

Roydon Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Roydon, on Monday 30th October 2023 at 7.15pm

Councillors Present – Trevor Ault (Chair), Angela Brown, Elizabeth Taylor
Paul Curson, Andrew Daniels, Jane Jennifer, Pam Murton, Keith Best

Not in attendance – Stephen Finch

In Attendance – Emma Chandler (Parish Clerk)

Public – County Councillor Keith Kiddie, District Councillor Graham Minshall and 6 members of the public

1. Welcome

Cllr Ault welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. To receive and consider accepting apologies from members unable to attend.

Apologies were received from Cllr Finch

Apologies were unanimously accepted.

3. To receive and note any declarations of members' pecuniary and/or non-pecuniary/other interests pertaining to items on the following agenda, to note any dispensations granted in respect of business to be discussed and to consider any requests for dispensations.

Cllr Brown declared an interest in item 12.

Cllrs Ault, Curson and Jennifer declared an interest in item 10.

4. Public Forum: To receive County & District Councillors reports and the opportunity for issues to be raised or questions asked.

Cllr Kiddie discussed the following items.

- Brown signs for the Diss Beacon Cycle Route – following a meeting with the highways engineer it was concluded extra signage was needed and this work would hopefully be completed in the spring of 2024.
- Traffic Calming on Denmark Street – proposed new signage informing motorists of the road narrowing and the lines to be removed from the road. Road will need to close for one day while the work is completed but it has been suggested that this will happen on a Sunday to minimise disruption.
- Diss Train Station – Exit for buses due to be completed imminently with the last piece of road to be completed.
- Flooding – Warnings of another storm on the way but following the last there have been successes in flood mitigation at the High Road in Roydon at the petrol station, the junction of the B1066 at Sawmills Road and at Frenze Beck where lots of work has been undertaken on the prevention of flooding. Cllr Kiddie informed the Council that a Surface Water Drainage Officer has been employed by South Norfolk District Council to assist towns and parishes in flood prevention.
- Grant had been agreed for tree work in Roydon with invoices to be paid as soon as possible.

Roydon Parish Council

- The County and District Councillors have pooled their members' ward funds to provide mobile floodlights to Diss Junior Football Club enabling hundreds of children to enjoy football training over the winter months where it had not been previously possible.
- Norfolk County Council have sponsored electric buses in Norwich.
- Diss Youth and Community Centre – the district council is waiting for reports to be received from contractors about the condition of the RAAC in the building's roof. Concerns were raised about the groups that have been displaced due to the closure.

Cllr Kiddie was asked about the following topics during the forum.

- Following the good news about the train station bus stop is there any further news about a lift being installed at the station?
- Snow Street potholes
- Could the same traffic calming measures being employed at Denmark Street work at Croft Lane?

Cllr Minshall gave updates on the following.

- Lift at Diss Station – no plans to install due to Network Rail deeming that there isn't sufficient footfall to warrant it.
- Feather Factory Site – The left hand side of the site has been designated as the new Aldi store and the right hand side has been designated in the GNLP (Greater Norwich Local Plan) for mixed use.
- Grants – more funding from the Community Action fund will be available early in 2024 for larger projects.
- DDNP – Congratulated the team on their success but stressed that SNDC (South Norfolk District Council) do not enforce the plan and that the DDNP steering group would need to maintain the standards set in the plan through their comments on planning applications moving forwards.
- People and Communities – many more people presenting as homeless at present - three times the amount compared to 2022. Sadly, the highest cause is domestic violence. SNDC to convert Clare House into 26 units to support those in need. Work should be completed by early May 2024.
- The John Grose site has been purchased and plans for new leisure facilities have been seen. Further information will be available over the coming months.
- Diss Swimming Pool – £2 million to be spent on improvements to the pool in 2024 making it more energy efficient which will help with the carbon neutrality. Work needs to commence by 1st April 2024 under the conditions of the grant that has been received for the project. The pool will be closed for approximately 8 months.

Further questions were asked about the following.

- Brambles encroaching onto the road along Factory Lane and Brewers Green Lane. This is caused by overgrowth from the triangle of land between the two roads from the football club to Brewers Green. Council informed that the

Roydon Parish Council

landowners had been contacted on many occasions to rectify but County intervention is now needed.

Following the County and District Councillor report the following were raised by members of the public.

- The Village sign and notice board have been graffitied. Sign has been cleaned but this is not possible on the notice board.
- The hedge alongside the Primary School has not been cut on Manor Road and is partly obstructing the footway.
- Brambles are encroaching onto the road by 1.5 meters on Baynards Lane by the T junction with Hall Lane.
- Notice boards – Replace at Louie's Lane and apply for a new board by the recycling centre – Cllr Curson to send pictures to the Clerk.

5. Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 26th September 2023

Unanimously approved.#

6. Matters arising - To note progress on decisions made at the last meeting.

Noted

7. Clerk's Report.

Noted

8. Financial Matters and Banking:

a) Bank Balances and Bank Reconciliation.

Approved

b) Receipts noted and payments to be noted/authorised.

Approved

c) To consider the set-up of a direct debit for the street lighting.

Unanimously agreed.

Action – Parish Clerk

d) To note the set-up of a direct debit for the ICO registration.

Noted

9. Planning Applications and Decisions.

a) Applications considered by councillors:

Planning Application 2023/1930 amended application.

Parish Council has no further comments on the application.

Noted

b) Decisions received from SNDC:

None

c) Late Applications or Decisions not included on the agenda.

None to consider.

10. D & DNP: To receive a report

Final result was a 17.9% turnout with 1790 for and 324 against.

Roydon Parish Council

Both South Norfolk and Mid Suffolk District Councils have approved the plan.

Thanks were given to the delivery team who delivered leaflets and the Roydon Round Up in the lead up to the referendum.

Highlighted that the Government Policy on land nutrient neutrality could affect the plan in coming years.

11. Brewers Green: To receive a report.

Arisings have still to be collected. Reminders have been sent.

Thanks to John Taylor for the quotes for the trees, the work will take place on the 12th December 2023 to coppice the damaged tree by the litter bin.

Cllr Jennifer inquired if the Crerars are clearing arisings from Rotary Wood and received confirmation of this.

There was a short discussion about possibly asking for support from the Rotary Club for cutting the grass around the trees they planted.

12. Allotments: To receive a report

Income overview had been provided by the Clerk.

Advertise the plots that are available.

Action – Parish Clerk

13. Flood Group: review the leaflet relating to flooding in the local area. Discuss recent events. Set actions to mitigate further flooding where possible.

Update clerk's email address on the leaflet. It still reads well.

Clerk to contact the Surface Water Drainage Officer to set up a meeting for the council.

Action – Parish Clerk

14. To receive, review and make amendments to the Equalities Policy.

Amendments were made during the meeting and the Clerk to update the website.

Action – Parish Clerk

15. To receive review and make amendments to the Social Media Policy.

Minor amendments were made during the meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Ault would made additions to the central paragraph and send to the Clerk who would then update the policy on the website.

Action – Parish Clerk

16. D-Day 80: To discuss how the Parish Council would like to commemorate the occasion, plan next steps and set a budget.

Cllr Ault gave a brief overview of the options.

The Clerk was requested to contact Diss Town Council to ascertain what they will be doing for the occasion with the possibility of joining with them for the event.

Roydon Parish Council

Action – Parish Clerk

Cllr Kiddie requested to add any other business. Council agreed.

Cllr Kiddie highlighted that Roydon would fall under the new parliamentary constituency when the next election takes place. This will be the Waveney Valley Constituency. Advised to contact Diss Town Council to ascertain how they will be advertising this to the public.

Cllr Jennifer inquired where the Diss Community Fridge is located while the Diss Youth and Community Centre is closed – Informed that this is now at the Salvation Army.

Cllr Daniels informed the council that a wreath needs to be purchased for Remembrance Sunday. Clerk to purchase

Action – Parish Clerk

17. Date & Time of Next Meetings: To confirm the date of 28th November 2023 for the next Parish Council meeting.

Agreed

Meeting ended at 20.59

Emma Chandler, Parish Clerk & RFO

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