

GREAT ASHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 16th July, at 7.30 pm
Held at The Limes, Long Thurlow Road, Great Ashfield IP31 3HA**

Councillors present:

Mr S Miles	Mr B Barker
Mrs D Stick	Mr Jonathan Myers
Mr N Jones	Mr James Hardy
Mr B Barker	Mr Richard Winch (District Councillor)

Mrs P Miles took the Minutes.

1. **Appointment of Acting Chairman** Cllr Miles welcomed everyone and volunteered to be acting Chairman for this meeting as he had coordinated with Mrs C White, a previous Clerk, to prepare all the paperwork.
All in Agreement.
2. **Apologies for absence**
None
3. **Co-option of New Councillors**
Cllrs Stick, Jones, Miles and Hardy agreed to the co-option of Mr Barker and Mr Myers to the Parish Council.
4. **Declaration of Interest**
None
5. **Minutes of 22nd February 2**
The Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 22nd February 2024 were agreed and signed by Cllr Miles.
Minutes of 23rd May 2024
The Minutes of 23rd May 2024, prepared by Cllr Jones, were agreed and signed by Cllr Miles.
All agreed they were a true record.
6. **Finance**
 - i) **Parish Council Audit**
This completed document should have been signed at previous meeting so was overdue. Mrs White had applied for extension to 31st July 2024. All agreed audit should be signed off by Cllrs Miles. All agreed Mrs White be asked to sign as acting Clerk.
 - ii) **Accounting Statements 2023-24**
Cllr Miles signed the statements. Mrs White to be asked to sign as acting Clerk.
 - iii) **CIL Return 2023-24**
Signed by Cllrs Miles and Hardy.
 - iv) **Approval of invoices for payment**
Invoice No – 28412 SALC training of previous Clerk - £115.20(inc VAT) All agreed to payment online.

Signed

Invoice No – 28593 SALC membership subscription 2024-5 £204.22 All agreed to payment.
 Invoice No – 2013396 MSDC emptying of dog bins 2023-24 All agreed to payment.
 Invoice No – 118653 PBS printing of newsletter £279.17 All agreed to payment.
 Repayment of locality grant to Suffolk County Council - £920.00 Cllrs Stick and Miles signed cheque.

7. Reports

Suffolk County Councillor Andy Mellon

Cllr Mellon's report had been sent online.

District Councillor Richard Wrinch

Cllr Wrinch had sent his report online but asked how often Parish Council wished to receive information. All agreed when District Council meets.

Cllr then gave further detail on the information in his report.

- Portable Space planning. Asked for limits on lorry movements per day.
- Jt development Plan for DC – Call for sites now going on. A smaller village neighbourhood plan might be something to consider.
- Bus services in Suffolk. There is a poor service at present, now looking at different options to improve the situation.
- New Skills Centre on edge of Stowmarket, now in planning stage, aimed at school leavers to encourage them to stay in the locality.

Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

- Rookery Barn have been granted retrospective planning for their building works.
DC Cllr Wrinch explained planning portal for the new Cllrs.
- Street Lighting needs to be discussed at next meeting.

Items for next agenda

- Speed watch, Cllr Hardy prepared to help. Cllr Stick to give update.

New Parish Clerk

Cllr Miles had spoken to 4 people with no luck. He had that day spoken to a possible replacement, David Ogden, who lives in Finningham. He currently works in compliance in London and wishes to retire and take on a Parish Clerk role. All agreed he be asked to be our Clerk as soon as possible. The Parish Council are very grateful to Mrs Carol White, retired Parish Clerk, for temporarily assisting.

8. Time and Date for Next Meeting

The next will take place on Wednesday, 21st August 2024 in The Lord Thurlow Hall, Great Ashfield at 7.30 pm

There being no further business, the acting Chairman, thanked everyone for attending the meeting And closed the meeting.

Signed