

EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Edwardstone Parish Council held at Edwardstone Parish Hall on Monday 28 March 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present: P Baker, D Williams, S Norman, M Gibson, T Wood, P Clarke, R Jones (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for Absence** – None
2. **Councillors' Declarations of Interests in any item on this Agenda** – None
3. **Reports from Suffolk County Council and Babergh District Council**
 - 3.1 Councillor James Finch on behalf of SCC sent his apologies and submitted a report, the contents of which were noted.
 - 3.2 Councillor Bryn Hurren on behalf of BDC was unable to attend and sent his apologies.
4. **Reports and Questions from Councillors and Members of the Public** - None
5. **Minutes of the Meeting of 17th January 2022** – Approved. It was noted that the broken Chevron sign in Sherbourne Street had still not been replaced.
6. **Highway & Footpath Matters**
 - 6.1 Footpath Cutting 2022 – Garden Arbs had agreed to continue under the same terms and conditions. The Chairman to draft a revised contract to be signed for the Clerk to send. It was noted that Garden Arbs would need to provide continued evidence of insurance cover before starting any work.
 - 6.2 Footpath Leaflet – No further progress
 - 6.3 Footpath 16 – The Chairman had been in correspondence with representatives of the landowner who was asking about the possibility of installing a Kissing Gate and signage to deter cyclists from using the footpath and causing a potential danger to pedestrians. The Council raised no objection to this suggestion but felt that signage was the initially the best approach. The Chairman to write back with this response.
 - 6.4 Other Highways and Footpath Matters – Councillor's Norman and Wood both raised concerns about damage to steps on footpaths they had been walking. Both to send photographs and details to the Clerk so that the issues can formally be reported to SCC.
7. **Planning Matters:**
 - 7.1 Planning applications received – DC/22/01252 - Priory Farm, Priory Green. Application for Listed Building Consent - Part restoration works and associated landscaping works to garden wall. – No Objections

DC/22/00654 - Priory Farm, Priory Green. Householder Planning Application. Erection of two new adjoining single-storey outbuildings to include part restoration works and associated landscaping works – No Objections
 - 7.2 Planning decisions received and noted - DC/21/00412 - Edwardstone Lodge, Sherbourne Street. Discharge of Conditions Condition 3 (First Floor Partitions),

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Condition 8 (Insulation) and Condition 9 (External Vents)

7.3 Other urgent planning matters – It was reported that rumours had been circulating about a new home being built in the garden of an existing property. It was agreed that nothing could be done until a Planning Application had been made which would enable the Council to comment.

8. Neighbourhood Plan Update

159 questionnaires had been distributed with 46 replies received. The main headlines were:

Likes: Quiet, rural location. Nice footpaths. Local pub

Dislikes: Bird Scarers, Pot Holes, lack of transport, speeding vehicles, bonfires.

There were mixed views on development.

9. **Condition of Bus Shelter** – It was agreed that the Bus Shelter needed a general tidy up including re-painting. Councillor Wood suggested the Air Cadets may be interested in helping out and he agreed to contact them.

10. Financial Matters:

10.1. The Statement of Finances & Orders for Payment were approved and the cheques signed as follows:

Business Savings Account as at 28 February 2022	£2,530.50
Business Current Account as at 28 February 2022	£13,748.56* (£3,902.56)
Total	£16,279.06* (£6,433.06)

*Current Account includes balance of £9,846 towards cost of Neighbourhood Plan which is for this purpose only. Balance minus this amount in brackets.

Payments received: None

Cheque no	Amount £	Payee	Purpose
100970	£22.80	SALC	6 Months Payroll Oct 21 – Mar 22
100971	£10.00	R J Jones	Clerk's Expenses Feb – Mar 22
100972	£638.55	Compass Point	NP Consultancy Fees
100973	£720.00	Mrs E V Harrison	NP Consultancy Fees
d/d	£14.34	N Power	Electricity
100974	£49.00	M Gibson	NP Plan printing
100975	£553.96	R J Jones	Clerk's Salary Jan – Mar 22
100976	£60.60	HMRC	Tax on Clerk's Salary

10.2. Phase 2 Charitable Donations 2021/22 – The following donations were approved:

Edwardstone PCC - £300.00

Edwardstone Millenium Green Trust - £375.00

Edwardstone Parish Hall - £350.00

As the Council's new Charitable Donations Policy was being introduced for 2022/23 it was agreed to place information for local groups on how to apply in Box River News.

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- 10.3. Review of Internal Controls – The Council's internal controls were reviewed and approved although it was suggested that certain sections may not apply and should be removed. The Clerk was asked to confirm that the Council's insurance policy included a Fidelity Guarantee.
- 10.4. Banking Arrangements – It was agreed to open a Deposit Account with Unity Trust Bank as the interest rate was among the best available and to align with the Council's newly opened Current Account.
- 10.5. Other Financial Matters – Councillor Clarke reported that the Defibrillator Pads would need renewing in June and finance would be needed for this.

11. Chairman's & Clerk's reports and correspondence – None

12. Future Agenda Items – Bus Shelter

13. Date of Next Meeting – AGM Monday 16th May 2022 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.