

Poslingford Parish Council



Minutes of Poslingford Parish Council Meeting

Date 3 September 2024 18:30

Meeting held at Stansfield Village Hall

Attendees: Parish Councillors Martin England, Marc Allison, June Mansfield, Kathy Priestley, Rachel Stebbings and Annie Jones.

County Councillor: Bobby Bennett.

No parishioners were present nor district councillors.

Parish Council Meeting

Welcome and apologies for absence. The Chair welcomed councillors to the meeting.

Apologies: Due to illness the Clerk (Chris Turner) was unable to attend.

The meeting was then closed for County and District Councillor reports and comments from the Parishioners.

1. County councillor Bobby Bennett gave a short summary of her report which can be found on the Parish Council website. These included some successes for Trading Standards and a reaction to the recent Ofsted report on Suffolk's safeguarding standards.

The issue of flooding in Poslingford (Agenda Item 11) was brought up. Whilst the council can offer an assessment of flood risk and suggest possible mitigation, Poslingford would not be a priority case. County Councillor Bennett also shared a recent document outlining the 'Right and Responsibilities' of landowners. This may help identify who is responsible for the maintenance of ditches and other waterways. Councillors England and Allison will draft a response to the parishioner who contacted us about the flooding

County Councillor Bennett was asked about the availability of locality monies to help fund our speed signage (Agenda Item 6). Some monies would be available, but an application was needed soon. The Parish Council also needs to supply County Councillor Bennett with the proposed locations of the new signage (one near to Hillside entrance and the other near to Poslingford Hall Farms so that the approval process can start.

Meeting reopened for Parish Council Meeting

Councillors confirmed that they had no pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in items on the agenda.

2. Minutes of our last meeting held on 12 June 2024. The corrected version of the minutes was accepted as a true and fair record of the meeting. The minutes were approved and seconded by Councillors Mansfield and Priestley, respectively. Copies were signed by the Chair.
3. Matter Arising. There were no matters arising from the minutes that were not discussed elsewhere in the meeting.
4. Financial Report. Due to the absence of the Parish Clerk, it was not possible to discuss our Auditors AGAR report. Furthermore, due to a small discrepancy in the statement of the current financial position, this could not be agreed by the Parish Council. Councillor Jones also pointed out a potential problem with our Lloyds business account. The Clerk will attend to these issues as soon as possible. Upcoming payments will include the Audit Fee, the Clerk's wages, PAYE and incidental costs, ECOMOW and the costs from the village barbeque.
5. Councillors Comments. Councillor Stebbings raised concerns about the overgrown verge near 'Spindlewood' this was forcing cars to be parked in a way that impeded an already narrow road. Councillor Jones also mentioned that the verge on Clare Road (near the Armco barrier) was overgrown and was restricting visibility on the bend. We are unsure whose responsibility it is to maintain these verges and we have requested the Clerk to find out.
6. Traffic Issues/Speedwatch- This was discussed earlier in the meeting when the County Councillor was present.
7. Grass cutting and ground maintenance. It was agreed that the current contractor is making a good job of maintaining the Churchyard, Cemetery, Triangle and Footpath. A resident has commented on the improvement in the area around the war memorial. Councillor Allison is seeking quotes for a marker for the cemetery (now officially designated "St Mary's Churchyard Extension").
8. Overhanging Trees in the Churchyard. Councillor Allison has been liaising with the Parochial Parish Council (PPC) about this. Subject to funding from the diocese, the trees on the southern boundary will have their crowns lifted by 2 to 3 m. Councillor Allison is currently seeking quotations from tree surgeons.
9. Dog waste bag dispensers. The dispensers in the Churchyard and at Hillside are no longer serviceable. It was decided to delay replacement until a need was demonstrated.
10. Website domain purchase and change of emails to .gov.uk extensions. The clerk is to contact OneSuffolk (our service provider) to action this. There was agreement in meeting that a move away from personal e-mail to .gov.uk emails would be preferable.
11. Correspondence re flooding. Aspects of this was discussed earlier in the meeting when the County Councillor was in attendance. Drains have recently been cleaned in the village but two were missed (The Street near to Spindlewood and The Cottage and New House Lane near to New House Cottage). One drain (near Conifer Cottage) was cleared but is now full of gravel and need to be redone. The Parish Clerk will follow this up.
12. Any Other Business. The absence of any signage for the defibrillator was raised. Councillor England has investigated this before, but options are expensive. Councillor Jones suggested a local company that may be much cheaper. It was noted that work is about to commence on resurfacing the road at Hillside.

Meeting Closed at 8pm

Date of next meeting 4th December 2024. Further meetings to be scheduled

C Turner, Clerk to Poslingford Parish Council

Accounts of Poslingford Parish Council as of 31 August 2024

Lloyds Bank current account on 12 June 2024	£10994.94
Income for period 12 June 2024 to 31 August 2024	£0.00
TOTAL Income in period	£0.00
Payments for period 12 June 2024 to 31 August 2024	
27 June 24 Grass cutting Martin Savine (ECOMOW) 1 st Instalment	£462.50
27 June 24 HRMC PAYE on Clerks Wages to 30 June 2024	£65.40
27 June 24 Clerks wages to 30 June 2024	£282.20
27 June 24 Re-imburement to Clerk for new account book	£17.89
TOTAL Payments in period	£827.99
Lloyds Bank current account on 31 August 2024	£10166.95
Payments Due in Current Quarter	
ECOMOW 2 nd Instalment	
HMRC Clerks Wages PAYE to 30 September 2024	
Clerks Wage to 30 September 2024	
SALC Fee for Internal Audit	£144.00
BBQ Expenses (Reimbursement to M A England	
OneSuffolk https upgrade	