

PEASENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Peasenhall Parish Council meeting
held at Peasenhall Assembly Hall on Wednesday 20th September 2023

2023/90 Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Frank Potter – Vice Chair
Cllr. Barry Rowing
Cllr. Jane Collins
Cllr. Zoe Horlock

Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Sam Seddon
Cllr. Roger Benstead
Cllr. Stephanie Liston

In attendance:

District Cllr. Julia Ewart
Carol Hume - Parish Clerk
2 members of the public

Cllr. Potter acted as Chair of the meeting.

2023/91 Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

Item 10b – Three councillors are Trustees of the Assembly Hall so Cllr. Potter proposed this item be postponed until the next meeting. Item 7 – Cllr. Rowing declared an interest as a neighbour.

2023/92 Public Forum

a) A member of the public spoke of the recent East Suffolk ward meeting which was attended by councillors and clerks. It was felt rural deprivation could affect future council decisions. Cllr. Potter will circulate an email to councillors about this.

b) The District Councillor report had previously been circulated. District Cllr. Ewart said the Kelsale and Yoxford Ward Get Together held at Huntingfield Hub on Saturday 16th September was useful and constructive. She also said that Peasenhall could benefit from having “ambassadors” for the green agenda and climate change. There have been some improvements in local policing with more “bobbies on the beat”. Cllr. Ewart also said a booklet should be coming out explaining the process for planning applications and how important it is for councils to make comments. She also said that although Peasenhall School had had a pre-application turned down there is funding already attached to it. Roadside hedges will be cut in due course.

2023/93 Minutes

a) The minutes of the meeting held on 19th July were approved as an accurate record and signed by Cllr. Potter. The minutes of the extraordinary planning meeting held on 31st August were approved as an accurate record and signed by Cllr. Potter.

b) There were no matters arising.

2023/94 Finance and Governance

a) Cllr. Potter reported on the current financial situation:

Community Account: £27,646.36

Savings Account: £36,388.03

At the next meeting the bank reconciliation report for Q2 2023/24 will be presented as well as budget v actual figures for 2023/24 and other monetary items for discussion.

b) Cllr. Potter completed Section 1 Annual Governance Statement of the AGAR Return 2022/23 Form 3 which was approved unanimously and signed. This will now be submitted to the auditors.

- c) The payments listed on the agenda were approved for payment.

2023/95 Planning

There were no comments on tree topping application DC/23/3594/TCA

DC/23/3430/DRC Mabel's Walk. Cllr. Rowing had sent an email to Iain Robertson, ESC Planning Officer, regarding PCC making comments on the above application. He will put some comments together and submit them to ESC. The Council agreed to support any comments made by Cllr. Rowing.

2023/96 Mabel's Walk/Allotments/Play Area

A land management plan has not been done yet. A letter received from Haydon Holdings seemed to want to move things forward but was vague in content. Cllr. Potter will contact Mr Haydon and the District Council to clarify the situation. It would be in the PC's interest to take over the allotments and the play area together to save costs. There were no further comments from councillors.

2023/97 Highways

Cllr. Horlock said that the new SID device worked very well. The second device did not work and could be repaired. Cllr. Horlock will do some research on the cost to repair it. The approximate cost of a new device would be circa £2k. Six people had signed up as volunteers for training on the use of the speed gun so a date is needed for the training to take place. A new speed gun may be needed as the old one has not been calibrated but there would be no cost for this. Another traffic survey could be commissioned to gather more information but there would be a cost for this. Cost of traffic calming measures would be £420 for an initial tube and £195 for a second one. Speed detection equipment would cost £375 for one and £150 for a second. 30 mph signs would not be replaced but painted on the road surface and there would be a cost to re-do rumble strips. A proposal to go ahead and purchase traffic monitoring tubes was agreed by councillors.

2023/98 Village Issues

a) There was no update on the grass-cutting contract. Cllr. Rowing will draw up a specification for the next meeting and quotes will then be obtained. There was some discussion on the different ways of cutting grass in the cemetery.

b) This item was delayed until the next meeting.

c) Mr. Trovell presented a request from the PCC for funding for a service on the church clock, repairs to the weathervane and replacing a beam in the tower:

- The clock has been repaired with funding and does work but it will need a service costing £250 + VAT
- Diocesan architect found the steel wires which hold the pole supporting the weathervane needed replacing. Also, a beam in the tower needs replacing. The total cost of replacing the beam and fitting new support wires is £2260 +VAT
- The weathervane could be re-gilded at a cost of £900.
- The parish council agreed unanimously to providing 80% of the funding needed for the clock, beam and wires but not for the re-gilding. This would come to £2008 and hopefully the VAT could be reclaimed.

d) The proposed expenditure of up to £300 for the provision of a village Christmas Tree was approved.

2023/99 Correspondence

Cllr. Horlock had received email information about a scheme for volunteers, who would be trained by the council, with a grant available for equipment to cut, strim and clear around the village road signs. She has a form to volunteer. It was reported that the cemetery sign has blown down and the wooden posts need repairing. Cllr. Rowing said he would do the work.

2023/100 **Date of the next meeting** – The date of the next meeting will be **Wednesday 18th October 2023 at 7pm** in the Assembly Hall

The meeting closed at 21.00 hours

Carol Hume

Parish Clerk

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