

MINUTES OF THE ONEHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 12 JULY 2021 AT 7.30 P.M. IN TRINITY HALL

Present: Cllrs Willshere (Chair), Taylor, Nutman, Corker, Copping, Cook and 5 members of the public.

**1. Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Crissell.

**2. To confirm the minutes of the meetings 14 June 2021.**

The minutes were approved and signed.

**3. To receive members Declarations of Interest on agenda items.**

Cllr Nutman declared a pecuniary interest in the planning application for North Wing, Onehouse Hall and signed the interest book.

**4. Public comment.**

Mr Taylor has been contacted by a resident advising that another resident has been cutting the grass splayed at the junction and a stone has flown up and broken their window, he has been doing this for many years without incident to keep the village looking tidy. The resident has asked if the Parish Council can help pay to replace the window.

A resident asked if the Parish Council could keep one of the mowers used at the Paupers Graves in the village so residents can use it to keep grass area cut as SCC are not cutting regularly enough.

**5. Report from County Cllr Otton.**

The council has started to hold in person meetings but with social distancing and strict COVID rules in the council offices. The first Education Scrutiny meeting took place last week and Cllr Otton asked that the home to school transport policy is first on the agenda: also to receive the report from the independent review of the service for children with special needs. The council has joined with a new company; Bouygues Energies & Service to update the LED street lights across the county, to reduce light pollution and decrease energy use. There are issues with verge cutting at the moment, the schedule is available online, but if there are areas of extreme danger please report them. Along with John Matthissen Cllr Otton is trying to arrange a meeting with SCC and Environment agency to consider the flooding problems around the junction of Combs Lane and Lower Road. Cllr Corker asked Cllr Otton regarding the recent report in the EADT of £1m grant to Cllrs for local roads although it is not for potholes. Cllr Otton advised each County Council has a small works budget which they can use for things such as white H lines where parking is an issue, helping disabled driver with a drop kerb etc.

**6 Report from District Cllr Matthissen**

Cllr Matthissen has had a meeting with the county's floods manager and also representatives of the environment agency. It was agreed that road closures were becoming more of a problem and climate change meant this was bound to get worse. They reviewed the existing infrastructure for controlling the flow, where there was little scope to increase their height and storage capacity. Natural flood control measures are now taken increasingly seriously as way of holding back water. Discussing funding they considered Community

Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for which flood control measures are eligible. Of particular significance is the Government's money available for environmental improvements as natural flood controls frequently bring environmental benefits as well. Parishes are asked to look at areas highlighted on environment agency maps as locations of standing water and suggest which had potential to be developed. Cllr Matthissen has been involved in a submission for the whole of Suffolk which seeks to keep most of Mid Suffolk within a single constituency rather than being divided between three Constituencies in the parliamentary boundary review. Cllr Matthissen has been pursuing the longstanding need for additional health facilities for the Stowmarket area, with the Diaper Farm development affording an opportunity for a GP surgery and NHS dentist in a suitable location. MSDC property company is not doing very well at the moment and has not only recorded losses which have now reached over £12 million but has a cash flow problem and is asking Babergh and Mid Suffolk to defer payments due of £1.5 million pounds over the next 3 years. The recycling and waste service has suffered from a fire, a road traffic accident and a high level of absence. Recent rain has accelerated plant growth and this too has meant more journeys emptying the brown bins. The impact of this has varied from round to round, and extra shifts were worked last weekend to try and catch up. Cllr Matthissen has asked that the council is more proactive in telling the public why the service is not up to standard.

## 7. Planning Matters

a) To discuss and make recommendation to MSDC on any applications received prior to this meeting

**21/03517** Erection of two storey extension and installation of cladding to the existing first floor rear extension. 3 Wash Lane – support

**21/03803** Application for Listed Building Consent - Works to create an en-suite bathroom to bedroom. North Wing At Onehouse Hall, Lower Road - support

b) To receive MSDC decisions on previously considered applications.

There were none.

c) Report on the meeting with James Bailey and Taylor Wimpey regarding phase 2C of Northfield View development

Phase 2C brings the development to the bend. The bus exit will be constructed but the bus route and operator has still to be decided so we don't know whether buses will enter or exit here. The planning application will be submitted later this year and construction likely to start in 2022. We have asked for landscaping to commence at the early stages and that construction traffic accesses the site through the development. There is to be a review of sports and leisure provision by MSDC and OPC has asked for further details and to be involved in the consultation as this could affect the sports area of the development.

## 8. To receive reports

a) Report from the Clerk

**Fingerpost plaques** – the Clerk has contacted SCC for further details but there isn't any detail of size, design or how many in Onehouse at this time.

**Grass cutting map** – the Clerk has contacted MSDC for copy of the map of areas they cut in the village but there has been no response to date.

b) Report from Mr Row, OPC Handyman.

The speed indicator sign is now in situ and will be move between sites on a 3-4 week basis. Lots of vegetation and grass areas have been cut.

## 9. Finances

To approve payment of the following invoices:

- a)21/022 £75.00 R W Palmer playing field grass cutting June
- b)21/023 £52.38 Mr D Nicholson fence post and wood for Pauper's Graves's bench
- c)21/024 £13.38 Mr A Row expenses June
- d)21/025£364.72 Gipping Press June OHSMag
- e)21/026 £30.00 SALC training Cllr Copping
- f)21/027 £15.30 Mrs P Fuller expenses April-June
- g)21/028 £330.20 HMRC Tax April-June
- h)21/029 £150.16 Suffolk County Council pension payment to be sent off 5 August

Items a) – h) were approved and cheques issued

Payments by Standing Order £410.07 Mrs Fuller salary June, £70.87 Mr Row salary June.

i)to receive monthly financial report from the Clerk

The balance of the community account at the end of June was £36,656.57. Less this month's cheques totalling £1,031.14 and adjustments of £39.59 for insurance and £198.00 for adverts the corrected figure is £35,467.02.

## 10. Highways

a) To receive an update on additional sites for speed reduction signs and take any necessary action.

The Clerk has located the form required to be completed. New letters will need to be sent to nearby residents to consult on the location change. Cllr Copping will assist with photographing the location and checking the grid references.

*Action: the Clerk/Cllr Copping.*

## 11. To receive an update on the judicial review regarding development of land south of Union Road.

Paperwork has been served and MSDC and Endurance Estates as an interested party have lodged their response. We now await the decision of the judge whether our application is successful.

## 12. To consider purchasing a Scribe accounts package and take any necessary action.

The Clerk feels it would be beneficial to have this package as Cllrs would be able to have read only access and view all transactions against budget at any time. Further information will be circulated to Cllrs before discussing further at the September meeting.

*Action: the Clerk*

## 13. To consider changing to online banking and take any necessary action

The pandemic and difficulty of meeting and getting cheques signed has highlighted the need to look into online banking. The Clerk would set up payments and it would still require two councillors to authorise payments. The Clerk was asked to find out if Barclays charge for us to use online banking and discuss the efficiency with other Clerks.

*Action: the Clerk*

#### **14. Environmental Issues**

a) To consider tree, hedge and wildflower planting in the parish and take any necessary action.

Cllrs feel there are sufficient areas of hedging and trees and since SCC only cut the verges once a year there is sufficient wildflower areas around the verges, fields and in the woods.

b) To discuss grass cutting in the parish and take any necessary action.

With the number of complaints received recently it is clear that most residents wish the grass areas in the residential areas to be cut and kept tidy. The amenity areas of land are owned by SCC and it is therefore its responsibility but they do have a Self Help scheme where local councils can apply to SCC to take on some of the maintenance work themselves. Cllr Willshire has assessed that the Ranger application would allow Mr Row as an employee of OPC to carry out work and possibly volunteers as well. She will go back to SCC for templates of their risk assessment forms which would have to be completed before SCC will complete any agreement with the parish

With regard to the request from a resident that OPC helps pay for the broken window caused by someone cutting the amenity grass. Two quotes have been received for £480.00 including VAT and £289.00 not known if VAT is additional or not. Cllr Taylor proposed that OPC pay for a new window, this was seconded by Cllr Corker. A vote was taken and with 2 votes in favour and 4 against the motion failed. Cllr Willshire proposed that a contribution is made towards the cost as a gesture of good will. This was seconded by Cllr Nutman and carried by a vote of 5 for 1 against. Cllr Willshire proposed the sum of £200.00 which was seconded by Cllr Copping. This was taken to a vote and with 5 for and 1 against the proposal was carried. The resident will be asked to refrain from mowing amenity areas for the time being until the Self Help Scheme has been agreed with SCC. An item will also be published in OHSMag advising that if residents cut SCC areas they do so at their own risk and the OPC will not pay for any damage caused.

The Clerk was asked who is responsible for the ditch behind The Limes, it is believe to be The Limes residents but the Clerk will contact SCC Rights of Way for confirmation.

. Action: the Clerk

**15. To discuss development of land around the parish and take any necessary action.** Nothing to report.

**16. To discuss OHSMag, Onehouse website and Facebook page and take any necessary action.**

Matthew Ball has resigned as Graphic Designer for OHSMag as he moves away to start his career. Mr Raisey is happy to incorporate the graphics with his editorial duties. Matthew will still help with the website when required. Cllr Copping asked the Clerk to contact Mr Vile for any passwords for the Facebook account.

*Action: the Clerk*

**17. To receive an update on the Paupers Graves site and take any necessary action.**

The two weekly working parties continue with mowing and ditch clearing. The bench and fence have been repaired. Some of the group would like to work in the area on other days than working parties. No lone working is permitted due to insurance cover.

18. To receive **correspondence/communications** and to deal with any matters. **The following items have been circulated to Cllrs: Rural Services Network** Rural bulletin 15, 22, 29 June 6 July, Rural Funding Digest July. **Community Action Suffolk** newsletter 17 June, 1 July, VCSE support, VCSE Health and Wellbeing network, village hall events July. **Highways England** upcoming work A14 Ipswich Park and Ride signs. **SALC** upcoming events, Festival of Suffolk 2022, ebulletin 21, 28 June 5 July, training event – developing two way conversations with your community 15 July, HM Queen Elizabeth’s Platinum Jubilee 2-5 June 2022, CIL event 28 June presentation, AGM 29 July. **SCC** Trading Standards news 24 June 1, 8 July, fully funded training developing skills in health and social care. **MSDC** Council’s JLP examination to reconvene in September. **District Cllr Matthissen** Locality grants now open. **Resident** copy letter to MSDC regarding the cost of the JLP.

19. **Questions to the Chairman.** There were none.

**20. Items for next agenda**

Scribe accounts package, online banking, judicial review, Pauper’s Graves, OHSMag, website and Facebook, development around the parish.

**21. To confirm date and time of the next meeting as Monday 13 September 2021 at 7.30 p.m.** Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....