

MINUTES OF THE ONEHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.30 P.M. IN TRINITY HALL

**Present:** Cllrs Willshere (Chair), Copping, Taylor, Crissell, Nutman, Boulter and Corker.

**In attendance:** County Cllr Otton, Mrs Fuller, Clerk and 2 members of the public.

**1. Apologies for absence.** There were none.

**2. To confirm and approve the minutes of the meeting 9 January 2023.**

The minutes were approved and signed.

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

There were none.

**4. Public comment.** There was none.

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

The administration budget proposed a 3.99% increase in tax, broken down into a 2% rise in the Social Care Precept and a 1.99% increase in general tax. The Council aim to make most of its savings through increasing the number of unfunded vacancies amongst the Council's workforce. This was agreed on 9 February. At the beginning of January, the Scrutiny Committee met to discuss the Carbon Budget. This year's carbon budget shows that SCC is not on track to reach Net Zero by 2030. Current forecasts show that SCC will still be producing 10,000 tonnes of CO2 in 2030 – that's still half of what we are emitting now. SCC are planning to invest £110,000 in managing and inspecting trees and hedgerows. The money will be used to ensure that trees and hedgerows are given the best chance to thrive. Currently, the Council has planted around 50,000 trees and hedges this planting season. This comes as the latest science indicates trees can capture nearly twice the amount of carbon as previously thought. Forest Road footpath is now at stage 2 of the design work; we still are arguing about the funding and trigger point from the development. Cllr Otton was asked why the Community Governance Review was withdrawn from the MSDC meeting 26 January. She will request clarification.

**6. Report from District Cllr Matthissen**

Very unsatisfactory news that Cabinet decided to halt the electric bus project indefinitely, despite this being a decision of the full council. The empty homes figures for mid Suffolk 2022 are now available, and while not as worrying as North Norfolk, 323 are long term empty, and there are also 504 second homes. There are council staff and grants to try and bring the 323 back into use, if they know where they are. The Gateway 14 spine road connecting A1120 through the site to Mill Lane, Creeting St Peter, opened to traffic just before Christmas; landscape planting has commenced and will continue through to March 2023. Mid Suffolk District Council held a Parish Liaison Meeting on Tuesday 7 February, at The Mix in Stowmarket. Currently no increase in the Mid Suffolk Council Tax is proposed for 2023/24. This will be finalised by Council meeting later in February. Rents will need to go up to balance the Housing budget. I have now had a long discussion with the manager of Planning enforcement to explain

the issues which residents report, but are too easily 'swept under the carpet'. My attitude is clear; there must be a level playing field for all builders, businesses and residents, and those cutting corners must not take advantage. More next month on the serious cases.

## 7. Planning Matters

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

There were none

b) To receive MSDC decisions on previously considered applications.

**22/05983 & 22/05984** Erection of a single storey extension. Erection of a detached garage and log store, new gateway, reinstated footbridge, new footbridge and associated external works. Onehouse Hall, Lower Road – permission granted

**22/06376** Erection of a single storey rear extension. 4 Ash Road – permission granted.

## 8. Finances

To approve payment of the following invoices:

a) 22/059 £373.00 Gipping Press February OHSMag

b) 22/060 £105.00 Mr Raisey edit, produce and deliver February OHSMag to distributors

c) 22/061 £65.56 Mr R Taylor items for Pauper's Graves group & fuel for equipment

d) 22/062 £99.99 Mrs P Fuller Reimbursement for McAfee annual fee

e) 22/063 £545.99 Realise Futures bench for Pauper's Graves area.

f) 22/064 £500.00 Onehouse PCC grant held in reserves for Trinity Hall refurb

g) 22/065 £20.00 Onehouse, Harleston & Shelland Village Hall & Playing Field Trust Room Hire Community Centre

h) 22/066 £163.52 Suffolk County Council pension payment February to be posted 5 March

Items a) – h) + k) & l) were approved and cheques issued.

i) to receive monthly financial report from the Clerk

The balance of the Community Account at the end of January was £30,113.59.

Less this month's cheques totalling £2,237.77 and adjustments of £175.00 for insurance and £734.00 for adverts, the corrected figure is £29,421.82.

j) to discuss the format of our accounts and take any necessary action

The Clerk has had a discussion with Scribe accounts. They recommend that as our annual income and expenditure are well below the £200,000 we should produce our accounts as receipt and payment rather than income and expenditure although the accounts package can be used for either. We also have a Capital Reserve of £200.00 and recommended this is put into general reserves at the end of the financial year. These matters will be separate items on the next agenda for further discussion.

k) 22/067 £40.21 Mr D Nicholson Post, Post mix and bolts for Pauper's Graves

l) 22/068 £328.32 Starboard Systems for Scribe accounts package 2023/4

## 9. To discuss the current position regarding the extension of the footway from 22 Forest Road to Chilton Leys and take any necessary action.

There doesn't seem to be any progress. Cllr Willshere will contract Cllr Paul West, Cabinet Member to try and move the matter forward. *Action: Cllr Willshere.*

**10. Environmental issues.**

a) To discuss the Suffolk County Council self help scheme and take any necessary action.

Cllrs Willshere and Crissell still to complete the forms

*Action: Cllrs Willshere/Crissell*

b) To discuss dog litter bins around the parish and take any necessary action. MSDC and OHSMC have confirmed that a 50 litre bin can be installed outside the Community Centre. The current bin will be utilised at the garage area in Northfield Road. The Clerk will order the 50 litre bin + a pole for the bin in Northfield Road garage area.

*Action The Clerk*

**11. To receive an update on the future of the green area of the Taylor Wimpey development at Chilton Leys and take any necessary action.**

Cllr Willshere has contacted Kate Parum as she has not yet set up the meeting with Taylor Wimpey. Cllr Willshere is meeting Jo Churchill MP on site this Friday.

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

Pictures and a copy of the invoice for the new bench from Realise Futures will be sent to MSDC to support the Locality Grant received. Two loads of wood chippings have been delivered and will be spread on the paths. Fencing has been made secure near the pond.

**13. To discuss development of land around the parish and take any necessary action.**

There is much concern regarding the Local Government Review and the withdrawal for a decision at the MSDC meeting 26 January. This will be discussed further at the March meeting.

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

The next OHSMag meeting will be arranged for 21 March. More houses have been completed on the Mill Grove development and Mr Raisey will advise when copies of OHSMag need to be increased.

It was suggested that an item be published in the next OHSMag regarding the Local Governance Review.

15. To receive **correspondence/communications** and to deal with any matters. **Rural Services Network** Rural Bulletin 10, 17, 24, 31 January, 7 February. **SCC** Trading Standards news 12, 19, 29 January, 4, 9 February, LGPS active members newsletter January. **MSDC** Street Naming and Numbering Policy 2023, forthcoming half-term holiday activities, Town & Parish update February, VCFSE Resilience Fund – councils launch third sector funding ‘lifeline’, supporting people to vote in May 2023. **SALC** news bulletin 9, 12, 16, 23, 30 January, 6, 13 February, training bulletin 10, 17, 24, 31 January, 7 February, HR & Personnel matters, Area Forum 14 February, Clerk’s election briefing presentation. **Community Action Suffolk** newsletter 13 January. **EastAngliaGREEN** E.A. Green Energy Project (GREEN) project update. **Chamber UK** rescheduled levelling up the conversation – skills for the future of Suffolk 15 February. **Red Gables** sharing Stow stories – launch of Stowmarket landmarks 9 February. **Sparse** fantastic response to rural cost of living survey. **Richard Livall** Parish

diversity action plans and ecological assessments. **County Cllr Otton A14** junction 47a Haughley to 49 Tothill restructuring scheme public information sessions 26-28 January + latest update, Community Governance Review 2022 supplement for meeting 26 January.

**16. To receive reports**

a) Report from the Clerk

**Barclays Bank** – the Clerk has received a letter to advise that we must send latest business details within 15 days despite being told on 4 January 2023 to leave it until after the May elections. She will contact them to see what is going on. In the meantime, it was agreed to add Cllrs Willshire and Copping to the bank mandate.

**Coronation events** – OHSMC has advised that it has been approached by Harleston PM for a joint event. They will keep OPC informed from further meetings.

**Elections 4 May 2023** – the Clerk attended the SALC briefing. Nomination forms will be available from MSDC 16 March and all completed forms have to be taken to MSDC offices or outreach points by hand by 4pm 4 April.

**17. Questions to the Chairman**

Cllr Corker attended the OHSMC meeting 16 January where the Coronation was discussed. The Coronation will take place 6 May, street parties and organised event at Windsor 7 May and the King is hoping that people will take part in the local are big help out events on the addition Bank Holiday 8 May.

Can the Onehouse sign which was located in Union Road parish boundary be reinstated. It was removed when the Hopkins Homes development commenced. The Clerk was asked to contact SCC Highways.

**18. Items for next agenda**

Format of accounts, footpath to Chilton Leys, OHSMag website and Facebook, development around the parish, Pauper’s Graves.

**19 To confirm date and time of the next meeting as Monday 13 March 2023 at 7.30 p.m. Noted.**

The meeting closed at 8.32 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....