

LAYHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7.30pm on
Wednesday 25 October 2023 in the Village Hall

Present: Gillie Cranfield (GC)
Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC)
John Curran - Vice Chairman (JDC)
Sue Keeble (SK)
Steve Laing - Chairman (SL)

In attendance : Georgia Hall, Suffolk CC (GC)
John Ward, Babergh DC (JW)

Apologies: Will Dunn (WD)
Sheila Roberts (SR)
Julie Thickpenny

23.10.1 APOLOGIES

See above - apologies were accepted from WD,SK and JT.

23.10.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

SK declared an interest in item 23.10.7.2, as a member of the Village Hall Committee.

23.10.3 PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public were present.

23.10.4 ADJOURNMENT TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

23.10.4.1 District Council reports

Written reports for September and October had been circulated prior to the meeting, copies of which are filed with these minutes. SK said the data on housing, environment, health and the local economy was useful. SL gave JW a list of questions raised by WD relating to CIFCO, Babergh's commercial property arm; JW would respond to these at the November meeting. In response to a question from SL, JW confirmed that CIL money was received and distributed every six months. He would find out more about the new round of business grants. Councillors were pleased to note that the giving of live animals as prizes would be banned on land owned by Babergh and Mid Suffolk DCs.

23.10.4.2 County Council report

Written reports for September and October had been circulated prior to the meeting, copies of which are filed with these minutes. With regard to the footbridge between Upper and Lower Layham, GH noted the concerns raised by JC and agreed that the Environment Agency and SCC should be working more closely together. She would see whether she could fund a new Lower Layham sign to replace the damaged one on Layham Road. Work to address the blocked drains in Overbury Hall Road was due to take place in November.

23.10.5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by JDC, seconded by SK and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27 September 2023 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

23.10.6 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

23.10.6.1 Planning

JW would chase responses from the planning department to the queries JC had raised with regard to The Granary and Rectory Cottage.

23.10.7 FINANCIAL MATTERS

23.10.7.1 RFO's report

It was proposed by SL, seconded by JDC and agreed unanimously that the finance report for 25 October 2023 should be approved and payments of £1,864.81 were authorised.

23.10.7.2 Grant requests from village organisations

The requests for grants from the Village Hall, Playing Field and PCC were noted; these would be discussed in detail by the budget & precept working party (*see below*).

23.10.7.3 Budget & Precept working party

This would comprise JDC, SK, GC and JC; JC would circulate some possible meeting dates and provide background information to aid the discussion. The working party would bring recommendations to the November meeting.

23.10.8 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

23.10.8.1 Autumn Tidy Up

This had been a useful and productive morning; SR's report was noted.

23.10.8.2 Village Signs

SK's update was noted.

23.10.8.3 Speeding and traffic calming

The working party reported on a useful site meeting with SCC on 23 October and would bring recommendations to the November meeting.

23.10.9 PLANNING

23.10.9.1 DC/22/06309 - Anglian Water Services Bury to Colchester pipeline

It was noted that permission had been granted.

23.10.10 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It was agreed to defer this item to the November meeting.

23.10.11 COUNCIL TRAINING

The two sessions for full council had been very useful and informative.

23.10.12 CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

None.

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

None.

23.10.14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.30pm on Wednesday 29 November 2023, in the Village Hall.

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