

**MINUTES of the MEETING of BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL** held on Tuesday 26th July 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in Boxford Village Hall.

**PRESENT:** J Fincham-Jacques (Chairman), L Wortley, D Warren, J Moles, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr) and 3 members of the public attended in person. No Video link was requested for the Meeting.

**APOLOGIES:** were received from P Edwards, T Munson and B Hurren. It was noted immediately following the meeting that M Wooderson had resigned for personal reasons.

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

**MINUTES OF 28th JUNE 2022:** These were accepted as correct.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** It was noted the New Local Government Association Cllr Code of Conduct will form an Agenda item for the September Meeting - **Action Clerk.**

**PUBLIC FORUM:** A resident in Stone Street at the pinch-point explained cars have hit the bollards in the pinch-point near their property. Also when waiting, drivers can look into properties near the pinch-point. She stated that something has to be done to preserve the Conservation Area. Traffic is increasing and the blind pinch point makes crashes likely. J Finch confirmed that this is a long term challenge and he has arranged a visit from the new Senior Engineer at County Highways. He will knock for the resident to see if she and/or her partner are available when they visit. Another resident reminded J Finch regarding the review of speed limits in the centre of the Village. J Finch explained that he chases frequently and it is on the list. The resident explained they were hoping to provide a brief presentation at the September Meeting with the findings of their survey and hopefully include proposals for the Bus Shelter - **Action Clerk to add to the Agenda.** He thanked the Parish Council for getting the Churchyard and Cemetery gates maintained and for instigating the re-decoration of the telephone kiosk. He mentioned that separate issues will be raised directly with the Playingfield Management Committee.

**REVIEW OF ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC:** All noted under Public Forum item.

**COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:** County Cllr J Finch attended and his report covered the hard work of all Carers in Suffolk celebrated and support offered during the Carers Week in June. The County Council objects to the National Grid's East Anglia GREEN pylon run. James Cartledge MP is calling for an independent report in relation to an offshore option rather than pylons. The successful Suffolk Communities for Reclaim the Rain funding were announced including Boxford. Extra funding is available for creation of specialist places in education for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Virtual Fostering and Adoption Sessions continue. Locally J Finch had a meeting scheduled with new Snr Highways Engineer for our area - Josh White - on 10th August. D Warren asked J Finch to include a review of the turning right box on the A1071 into Sand Hill. It is considered too small to contain a car safely. L Wortley raised the issue of cutting the verge further along the A1071. She will report this and was thankful for the cutting so far - **Action**

**L Wortley.** D Warren agreed to report the broken crash barrier and provide a copy to J Finch - **Action D Warren.**

**DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:** District Cllr B Hurren had sent apologies and confirmed he would be attending the Planning Committee the following day for the Sand Hill development.

**APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SUB-COMMITTEES:** In view of the low numbers of Councillors attending, it was agreed to continue as before and then review at the September Meeting - **Action Clerk to add the Agenda item again.**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING:** There was an amendment to the Neighbourhood Plan following Examination. It is now progressing towards Referendum. The Plan carries significant weight at this stage.

**FINANCE:** The Bank balances as at 29th June 2022 were **£52716.66** in the Community Account, **£13403.85** in the Deposit Account and **£61353.28** in the Reserve Account making a total of **£127473.79.**

The following pre-agreed payments for June: -

<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Details</b>
Funds Tr	Suffolk County Council	1909.94	S/Lighting-power&maintenan
Funds Tr	Babergh District Council	1071.82	Bin Empty Charges
Funds Tr	Employment Costs totalled	1294.55	Salary, ERS NIC & Pension
Funds Tr	Vertas	623.41	V Green Contract
Funds Tr	M A Crighton	185.00	Cemetery Contract
Funds Tr	Mortimer Contracts Ltd	42.00	Cemetery path

The cost of producing the Neighbourhood Planning documents £1048 plus VAT was considered. D Warren proposed that the Parish Council meets these costs in full. This was seconded by L Wortley and unanimously carried - **Action Clerk to advise H Phillips.**

Progress was being made in relation to the Internal Audit as all the requested documents had been sent to the Auditor and the report was awaited before sending to the External Auditors for their review.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the Meeting. All matters were noted.

**CEMETERY:** The lack of progress with the Heritage Approval for the Churchyard boundary wall was explained. Following earlier requests for photographs and scale plans which were provided, the Heritage Team are now asking for inspection by Structural Engineers and a Full Planning application to be submitted. It was agreed for the Chairman to liaise with our District Councillor to see if this process can be streamlined. The work relates to necessary maintenance to preserve the condition of the wall which was also confirmed by the Babergh Building Control Surveyor previously - **Action Chairman.**

In relation to the request from a neighbour to the Churchyard to have trees/bushes thinned, it was agreed to instruct Tree Surgeons to visit with our Cemetery Representative(s) to review all the trees and boundary hedging to both the Churchyard and Cemetery to recommend where timely maintenance is in order and help us to remain good neighbours to nearby residents - **Action Clerk and Cemetery Sub Committee.**

**URGENT REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS:** It was reported that fly tipping at the back of Homefield is still there despite it being reported to Babergh District Council. L Wortley confirmed the Footpath Wardens have nominated a couple of extra paths for cutting and it was agreed for them to reply directly to help build contacts at the County Council. It was noted there might be a need for an extraordinary meeting regarding the Sand Hill development depending on how the Planning Committee went the following day.

Members were reminded that next full Meeting is on Tuesday 27th September at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at **9.29 p.m.**

**Planning Meeting Held by Boxford Parish Council in Boxford Village Hall and by Video Conferencing on Tuesday 26th July 2022**

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

A) Non material amendment was approved in relation to slightly higher roof levels at Simbo's Gun Dogs and Grooming, Stone Street - **DC/22/03017**.

B) Planning Permission was granted for storage shed and garage at Kiln Place, Cox Hill, Boxford - **DC/22/02765**.

**The following applications were discussed: -**

1) The Parish Council and our Parish Tree Warden had No Objections between meetings to the notification of works to Conservation Area trees at 4 The Causeway - **DC/22/03327**.

2) The Parish Council and our Parish Tree Warden had No Objections between meetings to the notification of works to Conservation Area trees at Mill House, 3 Church Street - **DC/22/03275**.

3) Application for garage with 8 roof mounted solar panels at The Bungalow, Roylands Lane - **DC/22/03068**.

The Parish Council had No Objections providing the Planning Officer was satisfied there were no loss of amenity caused to neighbouring residents.

4) Any other urgent planning matters: Planning Committee for Sand Hill. L Wortley would speak the following day on behalf of the Parish Council and B Hurren as the District Councillor. The Chairman has been keeping our Solicitors informed in case we need to call upon their services again.