

Snape Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 26 March 2024 at 7.00pm In Snape Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Paul Richards, Cllr Russ Rainger, Cllr Margaret McKenna,
Cllr Georgina Lock, Cllr Andrew McDonald and Cllr Tim Beach.

Attendance: 0 members of the public.

Contributions by Members of the Public

None

Cllr Richards commented that there should have been a report from Lynne Butler this evening but she was unable to attend, although she has sent through an outline of the proposed route and cost. CATS propose to run a bus on Wednesdays at 10.45am to Saxmundham and back at 1.15pm. The cost would be £3.75 - £5.00 return. This does happen to be the same day as the mobile post office in Snape.

Cllr Lock suggested that the village is given a questionnaire to see what the initial interest would be.

Cllr Richards said that the people who attend the Coffee Mornings could be asked if they would be interested.

Cllr Beach said that nobody was interested in this when it was suggested at the Coffee Morning before, this was due to the cost.

Cllr McKenna stated that some people prefer to do a car share.

Cllr Richards suggested that some research takes place before a response is sent to CATS.

District Councillor Katie Graham

Katie informed the PC that she will be sharing the meetings with Tom Daly. Please let her know if there are any concerns regarding ESC.

Cllr Lock said that there is a really poor rubbish collection service following the litter pick in the village. Many emails and phone calls were sent over 3-4 weeks and it is still in place. This puts people off doing a litter pick. Katie agreed to follow this up with the relevant people.

Cllr McDonald said that large pieces of rubbish are left for a long time before they are collected.

Katie responded that East Suffolk Services are quite new.

Cllr Lock said that a deceased deer was left a long time and not collected.

Cllr Beach said that the Alde & Ore moved the meeting date as you were unable to attend, so now you can attend.

Katie commented that a new service called bottle recycling is on the way. Energy reports – there is a 9 week consultation on the scoping report until the 4th April.

Cllr Beach said that this is on the agenda to mention later, but traffic and transport is the main concern.

There is a plan to consult with other PC's about the cumulative assessment as there is no baseline as yet. Will the Council's bring together some proper assessment. The SCC could undertake the baseline assessment.

The response will follow the same line as the rest with the main identified concerns being the traffic, transport and the environment.

Katie commented that the ESC have passed the budgets, there is funding to support community hubs, and promote cycling/walking strategy. Field to fork - this supplies growing kits to schools. Holiday activity fund has started. The full report from ESC will be sent to the Clerk for circulation.

7.15pm Katie Graham left the meeting.

Cllr Rainger commented that Andrew Reid is not present. The SALC forum has taken place. One of the topics included the Electric Vehicle projects, there are grants to put in the charging points. Street chargers gave a lot of funding available. This would be a public service. How are these to be maintained? Nominations of streets where the EV points could be placed are being sought.

Cllr Beach said that the Village Hall has applied to be a hub for an EV charger.

Cllr Lock asked about the car park opposite the Church.

Cllr McKenna asked if the EV points are for the residents rather than the visitors to the village.

Cllr Rainger said this is for public use. Glebe Way or Priory Road may be suggested, but as yet it is not clear how this will work.

Cllr McKenna said that people who have drives and garages will have their own charging points.

Cllr McDonald said that this may form part of a consultation, as there will be lots of energy to find to run the proposed amount of charging points.

Cllr Rainger said that the forum covered other items such as Lion Link, as was the devolution, this does require more information.

Cllr Richards commented that he had attended a webinar on the devolution but not many people had heard about it. This may be put into place in May 2025. The benefits of this are relatively small, there may be some funding available.

Cllr McDonald said that the funding is not much more than the County receives already.

MINUTES

1 Apologies and Approval of Absences

Cllr Farrant, Cllr D Norman, Cllr M Norman, and the Clerk.

2 Declarations of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests by Member

Cllr Beach – Playing Field

3 Applications for Dispensation

As above declarations.

4 Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on the 23 January 2024 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 27 February 2024.

Cllr Beach proposed that both sets of minutes are accepted as a true record of the meetings, this was seconded by Cllr Lock and agreed by all who attended.

5 Matters arising from the meeting on the 23 January and the 27 February 2024.

5.1 Power Projects – Cllr Richards said that a letter had been sent to the Sizewell C Community Forum to gain a place on the board for Snape. This request was supported, but the manager said no. Cllr Beach has a place on the Southern Transport Forum. The advice was to try again later.

Cllr Rainger said that the Park & Ride was mentioned in the transport forum.

Cllr Beach said that there is a scoping document published by Lion Link. The PC may comment on this. Traffic and transport need a lot of work. The work involved is not very clear, the projects need tying together. SCC needs to monitor the traffic, there is nothing to use for a future baseline.

Cllr Rainger commented that Lion Link have dropped Aldeburgh and Dunwich as land points.

Cllr Beach agreed to draft a response to this document.

Cllr McKenna said that the response needs to emphasise the effect on Snape.

Cllr Beach agreed that the local roads will be mentioned in the response.

Cllr McDonald said that the Sea Link reports mention the community and environmental constraints. Quite detailed in how things will be mitigated.

Cllr Beach said that a meeting to pull parishes together may be the way to go. A constitution could be put in place for the group, but it is not clear how this would work and this work is ongoing in conjunction with work with DESNZ officials.

Cllr Richards commented that he volunteers are becoming exhausted of working on these projects.

5.2 Traffic Calming – Cllr Richards commented that an alternative supplier of the gateways had been given, but there did not appear to be any costings on the website.

Cllr Beach said the gateways are around £10,000 – 15,000. If the power projects go ahead some funding may be available for this.

Cllr McKenna asked if the old gateways could be repaired and repainted, they do look very shabby. Does it all need to be replaced at once.

Cllr Richards said that a plan could be put in place to tidy up the village.

Cllr Beach said the main posts are possibly fine, the boards need to be replaced definitely.

Cllr Lock said that she knows someone who repairs things and may be able to repair the gateways.

ACTION: Some costing to be put into place for the repair or replace of the village gateways.

5.3 Website Accessibility – Ongoing, continue to place on the agenda.

5.4 20's plenty – Cllr McKenna said that this needs a discussion if the PC wish to engage with this activity.

5.5 Safety of fencing near playing field – Cllr Richards commented that the property does not belong to Flagship homes it is a private residence.

5.6 Pryor Close – Cllr Beach commented that the green play area in Pryor Close has now been formally named 'Queen's Oak Green'.

5.7 Allotments – Cllr Richards reported that the invoices for the allotments will go out on the 1st April 2024. There is some interest in the small community plots. The boundary issues are ongoing. The PC needs to stick with where the boundary has been identified to be. The neighbours will need to demonstrate otherwise.

5.8 Housing needs – Cllr Richards stated that the drop in session is on the 10th April, this has been well advertised in the Newsletter and leaflets around the village.

Cllr McKenna said it is important that the houses nearest to the proposed site should be given the leaflets first. Will Hastoe pay for the flyers?

Cllr Beach said it is hoped that Hastoe will provide the flyers. It is important to deliver the leaflet to every household even if the letterbox is a difficult one. The drop in starts at 5pm with a Q & A session at 6pm.

There will be another drop in at the end of Summer.

Cllr Richards said that there are no new plans, as they are awaiting more information from the archaeological report.

5.9 War memorial – Cllr Beach commented that this work has been completed and the invoice needs to be paid.

It was agreed by the full Council to pay the invoice for the work on the war memorial.

Cllr Richards said that the approval for the payment for the bus shelter from Andrew Reid needs to be confirmed before this work commences.

5.10 Grass verges – Cllr Richards said that part of the funding for this work to clear the footpath was available from Andrew Reid but the Self Help Scheme may be able to complete the work. The application for the Self Help has been submitted, there has been no approval yet. The £1,200 that had been offered towards the cost of this work has been transferred to the zip wire.

Cllr Beach said that the Plymouth Brethren have offered to assist with the footpath clearing. Cllr D Norman will attend the training for the Self Help Group.

5.11 Flooding on the roads – This item has been dealt with.

5.12 Snape Warren – This item has been dealt with.

5.13 Zip Wire – Cllr Richards commented that the Councillors have been given a proposal from the Playing Field Committee with a business case and costings. How much does the PC wish to contribute? £10,000 has been asked for as a contribution. This means that the PC will contribute £8,800 as Andrew Reid is giving £1,200. Does the PC wish to contribute £8,800.

Cllr Lock suggested that the PC agrees to this proposal, there is sufficient in the bank account.

Cllr McKenna said that it appears as though there is a lot of money in the bank account, the PC does need to keep some reserves, if this expenditure occurs it leaves £30,000. This project is about one third of the available funds. The PC needs to be conscious of this large chunk of funds expenditure.

Cllr Rainger said that the overall cost of the zip wire is £18,000. If the PC gives £6,000 as a third of the overall cost, the rest of the required funding should be sought by the Playing Field Committee, and then come back to the PC if there is a short fall.

Cllr McKenna said that the overall cost is for the larger option. Is there sufficient evidence for the additional cost.

Cllr Beach commented that the cheaper version was suggested, but the more expensive one is completed in metal which will last longer. The wooden version did rot. The committee has been looking for funding, but it is not that easy. There is no Sports Fund money left, the 2 fundraising events held barely broke even.

Cllr Rainger proposed that the PC contributes up to £10,000 to the zip wire, providing the Playing Field Committee continue to try and source the rest of the funding, this was seconded by Cllr Lock and agreed by a majority of the Council with one abstention.

Cllr McKenna said that the PC will purchase the equipment, once the money has been received from the other sources.

Cllr Beach said that the PC had a PWLB loan to purchase the playing field at a cost of £25,000, which is now repaid. This is managed by the Playing Field Committee on behalf of the PC.

Cllr Richards said that there is still a gap in the funding.

6. Planning Application & Decision Notices

DC/24/0605/VOC – Snape Garage, Church Road, Snape, IP17 1QE

Variation of condition 2 of DC/23/0458/FUL – Enclosed workshop extension, to be used for light repairs to vehicles. To replace the mentioned drawing number 6415-3 with drawing number 6415-4.

Cllr Richards said that there were no further comments to make on this application.

DC/24/0827/FUL – Priory Wood, Church Road, Snape, IP17 1QG

Retrospective application – alterations and extensions to existing dwelling.

Cllr Richards said that this is a retrospective application for something that has already been completed.

The PC wrote to the planning enforcement about this property as it was completed, the response said that it was allowed under permitted development rules therefore it did not require planning permission. It was agreed by all the Council not to object to this planning application.

DC/24/0715/FUL – Valley Farm, Farnham Road, Snape, IP17 1QH

Conversion of a former agricultural storage building to form 5 holiday lets within existing holiday let business.

Cllr Richards said that this application was not controversial.

It was agreed by the full Council not to object to this application.

7. Finance

(a) Review and authorisation of payments

Cllr McKenna proposed that the PC authorises the payments, this was seconded by Cllr Beach and approved by all.

(b) Asset Register

Cllr McKenna said that some of the things on the register may be removed, the previous laptop, the speedwatch equipment of 2019 is obsolete. It was agreed to adopt the asset register with these amendments.

(c) Sinking Fund

Cllr McKenna said that there is no provision in the budget for replacement of equipment. It would be an idea to put aside money each year, its too late for this year's budget but could add to next budget planning.

8. Parish Council Business

(a) Alde & Ore

Cllr Beach asked if the APM speaker could be a member of the Water Management Board, they would be able to explain the work happening in Snape and the impact on the wildlife.

Cllr Richards said that the APM will take place before the AGM, last year there was a good audience.

ACTION: Cllr Beach to contact the Water Management Board to see if a representative could come and talk at the APM.

(b) Boardwalk to the Maltings

Cllr Beach reported that a project document is to be circulated, but this has not happened yet.

Cllr McDonald said that this could be promoted at the APM.

(c) Reports from the Village Hall Charity and the Playing Field Charity

Cllr Richards said that the plan is to have a closer relationship with the Village Hall and the Playing Field, by asking for copies of the Annual Reports. The PC has some residual responsibility so the end of year finances would be a good thing to share. The PC could also encourage the groups to apply for funding.

(d) Speaker for the APM

Please see item 8a.

9. Correspondence

Priory Road/Aldeburgh Road Junction

Cllr Richards commented that a resident who lives on the junction of Priory Road and Aldeburgh Road is very concerned about the speeding. The PC needs to see if a 40mph limit could be placed around this junction. 2 or 3 incidents or accidents have occurred here.

Cllr Rainger said that this needs the support of the County Councillor to move this forward.

Cllr McKenna asked how far the buffer zone would need to be around the junction.

Cllr Rainger said you could put in a traffic regulation order. There is a good argument for a buffer zone. This junction needs improving, as Priory Road could become a rat-run for vehicles. The PC needs to plan for the bigger picture with a comprehensive plan for the village.

Cllr Beach said the link to the quiet lanes which are 20mph could be useful. Therefore, a 40mph buffer zone is a good idea.

Gildings Lane

Cllr Richards said that this area has a lot of traffic use. The traffic comes from the houses along the lane and out onto Priory Road. This needs to be raised with Andrew Reid. The area becomes very muddy when it is wet. The part near the school and playing field is fine.

Cllr Beach said that part of the lane may be owned by the PC, as they bought the playing field.

Where is the boundary? This could become very complicated. SCC allows access to this but have not done anything to prevent the use of the lane by vehicles.

Cllr Richards said that the area is very muddy in the winter and sandy in the summer.

ACTION: To continue to monitor the lane.

10. Matters for consideration at the next meeting.

Items contained in the minutes.

11. Date of the Next Meeting

28th May APM & AGM

Meeting Closed – 8.40pm.

Marie Backhouse, Parish Clerk

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