

LAYHAM PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7.30pm on
Wednesday 28 July 2021 in the Village Hall

Present: Charlotte Britton (CB)
Graham Coleman (GC)
Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC)
David Pratt (DP)
Sheila Roberts (SR)
Michael Woods - (MW)

In attendance: John Ward, Babergh DC (JW)

Apologies: John Curran (JDC)
Georgia Hall, Suffolk CC (GC)

21.7.1 APOLOGIES

See above. Apologies were accepted from JDC.

21.7.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21.7.3 PUBLIC FORUM

No parishioners were present.

21.7.4 ADJOURNMENT TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

21.7.4.1 District Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. Babergh's July meeting would be held at Wherstead Park on 29 July, which was large enough to allow social distancing. The Joint Local Plan hearings would resume in September, with Stage 2 hearings being held in mid-autumn as originally planned. Councillors had agreed funding for a new, more energy-efficient pool water cleaning system at the Kingfisher Leisure Centre in Sudbury; if this proved successful in reducing annual carbon emissions, it would be rolled out to Hadleigh. Commenting on the Babergh and Mid Suffolk biodiversity and climate change plans, MW cautioned against planting too many trees without careful consideration to ensure the right species were planted in the appropriate places; JW said the councils were working with colleagues across the county. Both MW and SR had been involved in the hedgerow survey carried out between 1998 and 2012 and suggested it could be useful to re-visit this. With reference to the Locality Awards funding to enable communities to improve facilities, MW asked whether funding could be used to employ a contractor to deal with the pavement between Upper Layham and Hadleigh; JW would suggest to SCC that the district and county could work together to reach a permanent solution. MW would forward a photograph showing the difficulties encountered by a parishioner using a mobility scooter.

21.7.4.2 County Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. With regard to the report that a team of experts from Lincolnshire was to carry out an independent review into SEND provision in Suffolk, DP wondered whether Suffolk was being charged for this work; JC would ask the question.

21.7.5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by DP, seconded by MW and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30 June 2021 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

21.7.6 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Most of the actions were either ongoing or were on the agenda. There were updates on the following:

21.7.6.1 Dog refuse bins

JC had asked Babergh whether the bins could be emptied more frequently; however, this was not possible due to limited resources. It was agreed to continue to monitor the situation to see whether an additional bin was needed in the village.

21.7.7 FINANCIAL MATTERS

21.7.7.1 RFO's report

It was proposed by GC, seconded by DP and agreed unanimously that the finance report for 28 July 2021 should be approved and payments of £462.25 were authorised.

21.7.8 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

21.7.8.1 Speeding

JDC's report was noted. He wished to record his thanks to Bill Paton, an active member of the working group, who had now moved away from the village. GC volunteered to join the working Group and said he was happy to take delivery of the SID devices now that the posts were in place. Once the devices were up and running, it was agreed that there should be an official 'launch'.

21.7.8.2 Quiet Lanes

The update from the working group was noted. Highways were currently completing their responses to Wave 2 and would announce their decisions very soon.

21.7.8.3 Playing Field

MW's report was noted. Councillors expressed disappointment that the play equipment provided for children and families to use had been vandalised for the second time. CB said she would look into what measures could be taken to combat antisocial behaviour.

21.7.9 CO-OPTION

Following Bill Paton's resignation, the Notice of Casual Vacancy had been displayed for the requisite 14 working days, during which time 10 electors could call for an election. This had not happened, and the PC was now able to proceed with the co-option process. It was agreed that JC would draft a flyer inviting applications, which would be delivered to all households.

21.7.10 PLANNING

21.7.10.1 DC/21/02930 - Dorian, Stoke Road

It was noted that permission had been granted for the erection of a cart lodge with domestic annex accommodation.

21.7.11 CORRESPONDENCE

JC would circulate the letter received from County Broadband, based in Essex, who were keen to bring a new type of broadband network to villages in Suffolk.

21.7.12 CLERK'S REPORT ON URGENT DECISIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

None.

21.7.13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.30pm on Wednesday 25 August 2021, in the Village Hall.

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