



East Rudham Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 15th October 2024

Parish Councillors present: Malcolm Pearson (Chairman), Tony Elburn (Vice Chairman), John Dawson, Sue Jones, Trevor Davis, Mark Tizard and Terry Hibbert. Parish Clerk
There were 4 members of the public present.

1. Welcome and to receive apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

The Chairman introduced Caroline Boyden as the new clerk and the Parish Council thanked Jodie Banks for her hard work as former clerk. The letter of offer of employment has been signed along with the Employment Contract for Caroline.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Spencer, Weeks and Morley. Apologies accepted.

2. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations

There were none.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th of September 2024

The minutes were approved without amendment and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. To report progress on items not on the agenda from the last meeting

Nothing to report

5. To hear from Borough Councillor and County Councillor, if attending

Cllr Morely's report sent via email is as follows:-

Recycling Centres – booking in advance starts for deliveries from 18 November with booking on web site or telephone customer service desk from 11th. We are concerned with fly tipping but will prosecute where we can.

I have started budget round for 25/26, discussing with assistant directors, we do not receive the Government's settlement until Christmas time but whatever the offer we will have cuts to make. We will need to cut around £4m from our expected spend to balance the budget but naturally, nobody wants to volunteer savings. We will be forced to top slice people's expenditure plans.

A public consultation is shortly to take place seeking views on our services and which are most important etc. Results may be useful in shaping the transformation we need to reduce our cost base.

Tuesday evening an event was held in Churchill Rooms, Houses of Parliament, to lobby for Internal Drainage Board costs to be paid for by the Government. A follow up with the minister has also been arranged and we then wait to hear if the Chancellor says anything in her economic statement at the end of the month or the Local Government financial settlement in December. Something has to give as the levy on our Council Tax is too much for us. £3.5m or 44% of our Council Tax take.

Please advise any people on Careline to be aware of scammers and we need, for such residents, to follow BT's plans to move telephony to the internet. Unlike the existing telephone network which has its own power, internet routers depend upon electricity from the Grid. If there are power cuts vulnerable people will be out of touch and so they need to ensure BT know of them and provide back up.

Hunstanton Soap Box Rally was another success, and some contestants came from outside the Borough. The over 50 age winners came from Hinckley. Retail and trade sales were apparently equivalent to 3 good Saturdays.

If you hear of anybody who cannot check the benefits that may be available to them, a team from our benefits unit can help. Ring 0800 731 2253 on their behalf in the first instance.

I think everybody now knows that Go Green Grants are available for up to £8K for energy efficiency, village halls etc. via Community Action Norfolk.

Notwithstanding our financial position, Fawks in the Walks bonfire night fireworks and Christmas Lights in Kings Lynn are still going ahead.

I still have £900 of my Councillor Community Grant Fund if you know of any good cause that needs a little help (need bank account).

No report from Cllr Chenery.

6. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public

Hedge cut is planned for 20th November 2024. Huge thanks to all who have worked on so hard on the cemetery and offers of help regarding the cutter which is insured for others to use. A working party is needed to move the large slap and a date for this work to be advised by Mr. Weir. The Chairman stated that the entrance was now a lot safer and the old gates to be sold.

7. To receive updates from council members

7.1 Jack's Lane Windfarm community fund – Cllr Davis advised next meeting was not yet confirmed.

7.2 SAM2 & Speeding report – Cllr Spencer emailed his report that there had been a request from Community Speedwatch "Central" to send in summary monthly data from SAM2 cameras so this can be consolidated and analysed across the county. I have agreement to send the West Rudham SAM2 data to contribute to this project.

Following up from last month, I have been in touch with Hillington about the new fixed speed camera which has been approved and funded by the Borough Council. I will contact Cllr Chenery to discuss whether the Borough could support a similar camera in the Rudhams.

SAM 2 data from the vets westbound 40mph for September 2024:

85th percentile was 43.2mph, max speed was 90mph on the 1.9.24 at 06.15 hrs, total vehicles in the period were 139,936 and the average speed was 37mph.

Maximum monthly speeds recorded:

5th July at 16.55 at the Bircham turning from King's Lynn = 70mph

8th August at 19.29 at West Rudham green coming from King's Lynn = 95mph

7.3 Helping the elderly that fall in the community project

Cllr Tizard explained the workings of the chair which can be inflated to sitting or standing positions. He suggested that we arrange for St. Johns to come and give defibrillator training and then training on the chair could follow.

A lottery grant of £5k would be sought and to include training and 2 year maintenance agreement, and outside box. To cover West Rudham, Harpley and Houghton.

7.4 To review and agree new meeting dates – to be advised.

8. Open Spaces & Highways Issues

8.1 Receive update on new bus shelter on Eye Lane

Cllr Elburn has completed the CIL paperwork and returned to the Borough Council.

9. East Rudham Cemetery & Churchyard

9.1 As discussed under item 6

9.2 Review and approve cemetery fees – Cllr Elburn has looked at what other parishes charge and we are very similar. We need to review costs and set up a small working party.

9.3 Churchyard, Cllr Pearson advised that we are responsible for the churchyard, tower and clock. He is working with the church regarding repairs including water damage from gutters. £500 was raised at the recent historical event at the church.

Access to the shed at the back is needed and we can use the back room for storage.

The School will be attending a remembrance service on the 11th of November.

10. Newsletter

Next edition deadline is on the 10th of November and it was suggested to include pictures of the cemetery, kerbing on the green, new Clerk details and notice regarding children to be supervised on the play area.

11. Financial Matters

11.1 To approve the bank reconciliation and payments/receipts for September: to not having the September statement,

The Council RESOLVED to approve the following:

Payments

Clerk	Salary (Aug)	£470.80
Sculthorpe PC	Clerk Exps (Jun-Sep)	£ 29.32
Clerk	USB Stick	£ 6.99
T Elburn	Mower Fuel	£ 23.00
K&M Lighting	Street Light Maintenance	£ 32.89
Samantha Jackson	Payroll Agent	£ 35.00
D. Weir	Grass cutting/trimming	£ 25.0

Receipts

H Brett	Cemetery Fees	£525.00
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11.2 Payments for October:

Clerk	October Salary	£257.65
HMRC	October	£ 64.40
Clerk	Expenses	£ 26.00
K & M Lighting	Street Light Maintenance	£ 39.73
BCKLWN	printing village news	£ 80.89
D. Weir	Grass cutting/trimming	£ 25.00
Clerk	2 wreaths	£ 39.98

It was agreed to change banks to Unity Trust and clerk to undertake this.

12. Planning Matters

12.1 Applications. None

12.2 Decisions - none.

13. To receive and consider any correspondence

A request has been received to clean the bus shelter by the green. However, as it is by the road a proper quote is required with the relevant insurance in place. This will be budgeted for next year.

The clerk raised the requirement for a .gov.uk email address and this was agreed.

14. Receive items for next agenda and note the date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.01pm.

Signed by Chairman:

Date: