

TRIMLEY ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 7:30PM ON MONDAY 4t DECEMBER 2023
AT THE WELCOME HALL TRIMLEY HIGH ROAD

PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

Reports from County & District Councillors, Public participation session & members questions on these items.

The meeting opened with the public open forum. The Chair welcomed County and District Councillors and two members of the public.

County Councillor Stuart Bird (SB): SB had shared his report with the Parish Council prior to the meeting.

SB is chasing up the tree replacement in Faulkeners Way.

SB explained that road sign replacement refers to road warning signs nor road name signs. SB offered to itemise the signs on behalf of the Parish Council. There has been a great result on the faded white lines being repainted at no additional cost to the Parish Council.

PC Chair David Southgate (DS) thanked Stuart for all of his efforts.

District Councillor Mike Ninnmey (MN): East Suffolk Council (ESC) has drafted a new Strategic Plan which will run through until 2028.

This includes:

- Growing a healthy economy
- Sustainable housing
- Caring for the environment
- Continuing digital transformation
- Environmental impact
- Tackling inequalities

District Councillor Lee Reeve had no formal report this month.

- LR explained the consultation around supplementary planning documents regarding a Healthy Environment – green infrastructure 10 January 2024. The planning guidelines will come out of this.
- Rural development is being considered for example; Barn conversions and farm diversification.
- The Parish Council is invited to have an input on these issues.
- LR will reshare the Dog Bin Consultation as it appears to have been overlooked. LR explained that dog bin provision is not a statutory obligation of the District Council. Where bins are provided, they must be located close to collection points.

- **Parish Councillor Colin Jacobs (CJ)** confirmed that some dog bins are awkward to get to e.g.: those at Searson's Farm.
- The consultation ends 30th January 2024.
- The consultation document for the Thomas Avenue development was withdrawn this week.
- **Parish Councillor Lynn Beal (LB) and DS** confirmed had an informal meeting with Parish Councillors from Trimley St Martin about the public open/play spaces on the developments at Reeve Lodge and Howlett Way. There has been no progress made. These two spaces are on land in Trimley St Mary whilst the housing developments are within Trimley St Martin.

Member of the Public (I)– raised his concerns regarding the Thomas Avenue / Mill Lane development construction commencing 8 January 2024. 130 weeks of construction and disruption to residents. The speaker wanted to know if the Parish Council would be inviting Matthew Homes to a meeting.

DS suggested that a separate meeting was called on a different date to the next Parish Council meeting in January 2024. The Parish Council has little power to do anything more than individuals have.

LB explained that Matthew Homes have so far been considerate and open showing goodwill. It would be good to seek confirmation whether they are using sub-contractors.

The working and delivery times are:

7:30am – 6:30pm and 09:30am -3pm.

They are being discouraged from using Faulkener's Way.

There is site manager and Parish Councillor liaison.

DS confirmed that the Parish Council are consulting Anglia Water about foul water and have agreed to buy a map.

Action: Parish Clerk to contact Matthew Homes to confirm start date and arrange a meeting.

A second Member of the Public (L) explained an unpleasant exchange with Network Rail on the telephone when the 3 x members of public were trying to drive to Norwich Airport at 4am and were thwarted by the railway level crossing gates in Cordys Lane being closed. This resulted in the three people in their 70's returning to their home in Cordy's Lane parking up their vehicle and then having to make alternative arrangements to be collected from the far side of the level crossing. They had to carry their holiday suitcases over the railway footbridge. The whole exercise caused frustration and complaint; with Network Rail refusing to compensate on any level.

The member of public's main concern was emergency services access to Cordy's Lane for vulnerable residents in the event of life emergencies or house fires or accidents. From combined memories there has been two serious health emergencies when the level crossing gates were closed.

DS suggested that the individual writes to his MP.

Parish Councillor Richard Kerry (RK) reassured the public saying that the emergency services would get through.

The Parish Meeting opened at 8pm.

1.1 The Chair David Southgate welcomed all to the meeting. DS gave thanks to the contribution from all Parish Councillors for all of their hard work through the last month.

In attendance:

David Southgate Chair (DS)
Lynn Beal Vice Chair (LB)
Colin Jacobs (CJ)
Sue Cox (SC)
Michael Richardson (MR)
Linda Knock (LK)
Co-opted Richard Kerry (RK)

Apologies were received from Bryan Frost (BF) and Tricia Goulden (TG)

1.2 There were no Members' declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests declared.

There are three Trusts and that all Parish Councillors become Trustees on election or co-option.

2. Minutes

2.1 The minutes from the Parish Council meeting of 6th November were agreed by the Parish Council and duly signed.

3. Parish Councillors Reports

3.1 LB was very proud of the Christmas event which went very well. It was a hard act to follow the previous 33 years that others had organised. The school children sang beautifully. Thanks to those who got involved and for the Neighbourhood Watch donations and the anonymous donation of the Christmas Tree purchased from Goslings. LB requested that Christmas goes on the July meeting agenda and warned that the generous donations will not be available next year so a funding will be a consideration. DS gave compliments to the organisation and building a good relationship with the school.

3.2 **Mick Richardson (MR)** – has put in a request to Anglia Water but has had no response but will keep chasing.

3.3 **Sue Cox (SC)** – attended a Police Connect meeting – all content is in the public domain.

A new model has launched:

- Right care for the right person.
- Liaising with the right people for mental health.
- New Policing Community teams with more visibility with local ownership.
SC thanked everyone for the Christmas events help; torches purchased and distributed; Welcome Hall and tree decorated and plenty of bulbs planted in the village.
Tony Allen former NW Christmas event organiser was thanked and his efforts recognised at the event. This was a massive success and there was good community engagement.

SC attended both Armistice Remembrance days.

3.4 DS thanked LB for organising the event which included a bugler and wreath laying, about 30 people attended the Saturday event at the Memorial next to Reeve Lodge. Some of the residents at Reeve Lodge have invited the Remembrance gathering to their social room next year for a warm up with a cup of tea and a cake. So very kind of them.

DS told the PC that Mel has left the café at Stennetts. It will still be opening on normal days with and offering of tea and cake.

Action: LB to create a Parish Praise for Mel, we wish her well.

DS reported minor vandalism at Stennetts a bin and a rail damaged. A journalist was in contact but failed to respond to DS message.

4. Items for discussion

4.1 Formal co-option and signing of Richard Kerry who sat with the PC from the start of tonight's meeting.

4.2 LB gave an update for the Spotlight new articles and latest dates for article submission:

January: Clothing workshop – recycling clothes from landfill.

Free workshops for the public at Trimley Welcome Hall:

- 15th January 2024 from 2pm-5pm
- 22nd January 2024 from 5-8pm

February:

- Rubbish stats update.
- White line update
- final submission date December 22nd.

*Please note LB has sent her apologies for January meeting, so please email her your news articles in good time and a reminder that it must be Parish Council news.

4.3 David Southgate (DS) had received an email about flooding in St Mary's Close. Clerk to report to Highways. The kerb is damaged. The pavement is not flooded. It is possibly owned by Flagship as an unadopted area.

SB suggested that a contact of interest regarding flooding is Steve Wilds Highways a specialist in flooding.

Action: As it's not the pavement and only the road the clerk can respond to the complainant again.

4.4 Bryan Frost (BF) will speak to his contacts regarding the signage to prevent cars engines idling at the Railway Level Crossing. Tricia Goulden has liaised with BF and Network Rail too. They will report back to them soon. Neither TG nor BF were present this evening, DS updated on their behalf.

4.5 MR – reported that if there are no prohibitive parking yellow lines up to the kerb next to a grass verge then there are no restrictions to parking. Posts or bollards have been suggested to dissuade parking on the grass especially as this can churn up the grass making it muddy and is damaging to the bulb planting too. There are by-laws preventing vehicles for sale being parked on grass verges.

RK agreed and said we should protect it ourselves.

Action: Lee Reeves to make some enquiries about ownership and possible solutions, as it is believed that the green belongs to ESC.

4.6 Faulkener's Way Play area update. DS had long telephone conversations resulting in there being a £25K allocation of funds to replace like with like to the 45-year-old play equipment. DS pushed back and this resulted in consultations being planned, then quotations and possible contribution from Trimley St Mary Parish Council. Estimated delivery tie 3rd ¼ 2024.

4.7 An update on the faded white lines in the village was reported on earlier in the meeting. CJ suggested that this item remains a standing agenda item for updates from SB.

4.8 CJ suggested that the EPC rating for the Welcome Hall is parked for the time being as more urgent works need to be undertaken including insulation, environmentally friendly heating and an electrics upgrade. All these initiatives keep the hall a viable hiring space. Carry over until next meeting as needs a lead and in TG absence.

DS said that he will chase Ian Finch electrician regarding the category D upgrade.

4.9 Due to Councillors absence the Climate Change items have been carried over until next meeting.

4.10 SC gave a Neighbourhood Watch update.

- Tree has been assembled. SC to speak to Carl or give £15 donation for removal.
- The Police Connect website pinpoints crimes to named roads. There has been 50crimes reported for Trimley St Mary this year. It was agreed to report crimes generically to

avoid identifying individual victims. The public domain link will be added for further detail as required.

- **SC** has applied for a community grant for Neighbourhood Watch for £300 to be used before end of November 2024.

4.11 – DS gave an update on behalf of TG on Safe Cycling initiative. TG has been working with Suffolk County Council. TG contacted them to ask what has happened to the cycling and walking strategy. Sadly, the response was no money = no action.

4.12 – DS thanked the clerk for the tough job that they have had for the last year. The clerk was asked to leave the room whilst the following discussion was agreed by the Parish Councillors.

The Parish Council agreed the Parish Clerks annual review and to increase the pay band to NALC pay scale point 28 from 1st January 2024 and to increase the working hours to 18 per week, predecessors worked 20 plus hours per week. There will also be a lump sum bonus paid for the additional pay for the actual hours worked back date to 1st September 2023. This arrangement will be reviewed 1st September 2024.

The Parish Clerk returned.

4 FINANCE

Current balance £163,117.74 as at 30 November 2023.

4.1 Payments made during November 2023

Clerk N Dunn 60 x hrs @paypoint 21	£780.90
HMRC Tax	£195.40
Employer National Insurance (Parish Council)	£30.12
A Halliday Litter picking	£80.00
Daniel Hunt gardening – November to be advised.	£TBC
Talk mobile SIM only account D/D	£12.93

5.3 Paid since last meeting see separate sheet.

Paid Welcome Hall Trust balance of grant for Christmas. 14/11/2023	£662.49
Christmas event / Neighbourhood Watch	£314.54
Bulb Planters and other	£72.37

6.0 PLANNING

6.11 DC/23/3987/FUL

Proposal to part change of use of one room from residential (C3) to hairdressers (E3) together with a single storey rear extension.

Paisley House, 127 High Road Trimley St Mary Felixstowe Suffolk IP11 0TR

Parish Council being pushed by East Suffolk Planning to make a comment. On going discussion.

The PC has made no comments excepting that a small salon should not impact too much on parking in the environs. The PC neither support or oppose this application.

6.12 DC/23/4274/FUL

Erection of 3-unit garage block.

33, Thurmans Lane, Trimley St Mary, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 0SR.

No comment by Parish Council to date TBC.

6.13 DC/23/4173.VOC

Variation of Conditions

68 The Josselyns, Trimley St Mary, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 0XW

No Comment by Parish Council.

6.2 East Suffolk Council Planning Decisions.

There have been no decisions this month.

7.0 Highways and Footpaths

CJ commented on the blocked drain under the A14, as flooded again.

8.0 Items to be carried forward to the next meeting Monday 8th January 2024 7:30PM

- Safe Cycling
- Climate Change update
- Pedestrian Crossing

Happy Christmas to everyone
And all the very best for 2024
from Trimley St Mary Parish Council

The meeting was closed at 08.57PM.

Signed by Chair:

Date:

Future meetings:

Monday 8th January 2024

Monday 5th February 2024

Monday 4th March 2024

Monday 13th May 2024

Monday 8th April 2024

Monday 3rd June 2024

Monday 1st July 2024

No meeting August 2024

Monday 2nd September 2024

Monday 7th October 2024

Monday 4th November 2024

Monday 2nd December 2024