



# REDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held at 7.00pm on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at the All-Saints Church, Redgrave.

**Present:** Vice-Chair Cllr Mike Denmark, Cllrs Brian Andrews, Charlotte Giddings, John Giddings, Alison Spouncer (Clerk), County Councillor Jessica Fleming and two members of the Public.

- 1. Chairman's Welcome and Introduction.** A welcome was extended to all to the meeting by Vice Chair Cllr Mike Denmark in Chair Cllr Andy Warnes absence.
- 2. Apologies** Cllr Andy Warnes, Cllr Elaine Brown, Cllr Frank Gillett, Cllr Ann Preston, District Cllr Gilly Morgan. **Declarations of Interest** – None. **Delegated Declaration of Interest Dispensation decisions or dispensation requests where required** – None.

### 3. Minutes of the last meeting

**APPROVED** - the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> September and ECPM 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 (previously circulated) were signed as a true and accurate record, following adjustments detailed below.

The Council **NOTED** and **AGREED** the changes proposed to the minutes as detailed below:

7<sup>th</sup> September 2023: item 4, Public Forum. The word "illegal" was removed and replaced with "invalid" to read "The invalid appointment of Trustees"...

21<sup>st</sup> September 2023: item 3, Public Forum. The resident who thanked the RAT for its work looking after the recreation ground facilities requested that their input included their dateline provided of "up to September 2021".

21<sup>st</sup> September 2023: item 4, To DISCUSS the situation of and possible options for the future of the Old Recreation Ground. An incorrect version of the Agenda EPCM held on 21 Sep 23 was put on the parish noticeboard and website after the full agenda had been agreed by Council. This meant that the agreed Item 4 (To discuss the situation of and possible options for the future of the Old Recreation Ground) did not appear on that published agenda. As a result, the discussions held, and decisions made were not valid. Proposed Actions: 1. Council to approve the discussions held and decision made at the meeting on 21 Sep 23 in retrospect. 2. The Chairman to send a clarifying letter to Susie Philips of Llanover to explain the error. Please see item 12.

### 4. Public Forum

**The Chairman to invite members of the public to indicate if they wish to speak at this meeting, either on an item on the agenda or on a general matter.**

A resident and current Trustee of one of the three Charities wished to comment that the proposed Appointment Panel for the appointing of Trustees was "overboard" and they would not be happy to undertake such a process and would consider not standing with the belief there maybe another Trustee who feels similar.

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Signed/initialled.....(Chair). ...../...../2023

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## 5. County and District Councillor's Report.

County Cllr Fleming wished to provide apologies on behalf of District Cllr Morgan who had taken ill and was therefore unable to attend. Cllr Fleming provided a summary of her report provided to the Council prior to the meeting.

**Funding for Ely and Haughley Rail Junctions** – Following the cancellation of Phase 2 of HS2 by the Government, funding has been announced for upgrades to both junctions as well as other rail improvements with improved passenger services between Ipswich and Peterborough and enabling of greater freight to be carried from Felixstowe.

**Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in Suffolk schools** – Affected areas of the schools identified have been closed off with alternative arrangements made. If further schools are found to be affected, actions will be taken to ensure their safety.

**Pylons Meeting in Wortham/Roydon** – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September's protest was attended by MPs Jo Churchill, Dan Poulter and Richard Bacon, Council Leaders, Founder of the Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons group and others with calls for transparency and accountability from National Grid to the public. It was noted drilling has already commenced for potential pylon locations.

**Quiet Lanes Project** – The original funds have been spent covering over 300 miles of Quiet Lanes in over 130 Parishes, however, there is still an option to express an interest by registering on the website [www.quietlanessuffolk.co.uk/contact](http://www.quietlanessuffolk.co.uk/contact) and Highways will make contact.

**Major Planning at Shepherd's Grove, Stanton** - Evolution's warehousing application DC/23/1154/OUT is live with a deadline for comments by 11<sup>th</sup> October. It is noted that this proposal is NOT intending to use the new roundabout on the A143 that Copart is required to construct, rather, access would be via Summer Road. The project is suggesting employing around 2,000 people. CoPart DC/22/1290/HYB is also live although the formal deadline for comments has passed. Major traffic implications for the A143, A14 other major and local road systems and communities as well as impacts such as water use, contamination, and fire risk are expected.

**Council Seeks Foster Carers** - Cllr Fleming wished to highlight the need for more foster carers, particularly for older children. If you are interested please get in touch and find out about training and support, carers are needed for children and young people of all ages: [Visit the foster page](#) Phone: 01473 264800 or Email: [fosterandadopt@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:fosterandadopt@suffolk.gov.uk). Cllr Fleming welcomes any communications from residents with queries and concerns. [Gilly.Morgan@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Gilly.Morgan@midsuffolk.gov.uk) [Jessica.Fleming@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.Fleming@suffolk.gov.uk)

## 6. Planning

**6.1 To CONSIDER any planning applications by the Council for comment, including those received after the publication of the agenda.**

DC/23/04419 - Green Farm House, The Green, Redgrave, Diss Suffolk IP22 1RR. Notification of works to trees in a conservation area – request to fell a 40ft pine tree for safety reasons.

**NO OBJECTION**

**6.2 To NOTE any planning decisions received. NONE.**

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## 7. Parish Clerk's Report

The Council **RECEIVED** an update on actions outstanding prior to the meeting, among those:

**7.1** 211.13 Cllr Andrews wished to **RE-OPEN** the action regarding traffic issues with Hinderclay Road following a near miss involving a vehicle travelling at the speed limit. Gressingham Foods continue to pursue the issue. This was AGREED.

**7.2** 226.10 An Appointing Authority Policy document has been produced and agreed at the EPCM (21<sup>st</sup> September 2023). The Charities have received confirmation of the Parish Council's continuation and effective re-instatement of the nominating process.

## 8. Responsible Financial Officer Report

**RECEIVED - Financial reports provided prior to the meeting.**

**8.1** Payments Approved and Paid:

07 Sep 23	A Spouncer printer costs (3/7/23)	£27.96
31 Aug 23	BMSDC Parish Election Recharges 4/5/23 Uncontested	£142.86
27 Sep 23	TRAMAR Grass Cutting Inv 137	£60.00
	Administration costs (GDPR details removed)	£568.52
27 Sep 23	All Saints Hall Hire (21 <sup>st</sup> Sept/5 <sup>th</sup> October)	£47.00
30 Sep 23	Unity Bank Service Charge	£18.00

**Total Spend: £864.34**

**8.2** Accounts for **Approval:**

Scribe software subscription renewal (November 2023)	£417.60
Soda .PDF Software subscription	£68.00
SALC Payroll Services (6 monthly)	£54.00
Community Action Suffolk (One Suffolk hosting website)	£60.00

**TOTAL £599.60**

**8.3** Monies **Received: £12,078.00**

Bank Account as of 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023: £43,383.62 (of which £36,578 in reserves, £5,051.35 as CIL).

Quarterly Bank reconciliation was provided and signed.

## 9. Correspondence

To **NOTE** correspondence received, if any (previously circulated)

**9.1 Public consultation launched over proposal to restrict lorries in Eye town centre.** Running for six months from 19<sup>th</sup> May. Comments can be made online via [Public consultation launched over proposal to restrict lorries in Eye town centre - Suffolk County Council](#) or emailing [lorry.routes@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:lorry.routes@suffolk.gov.uk).

**9.2 Permanent Christmas Tree Option.** A parishioner has offered a 6–7-foot Norwegian Spruce to be moved from their property to the Knoll. It was AGREED to accept the offer of the tree, acknowledging that transfer is not always successful with the species, given the tree will be removed and destroyed, it would be positive to attempt the transfer.

**9.3 BMSDC Joint Local Plan Publication.** To note the publication of the Inspectors' report on the examination of the BMSDC Joint Local Plan 2018-2037, to be endorsed by SCC in its November 2023 meeting.

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Signed/initialled.....(Chair). ...../...../2023

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**9.4 Suffolk Highways Signposting.** Apologies have been received for the delay in a response regarding the question over the signage in Half Moon Lane and the redundant sign from Churchway. Conversations will hope to be started with the new contractor (Milestone) from 1<sup>st</sup> October.

**9.5 Appointment of Trustees.** Following the posting of a Councillor vacancy placed today, communication was received regarding the appointment of panel confirmation (Item 11.1). A suggestion of hypocrisy with the Parish Council's lack of policy for appointing Councillors was suggested. The comment was NOTED. It was NOTED the Parish Council has never held a policy on councillor appointments, nor is one required as details of Councillor selection processes are fully described in the national framework available for all to view. The advertisement for the vacancy will remain until 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 when the clerk will be informed by the Elections Office if an election is requested.

## 10. Review of Standing Order Documents (Circulated Previously)

**10.1** Child & Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Policy

**10.2** Environmental Policy

**10.3** Equal Opportunities Policy

**10.4** Statement on Internal Control

**10.5** Grievance Policy

**10.6** Freedom of Information Policy

Appendix 1 to Freedom of Information Policy (Publication Scheme)

**10.7** Financial Regulations

**10.8** Redgrave Parish Council Standing Orders

**10.9** Redgrave Parish Council Vexatious Complaints Policy 2023

It was AGREED to adopt all policies.

## 11. Appointment of Trustees to Charities

**11.1** Appointment Panel Confirmation – Cllrs Andrews, Giddings, Gillet, Preston and Warnes have volunteered to be involved in the Panel.

**11.2** Costs for legal support.

Both item numbers 11.1 and 11.2 were agreed to be deferred, by those present, for the November meeting when it is hoped there is a full complement of Councillors.

## 12. To APPROVE the discussion to respond to Llanover's invitation to discuss the position of the recreation ground.

It was agreed by those present for this item to be deferred for the November meeting when a full complement of Councillors will hoped to be present.

## 13. Date of Next Meeting. AGREED as Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023. All Saints Church, 7pm.

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.38**

***DRAFT UNTIL SIGNED***

Signed/initialled.....(Chair). ...../...../2023

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