

## HONINGTON & SAPISTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in Honington & Sapiston Village Hall at 7pm.

In attendance: - Councillors Rob Williams, Stephen Read, Robin Howe, David Plampin, Mark Jacklin and Ian Patterson-Parker. Also in attendance were West Suffolk Councillor Andrew Smith, Suffolk County Councillor Joanna Spicer, Euston Estate Manager Andrew Blenkiron, and 2 members of the public.

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Welcome and Apologies	The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Cram.	
2. Co-option of Councilor	The Chairman welcomed Mrs Sue Jay to the meeting. After a vote, unanimously carried, Mrs Sue Jay was co-opted onto the Parish Council. The Acceptance of Office form was completed and signed. The Declarations of Interest Form was given to be completed and returned.	Clerk to return Acceptance of Office Form & Declaration of Interests Form to WSC.  The Chairman will liaise with SJ with regards to the Code of Conduct.
3. Declarations of Interest	The Declaration of Interest form was circulated and signed by those Councillors declaring an interest.	
4. Police Report	No representative was present at the meeting. Crimes reported since our last meeting included: 1 – Coney Weston Road Sapiston. 2 – Playing Field Honington.  The Clerk has asked for support with the issues surrounding the parking on the Village Green during School pick-ups/drop offs.  Councillors expressed concern about the continuation of vehicles parking on the pavement by Willow Green.	Clerk has liaised with the Police and the School  Clerk to report once more to the Police.

5. RAF Report	No report was presented. Sqn Ldr Mark Fixter has retired, and Chairman RW will liaise with the Station Commander until we are able to welcome an RAF representative once more to our meetings.	
6. West Suffolk Council – Andrew Smith	WSC Smith looked forward to joining in the discussion with agenda items during the meeting.	
7. Suffolk County Council – Joanna Spicer	<p>SCC Spicer joined the meeting after attending Hopton PC. Councilor Spicer welcomed Councilor Jay to her first meeting.</p> <p>Cllr DP asked about the proposed repairs to the Bridge along the A1088 at Stowlangtoft. This work will not be started until after the current A14 improvements have been completed. Works on the A14 are currently working to schedule. The bridge is likely to be closed for 3 months whilst work is carried out to strengthen the bridge.</p> <p>Cllr RH raised concerns about the state of the road on the A1088 from Ixworth Thorpe to Ixworth. The number of pot holes has increased considerably since he raised this over a year ago. Although the pot holes have been marked no work has been undertaken and it remains very dangerous with vehicles swerving to avoid the pot holes.</p> <p>Cllr RH asked for a response after learning of proposed social cuts to the SCC budget.</p>	SCC JS will reply to Councilor RH.

<p>8. Minutes of the last meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.</p>	<p>The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman RW.  Matter's Arising:-  The Village Hall are displaying the new larger disabled parking signs.  The Blackbourne Tree Group will install a post by the river area.  We await an update on the Bus Shelter at Poplar Close.  We await an update on the extension of the bus service from Euston to Thetford.  The litter pick was well attended and 24 bags of rubbish were collected.</p>	<p>Thanks were given to the VH Committee.</p> <p>Thanks to be given in Newsletter</p>
<p>9. Matters Arising  9.1. Clerk's Report</p>	<p>A copy of the report presented to Councilors is included with the minutes along with comments made.</p>	
<p>10. Highways  10.1. Outstanding matters  Flooding Issues</p>	<p>Chairman RW updated all those present on the issues with Bardwell Road Sapiston. Whilst the homeowners of Boreham House have thrust bored the pipe and the water is running through, it is proposed that a 250ml pipe is installed as agreed with Euston Estate. A quote has been sought and amounts to £2, 282, and is to reinstate the 2 driveways after they have been dug out.  It is thought the road would need to be closed for up to 3 days.  Chairman RW proposed that the PC accept the quote and pay this one-off charge.</p>	

<p>Willow Green</p>	<p>Cllr RH pointed out that this work would be of great benefit to the community. All Councilors agreed to this proposal. Work would hopefully be able to take place by late summer as a road closure notice will need to be sought and approved. Grateful thanks were given to Euston Estates and especially to Andrew Blenkiron whose help and advice has been invaluable. All Councilors wished Andrew Blenkiron the very best in his new role at Elvedon Estates.</p>	<p>All agreed to proceed.</p>
<p>Bridge Repairs</p>	<p>During the recent exceptional rain fall the area around Willow Green flooded but did clear quickly. Reports of cars/vans obstructing the pavement at Willow Green have been received.</p>	<p>Clerk to report to the police.</p> <p>The Council asked for road closure confirmation dates so these can be advertised in the newsletter. Bus Services will be informed.</p>
<p>10.2. Village Green – Honington</p>	<p>The Council have been informed that repairs to the bridge will take place week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> April. The bridge will be closed from the 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> April.</p>	<p>The Clerk has liaised with the Police and the School to remind drivers to park considerately.</p>
<p>10.3. Village Green – Sapiston</p>	<p>The Council has received a complaint about parking on the Village Green.</p> <p>Delivery of the Village Sign is expected soon, once final details are completed. The plinth will need to be rebuilt and Cllr DP was happy to provide the bricks FOC.</p> <p>A footpath sign has been erected on Sapiston Green</p>	<p>Cllr DP to provide bricks.</p> <p>To be removed by Rights of Way.</p>

<p>10.4. Footpath by Manor Farm</p>	<p>directing people to the local footpaths up on the Bardwell Road. The Council were not consulted about this installation. Chairman RW has written to the Rights of Way Officer and he has agreed to remove it. All households have a copy of The Heritage Walks published by the PC, further copies can be found at the Village Hall.</p> <p>The pavement alongside the A1088 (by Manor Farm) is in need of repair.</p>	<p>Clerk to report to Highways.</p>
<p>11. Planning</p>	<p>No planning applications have been received.</p>	
<p>12. Items for Discussion 12.1. Local Plan</p>	<p>The consultation on the submission of the Local Plan has been taking place from 30<sup>th</sup> January – 12<sup>th</sup> March. Included in this plan is the proposal for 12 dwellings on Troston Road and 10 dwellings for Bardwell Road. This consultation is to determine that the plan is legally compliant and the plan is sound. These are not planning applications. Councilors discussed issues with parking and flooding, but these would be addressed in any subsequent planning application. Cllr DP spoke of the need for smaller homes for affordability reasons, rather than the villages needing 5, 5-bedroom homes. Concerns were raised about existing infrastructure being able to cope with increased population.</p>	<p>Councilors agreed not to submit a response.</p>
<p>12.2. Playing Field Inspections and Playground Report</p>	<p>The latest copy of the report received by the Council was</p>	<p>Cllr's RW &amp; RH will attend the next inspection and submit the</p>

<p>12.3. Portrait of the King</p> <p>12.4. Grit Bin</p>	<p>circulated before the meeting and comments noted. Cllr RH submitted a statement of questions he would like to put to the inspector to clarify several issues raised in the report. Cllr RH and RW will attend the next inspection. It was noted that the report is not a Health and Safety Report.</p> <p>The Government is offering a free portrait of the King to all Town, Parish and Community Councils. Councilors felt we should ask the Village Hall Committee if they would like to display the portrait as the PC have no premises. It was also suggested we could liaise with the Church, although this offer was open to Councils and not religious buildings.</p> <p>At the January PC meeting, Councilors agreed to monitor the condition of the grit bin on Honington Village Green. Councilors agreed not to replace at this time.</p>	<p>statement of questions for the inspector.</p> <p>Clerk to forward to VH Committee.</p>
<p>13. Finance</p> <p>13.1. Thank you's and Requests</p> <p>13.2. Cheques to be signed</p>	<p>A thank you has been received from the Blackbourne Tree Group for the grant they received in January.</p> <p>Cheques agreed to be signed (RW, SR &amp; RH)</p> <p>Clerk's Wages     £535.70  Website           £20.00  David Thrower   £600.00  Shelter Cleaning £113.33  CW Printing       £189.00  Clerk's Expenses £67.12  (inc. disability signs x2)</p> <p>Signed prior to the meeting  Village Sign       £5, 815.00</p>	

<p>14. Correspondence</p>	<p>Items received include:  Elan City – Speed Cameras  Fencing  Capital Sports Fund  Church Contact Details  SALC- minimum wage,  devolution in Suffolk, member  survey.</p>	
<p>15. Matters to Report</p> <p>15.1. SCC division boundaries</p> <p>15.2. West Suffolk Parish &amp; Town Forum</p> <p>15.3. Connecting Communities</p> <p>15.4. Online Planning System</p> <p>15.5. School Holiday Activities Programme</p> <p>15.6. Easter Bin Collections</p> <p>15.7. Website</p>	<p>Confirmation received from  Ben Smith that from May  2025 at the SCC Elections, RAF  Honington will be in the  “Brandon Division” and  Honington Village will be in  the “Blackbourne Division”</p> <p>The agenda has been received  for the next forum to take  place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March  from 6.45pm at Mildenhall  Jubilee Centre.</p> <p>This scheme is for people who  find it difficult to use public  transport. The booking line is  01638 664304.</p> <p>The online planning reporting  system will be down between  7 – 10pm on 11<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p>Details have been received of  the Spring (Easter) Holiday  Activities and Food (HAF)  programme in West Suffolk.</p> <p>The Council has received the  revised Bin Collection days for  the Easter period.</p> <p>Cllr Patterson-Parker informed  the Council that Harriet Van</p>	<p>Chairman RW will attend.  Clerk to book.</p> <p>Newsletter Item  Website</p> <p>Further details can be found at  <a href="http://WestSuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/holiday-events">WestSuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/holiday- events</a>.  Newsletter</p> <p>To submit to the Newsletter team  and Website.</p>

<p>15.8. Thanks</p>	<p>Der Lande had kindly offered to update the Village Hall website.</p> <p>Mr Nigel Brown wished to express his thanks to the PC for all their help in trying to resolve the flooding issues which have been affecting his property at Parch House. He also wished to thank the help received from Euston Estates and Andrew especially.</p>	<p>The Council would be very happy if Harriet would consider updating the Parish Council Website.</p> <p>Councilors thanked him for his comments and willingness to work with the local authorities.</p>
<p>16. Date of the Next Meeting</p>	<p><b>APM &amp; APCM ON MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b> at 7pm in Honington &amp; Sapiston Vllage Hall.</p>	

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.15pm.

Signed.....

Date.....