

MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL, THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 12th OCTOBER 2022 AT 7:00 PM

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Stephen Brett - Chair
Cllr. Hilary Ward - Vice Chair
Cllr. Stephen Morphey
Cllr. Bob Flindall
Cllr. Adam Hurrell

Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Nat Bacon – written and accepted
Cllr. Paul Collins – written and accepted
District Cllr. Tony Cooper

In attendance:

Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO
District Cllr. Tom Daly
District Cllr. Russ Rainger
County Cllr. Richard Smith
One member of the public

2. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

None.

3. Public Forum

a) County Cllr. Richard Smith reported that the Judicial Review led by Together Against Sizewell C, and supported by Stop Sizewell C, has been accepted by the court but a date for the hearing has not yet been announced. A second Judicial Review was submitted by RSPB but this was rejected by the court as it was lodged one day late. Cllr. Smith said that if the Judicial Review fails, EDF will progress its Final Investment Decision which is more likely to need £30 billion than the £20 billion previously stated. If funds are secured, EDF aim to start by summer 2023 which will be the start of misery for many communities. Cllr. Smith said he will work hard to get as much community compensation as he can.

Cllr. Smith reported that next financial year's budget will be for £625 million with £58 million alone due to inflation. The County has until February 2023 to present a balanced budget and tough decisions will need to be made.

Regarding Investment Zones, Cllr. Smith said that following consultations with the District Councils and Ipswich Borough Council, the County Council has put forward an expression of interest to the government as the Investment Zones may bring considerable benefits to new employers and potentially new housing. The list of proposed zones will be published at the end of this month.

b) District Cllr. Tom Daly said the opposition were extremely concerned about the Investment Zones. He then summarised the monthly ESC report. Highlights include a funding boost of £2.5 million from central government over three years to end rough sleeping in the district and there is a call for more homes for Ukrainian refugees. Cllr. Daly outlined the Ease the Squeeze initiative and informed the Council of the Leiston town centre masterplan consultation.

ACTION: Clerk to forward Ease the Squeeze information to the Good Neighbours Scheme coordinator.

The Chairman said the Council was disappointed to receive correspondence from District Cllr. James Mallinder who said he could not support the Council's proposal to designate the parish as a Dark Skies area as he does not believe that the designation would change any behaviours and that the principle is adequately covered in planning policy. The Council agreed to promote and protect the Dark Skies in the parish even without official status.

c) District Cllr. Russ Rainger informed the Council about a supplementary planning document consultation about designing developments which better support health and wellbeing.

ACTION: Cllr. Bob Flindall to review the consultation and draft a response if necessary.

4. Minutes

- a) Following a correction to item 6g, requested by Cllr. Bob Flindall, and accepted by the Council, it was proposed by Cllr. Hilary Ward, seconded by Cllr. Stephen Morphey, and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 10th August 2022 be signed as a true record. All in favour.
- b) It was proposed by Cllr. Hilary Ward, seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett, and agreed that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of 15th August 2022 be signed as a true record. All in favour.
- c) It was proposed by Cllr. Hilary Ward, seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett, and agreed that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of 26th August 2022 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

5. Matters Arising

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the Council of the following:

- a) With reference to item 5b from the 10th August 2022 meeting, David Chenery advised the Council to invite the Community Liaison Engineer to conduct a site visit to Eastbridge to review the speed limit.
- b) With reference to item 6b from the 12th January 2022 meeting, a request has been sent for a quote to replace the gold inlay on the village signs.
- c) With reference to item 9b from the 14th April 2021 meeting, two grass tyres have been purchased for the tractor.
- d) With reference to item 13b from the 14th April 2021 meeting, the playing fields will be harrowed in the spring.
- e) With reference to item 7d from the 4th August 2021 meeting, 'no dog' signage has been erected at both playing fields and the burial ground however the sign at the burial ground has since mysteriously disappeared. The Council agreed to fix a sign to the burial ground gates.
- f) With reference to item 9c from the 12th January 2022 meeting, a request for spare goal posts has been sent to Leiston football club.
- g) With reference to item 6b from the 8th June 2022 meeting, a letter of thanks has been sent to the volunteer for assisting with the burial ground shed repairs.
- h) With reference to item 8a from the 13th July 2022 meeting, RSPB advised that nature will not allow a wildflower meadow to flourish at the Common. The Council agreed to consider reverting the Common land to grass.
- i) With reference to item 6j from the 10th August 2022 meeting, the Quiet Lanes signs have been erected.
- k) With reference to item 7a from the 13th October 2022 meeting, advice has been sought from SALC regarding the legality of refurbishing the Jubilee well which is on private land.

6. Casual Vacancies

- a) The Council noted the resignation of Cllr. Laura Bonnett and a vote of thanks was recorded for all her work for the Council.
- b) Cllr. Stephen Brett introduced Hazel Collins who applied to fill the Council's casual vacancy and he proposed that the Council co-opts Ms Collins. Seconded by Cllr. Hilary Ward. All in favour. Ms Collins signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form, witnessed by the Clerk, and joined the Council with immediate effect.

ACTION: Clerk to inform the District Council and send details of SALC's training modules to Cllr. Adam Hurrell and Cllr. Hazel Collins.

7. Sizewell C

- a) The Council considered planning application SCC/0106/22 – Discharge of Requirement 3 – Project Wide: Archaeology and Peat site-specific written schemes of investigation. County Cllr. Richard Smith said

he has cabinet responsibility for planning and his officers will review the details and advise whether EDF has satisfactorily discharged its obligations.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett, Cllr. Paul Collins and Cllr. Bob Flindall to review and draft a response if necessary.

b) Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the Council that the first meeting of the B1122 Early Years Working Group with EDF, Middleton cum Fordley Parish Council, and the County and District Councils, is scheduled for next week. Cllr. Brett will attend with Cllr. Nat Bacon. Cllr. Paul Collins and Cllr. Hilary Ward will also attend future meetings.

c) The Council considered ways to consult residents about the proposed pedestrian crossing in Theberton should Sizewell C go ahead. Cllr. Stephen Brett suggested that a public meeting is held with EDF and SCC Highways in attendance and then a postal survey is conducted throughout the parish. County Cllr. Richard Smith said that opinion was likely to be divergent therefore it was important to ask factual, not persuasive, questions. He said the Highways report will be considered by him and he does not want to predetermine the outcome.

d) Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the Council that two representatives have been invited to attend a virtual briefing by East Suffolk Council about the National Grid Sea Link and Eurolink projects.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett and Cllr. Paul Collins to attend.

8. Planning

Cllr. Bob Flindall briefed the Council about the ESC planning process and the SALC survey. The Council agreed to respond to the survey raising specific concerns with the planning process with examples.

ACTION: Cllr. Bob Flindall and the Clerk to progress.

9. Parish Matters

a) The Council noted the annual play equipment safety inspection report for Theberton. Cllr. Stephen Morphey informed the Council that the goal posts in Eastbridge playing field were also very corroded and he agreed to wire brush and paint them next spring.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett and Cllr. Nat Bacon to rectify the medium risk items noted in the report. Cllr. Hilary Ward to obtain a quote for signage for the basketball hoop.

b) The Clerk briefed the Council about her project to map the recorded graves in the burial ground. The Council thanked the Clerk for all her work and for Cllr. Stephen Brett's assistance. The Council agreed with the Clerk's suggestion to digitally map the burial ground to preserve the records and provide online access to residents, families, researchers, and funeral directors. The Council also agreed to obtain quotes to produce a drawn map of the graves for display in the burial ground.

ACTION: Clerk to progress.

10. Clerk/Councillors' Reports

a) Platinum Heritage Trail – Cllr. Stephen Brett invited the Clerk and any Councillors to form a new working group to progress the project.

b) Community Council/Jubilee Hall Management Committee – Cllr. Hilary Ward reported that the Community Council are looking into overnight parking for two motorhomes in the Jubilee Hall carpark. Upcoming events include a quiz night, a shed sort-out day, a children's Halloween party and a firework night. During the firework event, a large guy will be burnt on Theberton playing field and a risk assessment has been drawn up with advice from the Fire and Rescue Service. There will be a BBQ on the field instead of the usual refreshments served at Jubilee Hall. Cllr. Ward concluded her report by informing the Council that the Trustees of Jubilee Hall are waiting for a report regarding the refresh of the organisation. The Council raised concerns about the proximity of a bonfire close to the play equipment, the damage caused to the grass, and the lack of liaison with the Council about these planned activities on the playing field.

ACTION: Cllr. Hilary Ward to request details of the location of the bonfire and the arrangements for clearing up after the event.

c) Burial Ground Shed – Cllr. Stephen Morphey reported that the repairs are complete. The Council thanked Cllr. Morphey for all his hard work. The Clerk suggested that the Council restores the old shed bell.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Morphey and Cllr. Stephen Brett to clear rubbish from site.

c) Police Crime Report – the Clerk said no crimes were reported during August 2022.

d) Outstanding Actions List – the Council reviewed and updated the list.

11. Finance

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

b) It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett, seconded by Cllr. Adam Hurrell, and agreed to ratify the payments listed below which were made during the National Mourning period. All in favour.

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary	Sharon Smith	£323.50	LGA 1972 s.112
Jubilee Hall Broadband	Sharon Smith	£31.68	LGA 1972 s.19
Clerk's Expenses	Sharon Smith	£10.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Parish Online Subscription	GeoXphere Ltd	£60.00	LGA 1972 s.111
SID Solar Brackets	Westcotec Ltd	£172.20	LG and Rating Act 1997 s.30
Benches Installation x 3	Realise Futures CIC	£237.60	OSA 1906 s.10

c) It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett, seconded by Cllr. Stephen Morphey, and agreed to authorise the payments listed below. All in favour.

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary	Sharon Smith	£415.88	LGA 1972 s.112
Clerk's PAYE	HM Revenue and Customs	£47.20	LGA 1972 s.112
Jubilee Hall Broadband	Sharon Smith	£31.68	LGA 1972 s.19
Burial Ground Map	Leiston Press	£39.60	LGA 1972 s.214
Additional Insurance Premium	Business Services at CAS Ltd	£16.80	LGA 1972 s.111
Payroll Services	Suffolk Association of Local Councils	£54.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Website Hosting	Community Action Suffolk	£60.00	LGA 1972 s.142
Theberton Play Equipment Inspection	Playsafety Ltd	£113.40	OSA 1906 s.9
Tractor Grass Tyres	Stephen Brett	£232.80	OSA 1906 s.9

12. Correspondence

The Council reviewed the correspondence received between 4th August 2022 to 6th October 2022.

13. Next Meeting

The Council confirmed the date and time of the next meeting of the Council which is scheduled for Wednesday 9th November 2022 at 7:00 pm at Jubilee Hall.

The meeting closed at 9:40 pm.

Appendix I – Financial Position

Bank Balances as at 11th August 2022

Barclays Current Account	£7,549.34
Barclays Savings Account	£19,913.85
	<u>£27,463.19</u>

Earmarked Reserves

Parish Playing Areas Maintenance and Sinking Fund	£3,000.00
Burial Ground Shed Roof Fund	£650.00
Community Infrastructure Levy 2021-2022	£1,244.64
Community Infrastructure Levy 2022-2023	£997.34
Jubilee Hall Broadband Grant	£354.79
Jubilee Hall Broadband Fund	£150.00
Platinum Heritage Trail	£10,000.00
	<u>£16,396.77</u>

Bank Balance less Reserves **£11,066.42**

Income – September 2022

Barclays Bank – Interest	£6.14
--------------------------	-------

Payments – September 2022

Sharon Smith – Clerk’s Salary	£323.50
Sharon Smith – Jubilee Hall Broadband	£31.68
Sovereign – Eastbridge Play Equipment Maintenance	£17.99
Sharon Smith – Clerk’s Expenses	£10.00
GeoXphere – Parish Online Subscription	£60.00
Westcotec – SID Brackets	£172.20
Realise Futures – Talking Benches Installation	£237.60
	<u>£852.97</u>