

Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council
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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 29th JANUARY 2025
AT 7:00PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present at the meeting:

Cllr Edwina Galloway (Vice-Chair)	Cllr Traci Weaver
Cllr Helen Reynolds	Cllr Mark Stewart
Cllr Simon Ransome	Cllr Laura Gwynne
Cllr Rob Holden	

In attendance: 0 members of the public.

Welcome by the Vice-Chair as apologies received from the Chair.

12331 Public Forum

Democratic Quarter-Hour/Public Question Time – Residents are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. Members of the public, whilst welcome to attend, may not take part in the meeting itself.

No members of the public.

12332 Reports

Report by County Councillor Richard Smith

Richard Smith reported that the SCC budget after 9 months is where it is expected to be. Next years budget is underway with a final meeting to be held on the 13th February. Council tax is set to be increased by 4.99%, this will show the need for support from the government. 2% of the income will be spent on social care and 2.99% on general expenditure. £300m per year in Suffolk is spent on Social Care. There was a meeting held on the 9th January following on from the Governments request to discuss the new unitary council proposal, with a mayor. This will remove the County and District Councils as they currently are. This will make some monetary savings. If this is granted, then the SCC elections will be postponed this year. If the unitary council goes ahead there will be changes to policies, although these are unknown at the moment. More details will be available in a few days.

Cllr Gwynne asked if the Mayor would have a political stance.

Richard Smith said that the mayor will be independent, the Mayor may co-ordinate Norfolk and Suffolk.

Cllr Ransome reminded Richard of the request for a meeting with the residents of Low Road.

Richard Smith said that once the Clerk has returned, he will get together with her and find a suitable coffee morning date for the meeting.

Richard Smith left the meeting at 7.43pm.

Report by District Councillor Ewart

Julia Ewart submitted her apologies and a written report.

The Vice-Chair formally opened the meeting at 7.45pm.

12333 To receive apologies for absence – Cllr Harker, Cllr Courage, Cllr Buttle, Cllr Revell, the Clerk and Julia Ewart.

12334 To accept apologies for absence – Accepted.

12335 To record absence without apologies – None

12336 Declarations of Interest – None

12337 To consider any dispensations – None

12338 To consider the Approval of the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th December 2024.

The draft minutes of the meeting had been circulated and the version now on the website were approved with abstentions from those that did not attend. Proposer: Cllr Galloway, Seconder Cllr Holden, all in favour with 0 abstentions.

12339 Parish Clerk's Report

There is no report due to the Clerk being off work following an operation.

12340 Clerk's Report on urgent decisions

None

12341 Matters arising from the Clerk's report.

None

12342 Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11 December 2024.

10.1 Power Projects – Cllr Weaver reported that Sea Link and Lion Link are in the pre-application mode. A letter regarding the road was sent, but nothing can be done yet. The PC can register to give representations on these applications. Anxiety counselling has been offered for residents affected by Sizewell C, this is available in Saxmundham.

Cllr Galloway commented that the PC should be aware of other groups using the Sizewell C Link Road. 80% of the traffic will be sent along the A12 to the Link Road. Lots of traffic will be rumbling past the village. The parish will be severed from Rendham Road, it will make it difficult to move or get anywhere.

Cllr Weaver said that the proposed access for the converters is up the B1121, through Benhall and Sternfield, this does relieve Kelsale-cum-Carlton. It would be a nightmare if it is piggy-backed off the Link Road. The PC must be wary of this.

Cllr Galloway commented that when the DCO is gained, if they cannot operate within the limits, they would then go back again for an alternative.

Cllr Gwynne asked that as a PC, objection will be sent regarding Sea Link.

Cllr Weaver commented that the Sizewell Link Road has not been submitted as part of the National Grid plans.

Cllr Gwynne suggested that the PC needs to protect Kelsale-cum-Carlton by saying no to the other proposals.

10.2 Carlton Meres – Cllr Galloway stated that there is something happening, but not sure what yet, this was given from an email.

10.3 Highway Signage – Cllr Galloway reported that she had taken part in a drive around the village with Richard Smith and the Highways Engineer. There was a couple of suggestions for Rendham Road and East Green. More information is to be sent through regarding the suggestions, and this will be reported on at the next meeting. Every issue was discussed and raised with the Highways Engineer. It may be good to have the word 'SLOW' painted on the road, this may assist with the speed of the traffic. The cost of this will be sent to the PC for further discussion. There has been siting of the Police on the Main Road undertaking speed watch. These maybe the Sizewell police.

The meeting between Richard Smith and the residents of Low Road is ongoing.

ACTION: To discuss the cost of the 'SLOW' painting on the roads when received.

10.4 Village Hall Proposals – Cllr Ransome reported that the new kitchen has been fitted. The next project is the lift. The structural engineer is coming back next week to look more closely at the village hall. At a meeting on the 18th Jan, Sam Kenward from ESC attended and he advised that there are some pots of money that may be available. District CIL which has been used by other area such as Lowestoft, may also be used for local villages. If the lift costs in the region of £60,000, then the PC could provide £30,000 and the rest could be matched from District CIL. This would be fantastic. The entrance to Low Road has been mentioned, and the possibility of extending the forecourt out the front of the village hall to an agreed place, this may slow down the traffic so there would be no need for a

20mph limit. Funding may be available and Sam may have some useful contacts to assist with this. If there was to be a survey completed in the village this would assist with the evidence and funding. Some drawings were done some time ago, but these would need to be tidied and then placed in the Community News. Cllr Ransome reported that he has been given some useful documents which show the boundaries of the village hall.

ACTION: To continue to place on the agenda. Cllr Galloway to pass the local Highways Engineer details to Cllr Ransome.

10.5 Recreation Ground – Cllr Galloway reported that the Clerk wished to know if the PC wanted red dog waste bins and agreed the additional cost of £1.25 per new bin per empty from East Suffolk Services.

The Councillors agreed the colour red for the dog waste bins and the payment for the emptying service.

ACTION: Clerk to proceed with the dog waste bins.

12343 Parish Council Matters

11.1 Kelsale Village Hall: Cllr Ransome reported that there is a quiz to take place on the 8th Feb, please attend if possible. This is to take place in the Main Hall, and it is to raise funds for the Village Hall.

11.2 Notice board quote – Cllr Ransome reported that this was ongoing as he had not received any quotes.

11.3 Quote to repair the recreation ground fence – Cllr Holden said that this item is ongoing.

11.4 To re-adopt the Privacy Notice, the Social Media Protocol, the Discipline & Grievance Policy, and the Pre-planning consultation protocol. It was agreed by all the Councillors present to approve the re-adoption of the policies listed above.

11.5 To consider a speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting – Cllr Galloway asked if anyone had a suggestion for a speaker for the APM.

Cllr Gwynne is aware of a novelist who writes about gardens, and she lives in Yoxford.

Cllr Holden said that the new Biodiversity plan could be linked into this.

It was agreed by the Councillors for Cllr Gwynne to contact the novelist.

ACTION: Cllr Gwynne to contact the novelist regarding the APM in April.

12344 Planning Matters

12.1 Planning Report - The Planning Report had been circulated in advance and there was no change since the circulation.

12.2 New planning applications since the last meeting:

DC/25/0069/ADI – Carlton Meres Holiday Park, Carlton Lane, Kelsale-cum-Carlton

Illuminated Advertisement Consent – Retrospective Advertising Consent Application for a proposed single sided, freestanding, illuminated advertisement sign.

Cllr Holden reported that this sign is in place.

Cllr Weaver said that the blue light does not fit in with the local environment.

It was agreed by all the Councillors present to object to this application.

ACTION: Clerk to notify ESC of the Councils decision.

DC/24/4526/FUL – Land to the rear of Alderlee, Main Road, Kelsale-cum-Carlton

Erection of 9no. new dwellings with cart lodges and new shared vehicular access and driveway.

Cllr Stewart commented that this is a plot near the new housing estate. Planning permission has been sought on this site before.

Cllr Galloway reported that approval was sought for 10 dwellings last time but this was refused due to it being outside the physical limits of the village, its in the countryside, unsustainable etc. This may have been the third application.

Cllr Stewart said that this is too many dwellings on this site.

Cllr Gwynne agreed that this is too many dwellings, plus the cart lodges.

Cllr Holden said that the cart lodges are to be used as garages.

Cllr Galloway said that there are no changes in this application since the previous application.

Cllr Holden said that there are many sites similar to this one in the village, if the PC agrees that could be more of this kind of application around the village.

It was agreed by a majority of the Councillors to object to this application.

ACTION: Clerk to notify ESC of the Councils decision.

Notifications

12345 Financial Matters

13.1 Financial Statement since the December meeting. See Updated Finance Report of 29th January 2025.

Cllr Galloway proposed the payments, this was seconded by Cllr Ransome and agreed by all, with no abstentions.

13.2 To approve and sign the bank statements: The Bank Statement to 31st December 2024 plus financial reconciliations were presented to the Council and will be signed by the Chair at the next meeting.

13.3 To note the quarterly accounts to the end of December 2024. The quarterly account was noted by all the Councillors present.

13.4 Approval of the internal auditor for 2024-25. It was agreed by all the Councillors present to continue to use SALC.

12346 To Receive Reports from Portfolio Holders and Liaison Representatives

B7: Trees and Green Spaces

Cllr Holden reported that the fencing has been looked at, as some needs repairing. Cllr Buttle has some flower plants that she would like to plant on the recreation ground near to the play area and the benches. The idea is to start small and see whether it is damaged or walked over.

Cllr Gwynne said that there is an initiative from the RHS to have community gardens. This will be investigated.

Cllr Holden said that 28 small trees have also been planted on the recreation ground. These are spread around the area, but they will take three to five years to become established.

A2 & A3: Community, Energy & Health

Cllr Reynolds reported that meetings of the PPG are still being held and attended. The film sessions continue to be well supported. The surgery has employed some new staff. The information days are not well supported so a way of advertising theses is being sought.

Cllr Gwynne commented that she had attended a 'Cake Off' organised by Julia Ewart. There was some useful information, which needs to be passed onto the residents, how should this be achieved. This was a good meeting held with other Councils. There is some information to be placed on the website.

12347 Items for consideration for Inclusion on the next agenda

As appears in the minutes, January meeting – noticeboard costs,

12348 Correspondence

12349 To consider excluding the public and press.

No considerations were necessary.

12350 Excluded items

There were none.

12351 Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held on the 26th February 2025 at 7pm.

The Vice-Chair closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Signed: Chairman Dated: