issue, it can be resolved. The kitchen in the main hall will be refurbished over Christmas. The Stannah stairlift has failed, this is to be repaired.

11.2 To re-adopt the Safeguarding Policy and the Equality and Diversity Policy - It was proposed by Cllr Holden to approve the above policies, this was seconded by Cllr Reynolds and agreed by all Councillors attending.

12302 Planning Matters

12.1 Planning Report - The Planning Report had been circulated in advance and there was no change since the circulation.

12.2 New planning applications since the last meeting:

DC/24/3505/ARM - Sizewell B Sizewell Power Station Complex and Adjoining Land, Sizewell Power Station Road, Sizewell, IP16 4UR

Approval of reserved matters (Landscape) relating to Condition 2 of DC/20/4646/FUL - Hybrid application seeking outline planning permission, with all matters reserved, for up to 9,500 square metres Gross External Area (GEA) to provide administration, storage, welfare and canteen facilities and a visitor centre of up to 1,000 square metres GEA. Detailed planning permission is sought for

demolition of some existing structures and redevelopment to include a training centre and interim visitor centre, an outage store, lay down area, car and cycle parking, landscaping, associated infrastructure (including utilities, plant and highway works), tree felling and other relevant works - Proposed visitor centre.

It was agreed by the full Council to respond with no objection but to state that any tree felling that takes place should have planting to replace them taking place.

ACTION: Clerk to notify the ESC of the PC's response.

DC/24/3831/FUL – Apple Tree Barn (proposed name), Town Farm Lane, North Green, Kelsale-cum-Carlton.

Construction of 1 no. single storey dwelling (revised design).

After some discussion it was agreed to support this application with one abstention.

ACTION: Clerk to inform the ESC of the PC's response.

Notifications:

12303 Financial Matters

13.1 Financial Statement since the October meeting. See Updated Finance Report of 27th November 2024.

Cllr Stewart proposed the payments, this was seconded by Cllr Reynolds and agreed by all, with no abstentions.

13.2 To approve and sign the bank statements: The Bank Statement to 31st October 2024 plus financial reconciliations were presented to the Council and signed by the Chair.

13.3 To consider the draft 2025/26 budget and the precept request.

Cllr Revell explained that he and Cllr Galloway had looked at the information on the budget sheet and found it be accurate. The Clerks wages would be changing in April, as per her contract, there should have been increments in her wage annually from April 2020, this has not taken place. The Clerk is currently on Point 10 and should be Point 15. As from April 2025 the Clerk will be on Point 12. This item was agreed by all the Councillors attending. After further discussion it was agreed by all present to adopt the budget for 2025/26.

The Clerk informed the Council that due to the amount of second homes within the village, it was apparent that the PC could claim £26,512, this would show as a 0% increase. The Councillors agreed to add an increase of 3%, which means that the request to the ESC would be £27,308. This would be used for extra work within the village, such as tree maintenance, play equipment maintenance, etc.

12304 To Receive Reports from Portfolio Holders and Liaison Representatives

B7: Trees and Green Spaces

Cllr Revell reported that some residents are looking at assisting with the needed repairs to the recreation ground fence, a quote will be presented at the January meeting.

ACTION: Quote to be available for the January meeting. When is the PC to receive the payment from the Solar Park as promised by the developers.

Cllr Holden reported that he had 30 small trees from the Woodland Trust and the Biodiversity group are to assist with the planting.

E1: Biodiversity Group

Cllr Gwynne reported that the Biodiversity group will be know as KADWAG as from their first meeting in January 2025.

Parking at the Poachers Pocket is causing concern.

A2 & A3: Community, Energy & Health

Cllr Reynolds commented that she is attending the PPG meetings. There will be an article to go in the Community News.

12305 Items for consideration for Inclusion on the next agenda

As appears in the minutes, January meeting – dog waste bin costs, noticeboard costs,

12306 Correspondence

12307 To consider excluding the public and press.

No considerations were necessary.

12308 Excluded items

There were none.

12309 Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held on the 11th December 2024 at 7pm.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.18pm.

Signed: Chairman Dated: