

Boyton Parish Council Minutes

24 January 2023 at 7 p.m. at Boyton Church Hall



Minute Ref		Action
24.01.23.5	Proposed Village Street Pick - B/H weekend//Monday 8 May for community coronation event	Clerk
24.01.23.5	Scots pine hanging branch in back of hall grounds - to investigate and/or contact UK Power Networks.	IJ/AG
24.01.23.5	to explore village communication groups for Crime and Prevention - volunteers needed	All
24.01.23.6	to circulate examples of similar church hall lease schemes	RJ
24.01.23.9	Submit Precept request by 28 January	Clerk

Payments authorised to be paid

07.10.22	CAS Website	£60.00
20.09.22	R V Cooke Inv 842 (concrete base)	£89.25
07.10.22	Clerks Salary (2nd quarter)	£439.92
26.10.22	Community Heartbeat Inv 14228 (replacement bulb in kiosk)	£102.00
07.10.22	Sheds Direct (Moduline) Qu-12255 (50% deposit)	£2,475.00
07.10.22	SALC Provision of 6 months Payroll Inv 26444	£22.80
04.01.23	Clerks Salary (3rd quarter)	£439.92
04.01.23	CAS Business Services - additional insurance premium	£40.97
04.01.23	SCC Inv 9524711 QL's contribution	£100.00
09.01.23	Boyton VH hire Inv 100 (Aug)	£15.00
23.01.23	R V Cooke Inv 864 (noticeboard improvements)	£132.88

Attendance

Chair Iain Johnston (IJ), Vice Chair Andrew Cassy (AC), Richard Jesty (RJ), Andrew Greenwell (AG), Mark Pryor (MP), ES District Cllr Mallinder, Clerk Jenny Lloyd, 5 members of the public

	It was noted that the previous meeting scheduled for 8 November could not take place due to lack of quorum
1.	Apologies SCC Cllr Reid
2.	To receive any Declarations of Interest and any Applications for Dispensation on Agenda items RJ - VHMC Item 6, AC - QL's Item 8

3.	<p>Current Vacancies and Co-option of Parish Councillor</p> <p>BPC received the resignation from Jane Morter at the beginning of the year due to her work commitments. BPC would like to thank Jane for her contribution during her time as a Councillor.</p> <p>Mark Pryor introduced himself to the PC and is interested in joining the Council. Proposed by AG, seconded by IJ and agreed by all. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by MP and witnessed. Privacy statement, information and ROI to be sent to MP.</p> <p>One Councillor vacancy currently remains. Co-option information and application can be found here Boyton Parish Council Co-option or please contact boytonpc@gmail.com if you are interested in joining the PC.</p>
4.	<p>Reports received</p> <p>SCC Cllr Reid and ESC Cllr Mallinder's Reports were distributed and uploaded to website Full Reports here. No comments were raised on SCC newsletter.</p> <p>ESC District Mallinder summarised his report and in light of the Elections in May, reflected on the enabling community grants and projects he has supported with the Deben Ward PC's in the last 4 years in office. JM has been working with a big property development in Eyke for 65 houses. Highways are involved with the additional traffic concerns being raised.</p> <p>A new project called Bloom will be released at the end of February, to encourage local communities to subscribe to flowering bulbs provided by NORSE - to be distributed in September for planting in communal areas to support early pollinators which emerge after winter.</p> <p>JM has been working on a project for disposal of small metal and electrical items, x2 mobile units will make it easier for households to dispose of these items, rather than to put them in the general bin.</p> <p>Query raised regarding ID for elections has been sent to all PC's for local newsletters - a national campaign will be on tv, distributed online and in the East magazine in March and included in the Council tax information. Postal votes remain the same - please remind friends and colleagues that ID is needed.</p> <p>Discussion followed on the environment regarding quality of water and effluent releases on the Deben River and across the country - in terms of the number of people prosecuted. Woodbridge Town Council found high nitrate levels from sewerage. The Victorian system cannot cope with high levels of rainwater.. Birdlife and particularly swans are also big contributors to the nitrate levels. The water is tested by the Environment Agency. Privatisation of Water Companies - assets being sold off - has not helped with investment and upgrading of systems.. Discussion followed on Eyke development and sewerage system in Melton, and subsidy opportunities for farming to reduce chemical levels.</p>
5	<p>Public Session</p> <p>Fly tipping was discussed and to let JM know of any regular issues or patterns. It was noted that collection was efficient - used lorry tyres were reported and collected within a couple of days. It was mentioned that some CCTV has been installed on the outskirts of the forest. Also that the amount of general rubbish is more apparent in the current season on verges - difficult to collect on busy roads without closing. JM mentioned PC's to encourage a community event or litter pick on Bank Holiday Monday for the Kings Coronation. Thank you to all to the local residents that regularly litter pick.</p> <p>Query raised on energy situation - how things are looking re approach for Suffolk and Norfolk combined having energy gateway at Sizewell and Offshore. ESC has little influence on nationally led projects, however JM would like to see more focus on planning legislation, and robust guides to energy efficiency . Grants are available and more information on the Greenprint forum</p> <p>A free thermal imaging survey is being carried out on local properties by Hollesley Parish Council - contact hollesleyparishclerk@gmail.com if you would like your property to be included.</p> <p>JM would like to hear from any residents who are struggling with food and heating.</p> <p>A query was raised regarding local crime - JM is not aware of an increase. It was mentioned that 3 police cars were out within 30 minutes of reporting of the recent intruder alarm incident in Boyton. Farms are targeted especially for equipment and fuel. Action to explore communication (WhatsApp) for the village to cascade information quickly - local volunteers needed. See Suffolk Police for Woodbridge area for more information.</p>

	It was mentioned that one of the branches on the Scots Pine behind the shed and hall was precariously hanging, close to overhead lines - Action IJ to investigate and/or contact UK Power Networks if necessary.
6	<p>To discuss the Church Hall</p> <p>i) AC and Clerk attended a Zoom meeting with James Hall (Birketts) and PCC on 17 November. A draft Lease from Community Action Suffolk (previously Suffolk Acre) and the Albemarle scheme was the basis for discussion. Some queries from PCC were raised i) provision for the PCC to have reasonable access to the hall ii) would it be a standard leasehold agreement for the Hall and grounds To note Solicitors costs are £265.00 per hr plus VAT - Church and BPC to iron out all queries to minimise costs if the Lease goes ahead. PCC were advised to obtain a survey report. PCC has a duty to look after their assets but can no longer manage or run the hall. If PCC decides to sell the hall, the Asset of Community Value will pause the proceedings - the cost would likely be too high for BPC to consider. The next steps to gain local support to set up a Charity Committee to take on the future management. BPC discussed the risks involved regarding a Repairs and Maintenance Lease. The query was raised on upkeep costs and income, and possible division of proceeds from the fete - BPC will need audited accounts. Encouragement for the future use of the hall was discussed - It was mentioned that Duke of Edinburgh may use it regularly. Action RJ to circulate examples of similar situations and how they managed the finances. It was noted the hall is a designated emergency centre.</p> <p>ii) purchase and installation of a new shed on the hall grounds - purchase was agreed and payment of 50% authorised. Planning consent is needed. The shed would be BPC asset along with marquees - for further discussion</p> <p>iii) PCC own the play equipment on the hall grounds - BPC to note future costs for ROSPA - currently £84.00 plus VAT - for further discussion.</p>
7.	<p>To review and agree previous minutes 23 August 2022</p> <p>- Village sign - The Village Sign People (original installers) quoted £1,904.00 for total clean and paint. After some discussion it was agreed to be expensive - revisit when the weather gets warmer and propose our own working party. For further discussion.</p> <p>- the Insurance premium has increased by £40.97 to cover BPC new assets. Agreed and signed - to be uploaded to the website.</p>
8.	<p>Update on Quiet Lanes</p> <p>AC updated the PC that signage delivery to Highways is awaited. The Self Help Agreement has been sent to SCC and will enable collection of the signs for installation - when signs are up then the lanes are legally enforced. The final wave of 49 lanes will be published in East Anglia. The Invoice for £100 (x2 lanes at £50.00 contribution) has been authorised and paid. AC has received more enquiries about using the data for walking apps and sat navs - the project is going really well with regards to road safety and awareness for drivers. Thanks expressed to AC. Well done, a great legacy and a credit to the community - from JM</p>
9.	<p>To discuss PC budget and agree precept amount for 2023/24</p> <p>A draft budget was discussed - noting the £10,000 business grant and purchases separately. As there are no future projects planned at this time, it was agreed that, with reserves currently held, to keep the precept amount the same. Action Clerk to submit Precept request at £4,120.00.</p>
10	<p>Communications received</p> <p>- to note Precept Police Survey: proposal to increase the policing precept by 6% - completion by 26 January as emailed to Boyton village electronic distribution</p> <p>- Free Household Energy Advice</p> <p>Groundwork East are offering free impartial advice to householders - either call on 01473 350370 or complete the home audit checklist here: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SuffolkHomeEnergyAudit</p> <p>Suffolk Climate Change Partnership are also supporting and promoting this via: https://www.greensuffolk.org/low-impact-energy/</p>

	- Voter ID for Elections will apply for the first time at the local elections taking place on Thursday 4 May 2023. Postal votes will remain the same. The following web resource Voter ID - Partner Pack (electoralcommission.org.uk) provides a wide-ranging pack of information. - as discussed in Item 4
11	Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To approve payments made and to be authorised since last meeting - as above b) To note any payments received since last meeting - none received c) To agree accounts as at 24/01/2023 - agreed and signed - to be uploaded to Finance on website
12	Meetings to note A & O meeting on 26 January Date of next PC meeting - scheduled 21 March 2023 - requested to move to Tuesday 28 March. All agreed.
Minutes agreed	
Signed (Chair) Date	