



Rushmere St. Andrew Parish Council

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"Seek The Common Good"



Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting held on 5th July 2023 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

CHAIRMAN: Mr Chris Griggs

PRESENT: Mr J Wright, Mr R Whiting, Mr M Newton, Mr C Griggs

APOLOGIES: Mrs M Brown (other commitment) Mrs M Odam (Other commitment) Mr B Ward (Other commitment)

CLERK: Mr P Massey – Clerk

ALSO PRESENT: 0 Members of the Public

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman of the Community Engagement Committee for the forthcoming year.

Mr R Whiting nominated Mr C Griggs and this was seconded by Mr J Wright. There were no other nominations. Resolved: Carried with ALL in favour. Mr C Griggs was duly elected unopposed as Chairperson.

2. APOLOGIES & APPROVAL OF ABSENCE, PROTOCOL AND CONDUCT REMINDERS

Mr C Griggs reminded Councillors of the Code of Conduct, protocol for debate and statutory rights to film, record, photograph or otherwise report on the proceedings of the meeting.

Mr J Wright proposed that the apologies and reasons for absence be accepted, seconded by Mr M Newton. Resolved with ALL in favour.

3. DECLARATIONS OF COUNILLOR INTEREST

No Declarations were made.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a. To Identify Public Participation with Respect to Items on this Agenda

None

b. Public Forum – Members of Public/Parish Councillors May Speak on Any Matter

None

5. UPDATE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The Clerk reported that since their appointment they have set up the following social media pages, Instagram and Facebook. Number of followers are slowly increasing and it is hoped that within the next six months a strong following will allow the Parish Council a previously unexplored avenue to communicate with the Parish Residents. It was reported that Andy Joliffe from East Suffolk Council has done a little research into social media and younger generations tend to engage more on Instagram rather than Facebook.

Mr J Wright proposed that Mr C Griggs be given delegated authority to work with the Clerk continuing in the efforts to build a stronger online presence in the community via social media. Seconded by Mr M Newton. Resolved with ALL in favour.

6. UPDATE ON WEBSITE

The Clerk updated the council with regards to the website and how since the Clerk and the Assistant Clerk had done website training they have slowly started to up date it, to make it more user friendly and accessible. Mr J Wright suggested that work was required on various aspects of website and the work that has commenced should continue.

Mr R Whiting proposed that delegated authority should be given to Mr C Griggs to work with the Clerk on the website priorities and have furthers updates ready for the next committee meeting. Seconded by Mr J Wright. Resolved with ALL in favour

7. TO CONSIDER NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

The Clerk reported that all research points towards growing a social media presence and maintaining a good website. It was reported from Andy Joliffie from East Suffolk Council that some other parishes have decided to move forward and have no newsletter and others now just contribute an article or two to other publications. The Clerk reported that the true annual cost of the Newsletter sits at approximately £7,000 Mr J Wright suggested that the Parish Council focus its efforts on a more online based reporting system instead of the traditional paper copies of the Newsletter. Parish Council News should be more instantly available following on from national trends. Mr R Whiting suggested that no Summer Newsletter should be produced with further discussions in mind regarding a winter addition.

Mr J Wright proposed that focus on Social Media Platforms and the Parish Council Website should be a priority over the summer instead of the newsletter with the item reviewed for the winter. Seconded by Mr M Newton. Resolved with ALL in favour.

8. GENERAL PARISH MATTERS & CORRESPONDENCE

a. Correspondence Received

None

b. Forthcoming Meeting Dates

Parish Council Meeting. Thursday 13th July at 1930 at Village Hall.
Environment and Services Committee. Thursday 20th July at 1930 at Tower Hall.
Planning and Transport Committee. Thursday 7th September at 1930 at Tower Hall.
Parish Council Meeting. Thursday 14th September at 1930 at Tower Hall.

9. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Updates on Social Media

Live Demonstrations of Social Media

13. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20:10