

MINUTES of the MEETING of BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday 26th October 2021 at 7.30 p.m. in Boxford Village Hall and also by Zoom Video Conferencing.

PRESENT: L Wortley (Chaired the Meeting), T Munson, D Warren, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr), B Hurren (District Cllr) and 3 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: were received from J Fincham-Jacques, P Edwards and M Wooderson.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS: D Warren reminded the meeting his property is nearby the proposed Sand Hill Development.

MINUTES OF 28TH SEPTEMBER 2021: These were accepted as correct.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Nothing was raised.

PUBLIC FORUM: A resident asked whether his suggestions in relation to marking the Jubilee and renovating the telephone kiosk and redecorating the bus shelter were being considered. He also enquired about progress with the Churchyard gates. The Clerk explained the on-going items in the Cemetery which P Edwards is working on. He was concerned about the standard of street cleaning and sweeping. Another resident raised the overgrown foliage obstructing the pavement alongside Riddelsdell Garage, the poor state of the Cox Hill to Fen Street permissive path and the lack of drain clearance on School Hill and Sand Hill. She was also concerned at the lack of notice of Village Road Closures. J Finch explained a link can be followed to sign up for updates. The third resident attending explained he has recently moved back to the Village and was concerned about its general run-down appearance and he volunteered to get involved in a community audit of public spaces to identify where maintenance could assist. D Warren felt that was a good idea. T Munson explained that we could then work through the list. She reminded that some areas are County Council, some District Council and others the Parish Council.

REVIEW OF ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC: It was agreed to include Agenda items of Jubilee, telephone kiosk and bus shelter for next meeting - **Action Clerk**. It was agreed to issue a letter to Riddelsdell Garage asking for their co-operation in cutting the foliage obstructing the pavement escaping from their boundary - **Action Clerk**. It was agreed for the Clerk to seek this year's schedule of waterway maintenance in the Village from the Environment Agency - **Action Clerk**. J Finch confirmed the drains should be maintained on an annual basis. The resident stated these drains have been left for at least 5 years. He agreed to report on the Highways tool and liaise about getting it resolved - **Action J Finch**. B Hurren agreed to speak to the landowner about the permissive path - **Action B Hurren**. In relation to the clearance of litter and sweeping in the centre of the Village, it was agreed for the Clerk to discuss with the Supervisor for the Community Wardens. T Munson volunteered to liaise with the Warden if he/she attends on days she is in the Village.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: County Cllr J Finch attended and had circulated his report ahead of the meeting. He reported on the rising cases of Covid 19 locally in Suffolk and he reminded people to take precautions including regular rapid flow tests. The Vaccination process continues to protect people from serious illness. In relation to Special Educational Needs it is hoped that previous investment in more facilities will improve things, however,

their major challenge currently is providing better communication with families. HRH The Duke of Gloucester officially opened the archive and heritage centre of Ipswich's Waterfront called "The Hold". There is a new booking system for the Recycling Centres. He is giving high priority to flooding issues in the vicinity. Virtual Fostering and Adoption Sessions continue. D Warren asked for a progress report from J Finch into monitoring speeding traffic in the Village. J Finch confirmed he is pursuing monitoring on the A1071. T Munson asked that as storm water surges are inevitable now, what are the County Council doing to divert water from the Centre of Villages such as Boxford. J Finch stated that part of the service is under strain. He will always do his part in helping chase drain cleansing and identifying flood risks. He urged everyone to report blocked drains on the highways reporting tool.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: District Cllr B Hurren attended and apologised for his lack of attendance recently, this is due to clashes with the District Council Meetings. He echoed the concern expressed by the County Cllr over the increase in Covid infections locally. The District Council are reviewing the possibility of remote meetings, reducing home visits and encouraging more home working in response. He explained the high business rates for the car parks which has led to the decision to start charging for stays longer than an hour. The income will help cover the costs of the car parks. He has observed that Wash Lane needs clearance/sweeping and he'll liaise with J Finch regarding getting the District Council and County Council to work together to resolve. He confirmed enforcement action at Goodlands. He has been keeping a close eye on incidents at affordable housing in Boxford which have necessitated Police involvement. He agreed to provide a report to the next meeting on the conversion works to the previous Babergh District Council office in Hadleigh in response to a question raised by D Warren.

FINANCE: The Bank balances as at 1st October 2021 were **£58073.15** in the Community Account, **£13402.18** in the Deposit Account and **£58921.73** in the Reserve Account making a total of **£130397.06**.

The following pre-agreed payments for September were made: -

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Details
Funds Tr	Employment Costs totalled	1244.69	Salary, ERS NIC & Pension
Funds Tr	M A Crighton	185.00	Cemetery Contract
Funds Tr	Lee Clarke	310.00	VH/Cemetery Plumbing
Funds Tr	Boxford Village Hall	34.50	Hall Hire

The Bank Statements were brought into the meeting for the balance checking and signing which was duly completed.

The half year budget review was circulated ahead of the meeting showing overall expenditure at 37% of budget at this half year point. Members noted the financial position and no questions were raised.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING: The Neighbourhood Planning Groups are preparing to submit the plan to Babergh District Council for the next stage.

CORRESPONDENCE: The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the Meeting. The clothes bank at the Village Hall was discussed as the financial returns are reducing and the work is increasing in relation to sorting the clothes. T Munson agreed to raise with the Community Council to see if there was any desire to re-locate the clothes bank.

CEMETERY: P Edwards had sent apologies, however, was making progress with contractors regarding the Churchyard boundary wall. We also have a quotation renovate the Churchyard gates - **Action to include on the November Agenda.**

URGENT REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: T Munson has made contact with the Community Council and will now receive invites to their meetings. They welcomed involvement from the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at **9.04 p.m.**

Planning Meeting Held by Boxford Parish Council in Boxford Village Hall and by Video Conferencing on Tuesday 26th October 2021

The following decisions were advised from the Planning Authority: -

A) The Planning Authority do not wish to Object to the Conservation Area Tree application at 22 Stone Street - **DC/21/04838**.

B) Consent was Refused for Tree Preservation Order application at 4 The Causeway - **DC/21/05188**.

C) The Planning Authority did not wish to Object to the Conservation Area tree application at 12 Clubs Lane - **DC/21/05185**.

D) Reserved matters were approved following approval of Outline Permission at Land at Orchard House, Roylands Lane - **DC/21/04240**.

E) Also at Land at Orchard House, Roylands Lane - Conditions in relation to surface water and provision of parking and turning were approved - **DC/21/03911**.

The following applications were discussed: -

1) Mill House, 3 Church Street - Application for Listed Building Consent for External and Internal repairs following crash damage - **DC/21/05300**. This was considered between meetings to comply with the deadline. The Parish Council had **No Objections**.

2) Application for Listed Building Consent for replacement windows and door at 13 Swan Street - **DC/21/05520**.

The Parish Council had **No Objections**.

3) Any other urgent planning matters: Members resolved to stay after the meeting to discuss a confidential item. Members were reminded that the Highways Report is now open for Consultation in relation to the Sand Hill development. A form has been issued. Members agreed to put their views on the form and to delegate to the Chairman the drafting of a suitable response from the Parish Council ahead of the deadline - **Action Chairman**.