

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL** held on Tuesday 22nd February 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in Boxford Village Hall.

**PRESENT:** L Wortley (Chaired the Meeting), P Edwards, T Munson, D Warren, M Wooderson and 2 members of the public.

**APOLOGIES:** were received from J Fincham-Jacques, J Finch (County Cllr) and B Hurren (District Cllr).

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS:** D Warren reminded the meeting his property is nearby the proposed Sand Hill Development. He also confirmed he will leave the room when the funding for Boxford Friendship Group is discussed in view of a close family connection.

**MINUTES OF 25th JANUARY 2022:** These were accepted as correct.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** It was confirmed that J Finch was requesting an inspection of the road at The Causeway in response to resident's concerns. The Clerk confirmed she has investigated our powers in respect of the professional fees for a community swimming pool at the School and confirmed we do have powers in this respect. Further details are awaited from the School Governors in this respect and when we hear further this can go on the Agenda as a Financial Agenda item.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** The Chairman of the Community Council introduced himself to the new Councillors. He gave an update of the plans for the Platinum Jubilee which are largely in line with National Events. The celebrations start on the Thursday evening and end on the Sunday with a picnic, beer tent and live music on the PlayingFields. He asked whether the Parish Council would be planting a tree for the Jubilee or had any arrangements for the torch relay on 19th May. Community heroes can be nominated to take a turn with the torch. It was suggested that details could be passed to Box River News to publicise. He asked whether the Parish Council were organising Jubilee mugs. A resident then raised the on-going items of Bus Shelter, telephone kiosk and cemetery gates. He wanted to raise further issues with the County Cllr and District Cllr including hatched lines in front of the Bus Shelter and Dog fouling notices. He confirmed the Playing Field Management Committee were arranging notices for the playground reminding about dogs.

**REVIEW OF ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC:** All matters were dealt with in the Public Forum or had Agenda items for later in the meeting.

**COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:** County Cllr J Finch was unable to attend, however, had reported in advance in relation to the Bramford - Twinstead Pylon route, our MP has received confirmation that no third line is planned. The Consultation was open and National Grid were holding six face to face events, the first of which was at Nayland Village Hall. The Consultation was to close on 21st March. Suffolk County Council are waiving some road closure fees for street parties for the Platinum Jubilee. The Suffolk Joint Learning Disability Strategy has been refreshed to ensure a collaborative approach. In relation to Covid 19, the rates locally were decreasing. Boosters were being offered to over 12's. Secondary School Pupils were asked to wear masks in class rooms. Groups of key workers were asked to do Rapid Flow Tests Daily. Virtual Fostering and Adoption Sessions continue.

**DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:** District Cllr B Hurren had sent his apologies and a report followed after the meeting which was then circulated to members.

**FINANCE:** The Bank balances as at 2nd February 2022 were **£48337.34** in the Community Account, **£13402.51** in the Deposit Account and **£60135.20** in the Reserve Account making a total of **£121875.05**

The following pre-agreed payments for January: -  
November:-

<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Details</b>
Funds Tr	Compass Point	2002.50	NP Consult. Fees
Funds Tr	Vertas Group Limited	1169.64	PF Mowing Contract
Funds Tr	Employment Costs totalled	1244.81	Salary, ERS NIC & Pension
Funds Tr	Sudbury Town Council	714.96	Sweeping Contract
Funds Tr	Topline Pest Control	60.00	Cemetery Contract x 2
Funds Tr	Mortimer Contracts Limited	42.00	Cemetery Moss Treatment
Funds Tr	Boxford Village Hall	34.50	Hall hire

Annual Grants - Village Hall & Church Insurance Costs - M Wooderson proposed we uplift the Village Hall grant of £1500 and Church Insurance costs grant of £1750 by 10%. This was seconded by T Munson and unanimously carried - **Action Clerk to issue the payments on the next run.**

Boxford Friendship Group - It was resolved to pay £175 for their set up costs and until their Bank Account is set up, can make payments such as hall hire from this amount - **Action Clerk.** D Warren left the room whilst this item was being discussed.

Professional Fees for Community Swimming Pool at School - the Clerk had confirmed the Parish Council are permitted to assist financially. Members resolved they are happy to consider in principle subject to further details.

The Cemetery mole contract increase in charges were discussed and agreed - **Action Clerk to confirm to Topline Pest Control.**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING:** It was confirmed that following the Parish Council Approval at last Meeting, the Plan was submitted to Babergh District Council.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the Meeting. All matters were noted. In relation to the Reclaim the Rain project, it was delegated to T Munson to take the lead on behalf of the Parish Council. M Wooderson knew people in the Village with expertise in this field and he will put them in touch with T Munson. This is a project where substantial funding is available to both collect water for future use and also protect the Village from flooding. Members agreed in principle to investigate this further - **Action T Munson.**

**CEMETERY:** P Edwards had tried to make contact with the contractor in relation to the clearance of the ditch along Stone Street Road with no response so it was agreed for the Clerk to chase up matters - **Action Clerk**. A tree from the Churchyard has come down and landed on the school premises. The Clerk explained Suffolk Tree Services have been instructed to investigate. Members agreed as this is urgent to delegate to the Clerk between meetings to try to get it resolved, this week, ahead of the School re-opening - **Action Clerk**. It was delegated to P Edwards and the Clerk to resolve the gate restoration between meetings so it can be completed ahead of the Jubilee Celebrations - **Action Clerk and P Edwards**.

**URGENT REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS:** L Wortley confirmed that our Footpath Warden resigned between meetings. She agreed to advertise the vacancy - **Action L Wortley**. The potential to provide some mugs to donate and some to sell for the Platinum Jubilee was discussed. Whilst members were happy to consider making a donation for the cost, it would require considerable organising. It was agreed to offer to consider a financial contribution if the Community Council were able to take on the organising - **Action Clerk to contact W Baker, Community Council Chairman**. The Clerk is also aware of a contractor who could be approached to supply the mugs.

The meeting closed at **9.06 p.m.**

**The following decisions were advised from the Planning Authority: -**

- A) Reserved matters in relation to access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale were approved at Former Green Lawns Bonsai Nursery, Hadleigh Road - **DC/21/06513**.
- B The Planning Authority raised No Objections to works to reduce and thin crown of Japanese Maple in Conservation Area at Box River House, 1 Broad Street, Boxford - **DC/22/00003**.
- C) Planning Permission was granted for two storey dwelling with swimming pool and outbuildings at Old School House, School Hill - **DC/21/05998**.
- D) Planning Permission was granted for single storey entrance extension to existing garden studio at 22 Swan Street - **DC/21/06814**.
- E) Planning Permission was granted for retention of close board boundary fence and access gate at Old School House, School Hill - **DC/21/06968**.
- F) The Planning Authority do not wish to object to works to conservation area trees at Cherrytrees, Clubs Lane - **DC/22/00419**.

**The following applications were discussed: -**

- 1) Notification of Works to Conservation Area trees at Cherrytrees, Clubs Lane - **DC/22/00419**.

The Parish Council and Tree Warden had **No Objections** between meetings.

2) Consider the Highway and Transport Technical Note 2 and 3 dated 4th February 2022 for Outline Planning Permission Application on Land To The East Of, Sand Hill - **DC/20/00330**. A response was due before 1st March 2022. Members agreed the draft provided by L Wortley incorporating various contributions. It was agreed for L Wortley to provide the final draft to the Clerk for a response to be issued on Friday 25th February - **Action L Wortley and Clerk**.

3) Any other urgent planning matters: A further 2 planning applications were being considered between meetings. It was agreed for Councillors to add their comments to the shared document ahead of the deadline and the Clerk will issue responses between meetings. These application will be reported on at the March Meeting - **Action Clerk**.