

## Poslingford Parish Council



### **Minutes of Poslingford Parish Council Meeting**

**Date 30th November 2022, 18:30**

**Meeting held at Stansfield Village Hall**

Attendees: Parish Councillors Martin England, Marc Allison, Annie Jones, Derek Nicholls, June Mansfield, Kathy Priestley and Rachel Stebbing.

County Councillor: Bobby Bennett

District Councillor: Nick Clarke

Chris Turner (Clerk to the Council)

The Chair, Martin England welcomed those attending. Apologies received from District Councillor Karen Richardson.

Nick Clarke opened the proceedings. He had no news concerning Poslingford but updated those present with some news on neighbouring Clare that might affect our residents. There is hopefully going to be a new car park in Clare, with matters progressing. The bus services are likely to be reduced. There is a major problem with the drainage in Clare which Anglian Water need to rectify.

Bobby Bennett had sent a report relating to Suffolk CC in October which has been circulated. Suffolk will soon be recycling aluminium. Devolution for Suffolk has been announced by the Government sometime in the future. A number plate recognition (ANPR) camera will be placed in Chilton Street in Clare shortly and will aid the fight against speeding. As regards Bobby's "walk around" Poslingford she did report the car problem which has now been resolved. She visited Hillside to look at the carriageway but is currently being stone-walled in her endeavours to get this fixed. She suggested that we keep using the "Highways" tool to continuously report the issue. As usual funds are at a premium.

#### 1. Minutes of our last meeting.

- a. The minutes were confirmed as "in order" and signed by the Chair.
- b. Regarding the "minuteman", we are currently no.8 in the list for this.
- c. The "quiet lane" sign is still to be erected and is in hand. A couple of issues in the minutes are included in the agenda and are reported below.

#### 2. Financial Report

- a. The accounts to 30th November 2022 were presented and agreed by all.
- b. A quiet period with invoices awaited from TOPs re grass cutting.
- c. Agreed that we would make two charitable donations of £50 each to the CAB and to Suffolk Air Rescue. Cllr. Mansfield has donated to the British Legion for the Remembrance Day wreath of £25 which needs reimbursing.

### 3. Precept Request

a. We have received a request for our precept requirement for the year 2023/2024. There being no expected extra calls on funds it was agreed by all, that our precept would remain the same. A budget had been prepared by the clerk which was accepted. It means a small increase (5p per annum a) in the rates if the household numbers that apply to the calculation remains static. Document signed by Chair, with clerk to sign and then forwarded to West Suffolk District Council.

### 4. Grass Cutting

The number of cuts in the current year have been affected by the hot weather. We received some invoices, but others are awaited. We are unsure what and when the areas within the village are cut and this needs clarification. We need a schedule of cutting to ensure it all gets done, Clerk to liaise with TOP Services.

### 5. Defibrillator

The two quotes we have for placing the defibrillator in the phone box are the same and it was decided to go with the charity, Heartbeat, based in Haverhill. We will need to register the defibrillator with them as they provide an ongoing service. We are to discuss "training" at our next meeting.

### 6. Polling Station

There are no alternative places available to locate a polling station other than the Church. Many elderly residents, who find it difficult to travel outside the village, will be disenfranchised if they cannot vote locally. Since Poslingford is such a small village, is a toilet and other facilities required (except for the polling staff)? Clerk to contact the Election officer at West Suffolk District Council.

### 7. Councillors Issues/Other

- a. A question of ownership of the cemetery attached to the church had arisen. Councillor. Jones had provided us with information a few years ago and has re-sent this, which clearly shows that Poslingford PCC purchased this in 1959, and therefore any burials are the churches responsibility (PCC) not ours (PC).
- b. Villagers had enjoyed the village BBQ/Queens Jubilee event and would like to see more of these events, the next one likely to be the Kings Coronation.
- c. Question about the notice board at Hillside, confirmed this was not being used.
- d. Councillor Rachel Stebbing has been able to obtain 60 trees for the village from the Jubilee fund. They will be delivered in March and stored by Rachel until planting next autumn. They will come with stakes and guards. Once planted Rachel will register them on the Queens Platinum Jubilee map.
- d. Question asked whether the blockage under the bridge, which almost caused a flood last year has been dealt with. It is believed to have been done.
- e. Safety of trees in the village is a concern, we don't have a tree warden, so we need to contact West Suffolk to ascertain whether they undertake checks.

### 8. Next Meeting.

The next meeting is on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at 18:30 at Stansfield Village Hall. Meeting finished 20:07.

**Accounts of Poslingford Parish Council as at 30 November 2022**

<b>Lloyds Bank current account on 1 September 2022</b>	<b>£9068.48</b>
Income for period 1 September to 30 November 2022	
<b>TOTAL Income in period</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
Payments for period 1 September 2022to 30 November 2022	
5 Sep 22. Grass cutting TOPS Services	285.00
3 Oct 22. Zurich Insurance Services	257.60
3 Oct 22. HMRC Clerk's PAYE to 30 Sep 22	65.60
3 Oct 22. Clerks Wages to 30 Sep 22	282.00
3 Sep 22. SALC Payroll Fee	22.80
24 Oct 22. CAS Website Fee	60.00
<b>TOTAL Payments in period</b>	<b>£973.00</b>
<b>Lloyds Bank current account on 30 November 2022</b>	<b>£8095.48</b>