**Minutes of the Meeting of Yaxley Parish Council held on 23rd March 2022**

**at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:**

Councillor N Young Councillor J Moore

Councillor R Hall. Councillor K Stubbington

Councillor J Hawes Councillor I Luff

Councillor J Laughlin Councillor C Wright

District Councillor David Burn

County Councillor J Fleming

P Freeman Parish Clerk.

No members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence.

* Councillor Pawsey.

1. Chair’s Opening Remarks

* The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the Clerk will send the best wishes of the Council to Councillor Pawsey following his admission to hospital. **Action: The Clerk.**

1. Councillor’s Declaration of Interests in Agenda Items.

* None.

1. Celebration of the Queen’s Jubilee 2022.

* The Chair attended an event for the Women’s Royal Armoured Corps, and they had received a message from Her Majesty the Queen.
* Funding has been agreed from Drax to pay for the commemorative coins and Cranswick has offered to provide chicken for the meal which has been arranged to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meetings.

* The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chair, proposed by Councillor Luff and seconded by Councillor Hall.
* Councillor Burn asked about the links pasted into his report.

1. Matters arising from the minutes:

**Action Points:**

Notes on the action are in red.

**Carried Forward Action Points from the Meeting on 26 May 2021.**

* Mr Martinelli has suggested that a time capsule with memories of the past year is prepared, and it could be located in the area at the well seat. It was agreed to consider this suggestion at a future meeting. **Action: The Clerk.** It was agreed that this should be linked to the events to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee.
* Investigate grant funding for a borehole on the allotments and invite a consultant to visit the allotments to discuss the cost of a borehole. **Action: The Clerk.** Nothing to report.

**Action Points from the Meeting of Yaxley Parish Council 27 January 2022.**

* The Clerk will contact Cllr Fleming and Cllr Burn about grants and advice for installing solar panels on Yaxley Community Centre. The Clerk will also contact the Yaxley Community Centre Committee. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* The Clerk will complete an application for a sign for ‘Old Norwich Road formerly known as the Street’. **Action: The Clerk.** There was a discussion of where one road ends and the other begins and due to the problem of identifying this point it was agreed to take no further action.

**New Action Points from the Meeting of Yaxley Parish Council 23 February 2022.**

* The Clerk will contact Drax and Cranswick to request sponsorship of the purchase of coin Completed.
* Cllr Burn will send details of how to apply for funding from the Locality Budget. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* The Clerk will contact a local paramedic about cover for events to commemorate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. **Action: The Clerk.** Nothing to report.
* Cllr Fleming will send the Clerk details of who to contact about solar panels for the Community Centre. **Action: Cllr Fleming.** Completed.
* The Clerk will find out the deadline for submission to the Torch Relay. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed. The Chair offered to represent the village if the date is convenient for her to do so.
* The bowser needs maintenance. **Action: Julian Moore.**
* The Clerk will contact Cllr Fleming and Cllr Burn to find out if there is a local emergency evacuation centre. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* The Clerk will email the phone number to report smells from the Cranswick Plant. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* The Clerk will order a new glazed noticeboard for the cemetery: 750 x 750 mm. **Action: The Clerk.** Subsequently Councillor Hawes offered to repair the current noticeboard.
* The Clerk will arrange for repairs to the noticeboard at the junction of the Street and Eye Road, and for the bench by the play area to be treated with preservative. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* The Clerk will respond to planning applications agenda items 19 a i. to iii. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* The Clerk will order a 120-litre litter bin to be placed in the lay by with the recycling bins. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* The Clerk will update the list of cemetery costs. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.

1. Notification of any urgent business.

* None.

Meeting closed at 7:50 p.m.

**Public Forum.**

**Report from Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk**

[Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk) Tel: 07714-597980 Twitter: @jesstfleming

**Ukraine** - Information on Suffolk’s support for Ukrainian refugees is available on [Suffolk County Council's website](https://midsuffolk.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b92522d28bbfbe421813f5565&id=ac8d6cc4ce&e=5db4b369f7), including links for The Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal. Also Suffolk Refugee Support in Ipswich is supporting both Ukrainian and Afghan refugees <https://suffolkrefugee.org.uk/>

Information on the Homes for Ukraine scheme is available on the UK government’s website:  <https://homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk/>. Watch an [information event here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4n-Wmru5LIA&t=1278s) for people interested in hosting refugees.

**Bird Flu -** The UK’s Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer has confirmed highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 at several sites, including Westhorpe, Redgrave, Botesdale and Thelnetham. A 3km Protection Zone and a 10km Surveillance Zone are in place around each. All poultry must remain caged and protected from contact with wild birds.

**Message from Trading Standards -** If your birds show any sign of disease, you must report your suspicions to Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) immediately by telephoning 03000 200 301.  
Bird flu is a ‘notifiable’ disease.  If you own chickens, ducks, geese or any other captive birds we urge you to register them with APHA so that you can be contacted if there is an outbreak near to you: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/poultry-including-game-birds-registration-rules-and-forms](https://suffolk.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6f9b1e8a5277f443e1229f364&id=eaeb6e9c8f&e=4c0ca0f7c2)

**Women’s Tour Cycle Race -** Suffolk will host the finish of Stage 1 of the 2022 UCI Women’s Tour, which will start in Colchester and finish in Bury St Edmunds on Monday 6th June. The route in Suffolk will be revealed in the coming weeks when it has been finally agreed and ratified by organisers.

**Sunnica Solar Farm Project in West Suffolk/ Cambridgeshire** – Cabinet has found that plans for this 2,792-acre500-MWscheme are unacceptable in their current form and assessments inadequate. A link to the papers can be found [on the committee minutes page](https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=(01-03-2022),%20The%20Cabinet). Plans to build the Sunnica solar farm are currently with the Planning Inspectorate for examination

**Fostering and Adoption** - Suffolk’s service currently has over 850 children in care and with more entering every year, the need for foster carers and adoptive parents to come forward has never been greater. These children need someone who can understand what they have been through, look at the world through their eyes and provide warmth, consistency and emotional support.

To find out more about fostering or adopting in Suffolk, visit: [www.suffolk.gov.uk/fosteringandadoption or call 01473 264800](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/fosteringandadoption or%20call 01473%20264800).

In the discussion of Councillor Fleming’s report the following points were made:

* It has been particularly bad year for bird flu and apparently there is no reason for this. The disease is brought into the country by migratory birds.
* The Fostering and Adoption Service would be prepared to visit Yaxley to make a presentation.
* There was discussion of the problem when a child from Yaxley is refused free transport to Hartismere School. It is possible for an appeal to be made to School Transport, but it is recognised locally that the walking route from Yaxley to Eye is dangerous since much of the way there is no pavement. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact School Transport at Suffolk County Council about the dangerous route children would be expected to take if they are refused a place on the school bus. This will be copied to Councillor Fleming, who will support any appeal. **Action: The Clerk.**

**Report from District Councillor David Burn  
Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils respond to new ‘County Deal’**

The leaders of Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils welcomed news that Suffolk is one of nine counties invited to negotiate a ground-breaking devolution deal – bringing more control over areas such as transport, infrastructure and skills to the region. [*Read the full story*](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/babergh-and-mid-suffolk-district-councils-respond-to-new-county-deal/)

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**Switch onto a new Digital Skills Programme for businesses**

Business owners in Babergh and Mid Suffolk who want to learn new or improve their digital skills can now access free courses as part of a new business support programme. [*Read the full story*](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/switch-onto-a-new-digital-skills-programme-for-businesses/)

**A new bigger, better library for Needham Market!**

Suffolk Libraries and Mid Suffolk District Council are excited to announce that the new Needham Market Library is now open. [*Read the full story*](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/a-new-bigger-better-library-for-needham-market/)

**Nine new affordable homes in Botesdale for local residents**

Nine affordable homes opened their doors to new households this month, following the completion of a new development in Botesdale. [*Read the full story*](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/nine-new-affordable-home-in-botesdale-for-local-residents/)

**Bird Flu outbreak near Elmswell**

The UK’s Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer has confirmed highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1, commonly known as bird flu, at a small holding near Elmswell. A 3km Protection Zone and a 10km Surveillance Zone have been put in place around the infected premise to limit the risk of the disease spreading.

All poultry keepers – whether commercial farmers or those with a small backyard flock – are required by law to house poultry, or otherwise, to keep them separate from wild birds. [*Read the full story*](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/bird-flu-outbreak-near-elmswell/)

Since this story broke, we have been informed of further outbreaks more local to us, the largest being at the Gressingham duck operation near Redgrave; there is a smaller outbreak near Westhorpe.  
*[double-click the icon below to open the DEFRA ‘of a Protection Zone and a Surveillance Zone’ – see map on p.15*

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* There was a discussion of the planning application for a fuel station and lorry park with recharging points for vehicles next to the North roundabout on Eye Airfield. The Clerk explained that he had investigated this application on behalf of Thrandeston Parish Council because of the concern expressed by landowners who are adjacent to the site. This is because of the increasing amount of water which runs off from the airfield and in the documentation supporting the application no account has been taken of the run-off following rainfall and the impact on the surrounding land.

1. Correspondence received.

* Various documents from SALC.
* Emails from Community Action Suffolk.
* Town and Parish Council Newsletter.
* Various emails from the Highways Department Suffolk County Council
* Clerks and Councils Direct.

1. Yaxley Allotments:

* Update on allotment gardens and tenancy agreement.

1. Report on the number of vacant plots = 22.
2. Application for an allotment plot from Muriel Austin.

* The application was agreed, and the Clerk will contact Ms Austin about her application for an allotment. **Action: The Clerk.**

1. Update on long term strategy for Yaxley Allotments.

* Nothing to report.
* Unused plots:
  + It was agreed that Mr Newcombe will be asked to continue to keep the unused areas tidy.

1. Finances and financial report.
   1. Balances on Accounts: 28th February 2022.
      1. Current account: £27,696.17
      2. Deposit account: £5,597.09

* The account balances were noted by Councillors.
  1. Financial report and bank reconciliation.
     + Detailed accounts had been given to Councillors, which recorded all items of income and expenditure, and compared them to the budget. The spreadsheet also showed both as a percentage of the budget.
     + The accounts were to the date of this meeting and included a bank reconciliation for both accounts.
     + There were no questions from Councillors.
     + The Chair suggested using the income from Drax and the Community Infrastructure Levy to upgrade the roads on Cherry Tree Close to the required level for adoption.
  2. To authorise cheques for signature:

N.B. Cheque signatories to initial cheque stub and invoice.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee** | **Details** | **Cheque Number** | **Amount** | **Power** |
| P Freeman | Clerk’s Pay and Expenses | 101327 | £454.81 | LGA 1972 S112 |
| HMRC | PAYE | 101328 | £113.60 | LGA 1972 S112 |
| Nikki Young | Reimbursement of the cost of a course. | 101329 | £10.00 | LGA 1972 S111 |
| Yaxley Community Centre | Donation | 101331 | £201.85 | LGA 1972 S111 |
| Yaxley PCC | Donation | 101330 | £201.85 | LGA 1972 S111 |

* It was agreed unanimously to pay the invoices listed above, proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Luff.
  1. Requests for financial support: none.
  2. Receipts
     1. MSDC – Recycling Credits: £403.71

1. School bus from Yaxley to Hartismere School.

* See above.

1. Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting.

* The Chair asked if the date of the next meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting could be changed to 18 May 2022. The Clerk will contact Councillors. **Action: The Clerk.** This was subsequently agreed.

1. Emergency Plan for Yaxley: update.

* The Clerk gave details of a phone conversation he had with Mr Gulliver about Local Evacuation Centres. Rest centres are located in the area and Suffolk County Council has a contract with coach companies to transport people to them if necessary.
* There had been a discussion of the Parish Council’s emergency plan and Mr Gulliver had explained and it was agreed there was a considerable amount of detail in it. However, an important requirement was a list of volunteers who could be called on.
* Leisure centres, community centres and village halls would be used as rest centres, but the Parish Council would have no responsibility for transporting people to them.
* Cllr Luff will contact Mr Gulliver about the Council’s Emergency Plan. **Action: Cllr Luff.**

1. Highways:
   1. Increase in incidents of speeding on Mellis Road – cost of traffic survey (email dated 8 December 2021).

* There will be a discussion of the outcomes of the survey at the next meeting.
* It was agreed that the data will be useful in any future discussions with the police.

1. Drax/Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station)

* Nothing to report.

1. Cranswick Processing Plant.

Update:

* 1. External lights
  2. Entrance and barrier
  3. Use of the road from Yaxley to Wortham by Cranswick buses.
* Nothing to report.

1. Planning:
   1. Applications:
      1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/22/01077

Proposal: Householder Application - Erection of a double bay cart lodge.

Location: Reed Cottage, Church Lane, Yaxley, Suffolk IP23 8BU

* The Clerk had been contacted by Mr Martinelli regarding problems with deliveries to the work taking place at Reed Cottage. As a result Councillor Burn had written to the Enforcement Officer about this problem.
* There was some concern about possible damage to trees from the work planned in this application. However, the Tree Protection Officer will comment on the planned work and the case officer from Planning will take them into account.
* It was agreed that the only comment that would be made was that any work on the cart lodge should not cause any harm to the surrounding trees by damaging their root systems.
* The Clerk will respond to planning applications agenda items 17 a i. to iii. **Action: The Clerk.**
  1. Applications – no decision:
     1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/22/00531

Proposal: Householder application - Erection of two storey rear extension and insertion of 2no windows on east elevation.

Location:Deeping Semele House, Church Lane, Yaxley, Suffolk IP23 8BU

* + 1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/22/00450

Proposal: Householder Application - Erection of single storey rear extension

Location: Flame House, Old Norwich Road, Yaxley, Suffolk IP23 8BH

* + 1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/22/00744  
       Proposal: Planning Application - Change of use of agricultural land for the provision of 7No additional residential caravans, laundry room and stationing of mobile shower block and reconfiguration of existing 9No caravans, all to provide accommodation for agricultural workers employed by the applicant.  
       Location: Chestnuts Farm, Langton Green, Eye, IP23 7HL
    2. Application for Planning Permission Without Compliance of Condition(S) -DC/21/05236

Proposal: Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act - Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) of planning permission DC/19/00108 dated 04/09/2019 - (Erection of factory with an adjoining two-storey production office, a warehouse extension, a loading dock building, and material stockpile. Provision of 9no. caravans for temporary accommodation for seasonal staff. Creation of vehicular access) To vary appearance and layout of main building extensions and configuration of waste pad - new drawings submitted.

Location: Camstar Herbs Ltd, Chestnuts Farm, Langton Green, Eye Suffolk IP23 7HL

* + 1. Statutory consultation on proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm.
  1. Planning decisions:

1. Approved:
   * + Application for Planning Permission without Compliance of Condition(S) -

DC/22/00400

Proposal: Application under Section 73 of The Town & Country Planning Act relating to DC/19/03345 Allowed at Appeal for the variation of Condition 2 (Approved drawings)

Location: Land Off Cherry Tree Close, Yaxley, IP23 8DH.

* + - Application for Planning Permission without Compliance of Condition(S) -DC/22/00401

Proposal: Application under Section 73 of The Town & Country Planning Act relating to DC/20/05028 for variation of Condition 1 (Approved plans & documents)

Location: Land Off Cherry Tree Close, Yaxley, IP23 8DH,

* + - Application for Planning Permission- DC/21/06648

Proposal: Full planning application for the conversion of agricultural barn (1) to form 1No residential dwelling with associated landscaping and parking, including the demolition of temporary structures within the listed curtilage of White House Farmhouse.

Location: White House Farm, Old Norwich Road, Yaxley, Suffolk IP23 8BH

* + - Application for Listed Building Consent - DC/21/06649

Proposal: Application for Listed Building Consent - Works to facilitate conversion of agricultural barn (1) to form 1No residential dwelling with associated landscaping and parking, including the demolition of temporary structures within the listed curtilage of White House Farmhouse.

Location: White House Farm, Old Norwich Road, Yaxley, Suffolk IP23 8BH

* + - Application for Planning Permission - DC/21/06650

Proposal: Full Planning Application - Conversion of agricultural barn (2) to form 1No residential dwelling with associated landscaping and parking, including the demolition of temporary structures within the listed curtilage of White House Farmhouse.

Location: White House Farm, Old Norwich Road, Yaxley, Suffolk IP23 8BH

* + - Application for Listed Building Consent - DC/21/06651

Proposal: Application for Listed Building Consent - Works to facilitate conversion of agricultural barn (2) to form 1No residential dwelling with associated landscaping and parking, including the demolition of temporary structures within the listed curtilage of White House Farmhouse.

Location: White House Farm, Old Norwich Road, Yaxley, Suffolk IP23 8BH

1. Refused: none.
2. Discharge of Conditions:
3. Conditions not being Discharged: none.
   1. Withdrawn: none.
   2. Appeal allowed: none.
4. Play area:
   1. To receive Play Area Inspection Report.

* There are no problems at the play area, and it is not being used very much a present.

1. Yaxley Cemetery:
   1. To consider inspection report - Councillor J Hawes.

* All is in order and the monuments are safe.
* Councillors thanked Councillor Hawes for his report.

1. Speed Indicator Devices, Defibrillator and Bottle Bank.
   1. To receive a report on the speed indicator devices.

* The speed indicator devices are working normally.
  1. To receive a report on the defibrillator.
* All is in order.
  1. To receive a report on the bottle bank.
* All is in order.
* Councillors thanked Councillor Moore for his report.

1. AOB - Any items raised earlier but not for an extended discussion or decisions and items for inclusion at the meeting on 18th May 2022.

* Concern was expressed about a manure heap on the field next to the A140.

**Action Points from this Meeting of Yaxley Parish Council 23 March 2022.**

* The Clerk will send the best wishes of the Council to Cllr Pawsey following his admission to hospital. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* The Clerk will find out the date of the Torch Relay and inform the Chair. **Action: The Clerk.** Yaxley is on the route for 25 May 2022.
* The Clerk will contact School Transport at Suffolk County Council about the dangerous route children would be expected to take if they are refused a place on the school transport bus. This will be copied to Cllr Fleming. **Action: The Clerk.**
* The Clerk will contact Ms Austin about her application for an allotment. **Action: The Clerk.**
* The Chair asked if the date of the next meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting could be changed to 18 May 2022. The Clerk will contact Councillors. **Action: The Clerk.**
* Cllr Luff will contact Mr Gulliver about the Council’s Emergency Plan. **Action: Cllr Luff.**
* The Clerk will respond to planning applications agenda items 17 a i. to iii. **Action: The Clerk.**

Meeting closed at 9:07 p.m.