



Minutes of Suffield Parish Council Meeting held on 7th July 2020 at the Grain Store
Marsham

Present

Cllr Patrick Mutimer - Chairman
Cllr Jack Almey
Cllr Louisa Ingles
Cllr Helen Almey
Cllr Caroline Brett
Cllr David Hawkins
Cllr Morag Neld

Clerk Wendy Murphy

2 Member of the public

1 To accept apologies for absence. None received

2 To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations
None received

3 To approve the minutes of the Suffield Parish Meeting 28th January 2020
– No meeting held until July due to Covid 19
It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting held

4 To discuss matters arising
None arising

5 Reports from County and District Councillor's
None received.

6 Financial Matters

- a).** To note the balance on the bank account 6th July 2020 £8915.41
To authorise cheque payments to the following: -Indigo Waste £39.60, Helen Almey £12.00, Clerk Wages and Expenses £231.00, Village Hall £255.00, Came & Company £355.94, Suffield Church £100.00 Mo Anderson Dungar £35.00
- b).** The AGAR Exemption certificate 2019/2020 was signed
- c).** The accounting statement for year ending 31st March 2020 was approved and signed

7 To adjourn the meeting to allow for public participation

2 Members of the public wanted to discuss the Village Broadband Project it was agreed that as this was on the Agenda it could be discussed then.

8 Village Broadband Project

2 Members of the public gave information on current broadband speeds and after investigation had discovered that there was nothing in the pipeline to have faster broadband installed. Open Reach have given a quote £37,243.00 for a voucher scheme and this equates to £1,500 per household as 19 houses and 3 Businesses have already confirmed that they would sign up to this scheme. This is a legal entity as a whole contract and not per household and the contract will last until the work is finished. The group asked if the Parish council will be the governing body for this and the only liability to the council will be if a household does not sign up to a 12 month package once finished. There is nothing to be paid up front and the faster broadband must be installed with 1 year. If somebody was to sell their house before or during installation the obligation to the purchaser is that they take out a 12 month faster Broadband contract. The Parish council would have to sign the contract. This was proposed by Cllr Mutimer and 2nd by Cllr Hawkins and all in favour.

9 Covid 19 and to adopt Policies

The Clerk has applied for and received a Norfolk Community grant for £1k to help towards the costs incurred – This can be used to purchase food and petrol costs for collecting prescriptions and food for people who are shielding – 2 policies were adopted and signed at the meeting Safeguarding Policy and Equality and Diversity Policy

10 Footpaths/Highways

Stuart Wright has been approached to make the footpath that borders his land passable and he has assured the councillor that this will be sorted.

The Drain Hole has been reported to Highways.

11 Suffield Charities

The Parish council nominated 2 Councillors to be on the board, Cllr David Hawkins and Cllr Morag Neld. This was proposed by Cllr Caroline Brett and 2nd Cllr Helen Almey, all in favour.

12 First Aid Course

To be carried forward – due to Covid 19

13. Tree Planting Scheme

The Parish Council do not own any land so would not be able to take part in the tree planting scheme.

12. To Note items for information/future Agenda

It was noted that during lockdown councillors had noticed a lot more Lorries coming through the village and as in Bradfield and Trunch asked if the Highways could be approached to see if quieter lane signs could be adopted – The Clerk will look into this and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting

13th October 2020 at 7.30 PM Suffield Village Hall

Meeting closed 20.30