

**Minutes of Poslingford Parish Council  
meeting on 1st September 2021  
at Stansfield Village Hall**

Present:

Parish Cllrs Martin England, Marc Allison, Annie Jones, and Derek Nicholls

District Councillor Nick Clarke

Chris Turner -Clerk

Chairman, Martin England welcomed those present. Apologies have been received from Parish Councillors June Mansfield and Kathy Priestley and District Councillors Karen Richardson and Marion Rushbrook.

Meeting closed for comments/report by District Councillor Nick Clarke.

Nick had nothing specific for Poslingford however had some interesting facts on planning applications in neighbouring villages. If help was needed by anyone on any issue he was available and would assist where he can.

Meeting re-opened for Parish Council meeting:

1. Minutes of our last meeting and outstanding matters- The minutes were accepted by all as accurate and signed by the Chair. Cllr. Jones is looking into purchasing a defibrillator for the village, which could be housed in the telephone box. Hopefully we will be able to bring the Parish Councillor numbers back up to 7 in the not too distant future, this is in hand.

2. Financial Report- (1) The accounts to 1st September were presented and agreed by all. Clerk confirmed the Council's expenses and income are in line with budgetary expectations. Only payment now due was to TOP garden services for 2 months of grass cutting including part of the footpath. We are to query the cost of cutting this when the cheque is sent. Payment was agreed, and the invoices initialled, and cheque signed. (2) Bank account statement was produced showing the balance of the account of £9498.90 agreed with our records. The statement was initialled by 2 councillors. (3) Jim Rucklidge was a signatory to the bank account and we need to look at adding another signatory to the account. (4) Audit 2020/21- Our accounts have now been audited and a report has been received from SALC (Internal Audit) and a letter of confirmation from Littlejohn (External Auditors). These are included on the website and the Notice of Determination was published. We went through the Internal Audit documentation to review comments. This had been circulated prior to the meeting. One comment related to the previous year when an unrepresented cheque was shown as a receipt instead of being netted off. This was taken on board. We have met the publication requirements for this year. We need to look at the website accessibility statement but are not aware of any issues. We also need to show Members' Interests, we will add a link to access the information on W. Suffolk DC's website/records

3. Councillor's comments/issues- A mention was made that the footpath from Bury St Edmunds to Clare had yet to be cut. We are to remind Suffolk CC as they are responsible for this. A number of porcupines have escaped from a property in Poslingford, the owner is endeavouring to recapture them. Some have been seen on roads around Poslingford. We are to contact DEFRA so that people are aware (Subsequently an article has appeared in the EADT). There has been confusion about land ownership and rights of way to the church grounds. The church has made a payment to ensure this remains open for use. Cllr. Nichols mentioned that some holes in the highways at Hillside had been filled but the work had been of a poor standard and the holes have reappeared.

4. We have received a communication relating to parking on the main road, and lack of visibility when turning onto the carriageway. It would appear the best and perhaps only solution would be a mirror on the opposite side of the road either located on the roadside outside Seldom Inn, or on their land if the owners agree. We are unclear of the ownership of the land next to the highway and would need to contact Suffolk CC to ascertain legal ownership.

5. Festival of Suffolk 2022. We will be holding a summer BBQ to celebrate and will need to liaise with Mary Evans as to when the other local villages are holding celebrations.

6. Tree Warden. As we are only responsible for one tree and own no other land this is not an issue in Poslingford, and clerk to advise W Suffolk DC accordingly.

Next Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021

#### Accounts of Poslingford Parish Council as at 1st September 2021

Bank Account	C/A balance at 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2021	£10460.82
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#### Payments made since the previous meeting(Bacs)

TOP Garden Svcs	£342.00	
SALC Annual Fee	£143.92	
Clerk	£282.20	
PAYE	£ 65.40	
SALC Audit fee	£128.40	
TOTAL	£961.92	£961.92

Net sum as at 1/9/2021	£9498.90
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#### Payments now due to be authorised:

TOP Garden Services (1/7/21 invoice)	£171.00
Ditto (1/8/21 invoice)	£459.00